Foreign Language Learning e-Portfolio Guidelines, RUSS 3010

What is an e-Portfolio?

A learning e-portfolio is a collection of student work that showcases learning over time. The e-portfolio process generally includes four components:

• collect: the student collects evidence of his/her learning and progress
• select: the student selects those pieces of work that best represent progress or learning in a particular course
• reflect: the student reflects on his/her goals, strengths and weaknesses, learning processes, and/or achievement in a particular work or collection of work
• present: the student presents his/her portfolio to an authentic audience (classmates, instructor, department, employer)

The e-portfolio serves to document progress and development, to highlight learning processes and tools for ongoing development, and/or to showcase a student’s best work. An e-portfolio can be used for personal, academic, or professional purposes.

The e-portfolio is:

• multimodal: communicates its message using various media (text, images, video, audio, links, etc.)
• non-linear: can be read/navigated in a non-linear way
• integrated: pieces of evidence are interrelated and connected
• reflective: author reflects on the choice of evidence, choice of modes/media used, significance of evidence, and processes of learning

Depending on its purpose and audience, the e-portfolio may contain:

• texts and media
• various drafts of writing/composition
• projects
• evidence connecting learning with other academic or co-curricular interests
• evidence connecting learning within various components of the course
• collaborative learning
• peer and self-assessment

Why create an e-Portfolio?

In creating a FLLeP, you will be able to document your progress and learning as a second language speaker within this course and throughout the rest of the foreign language sequence, by collecting your work, reflecting on your development, and showcasing your learning. Your portfolio will contribute to the knowledge-building of the whole class, provide a more holistic assessment of your linguistic and cultural competence, and present a more global picture of your skills and achievements to future employers. In fact, “more than 4 in 5 employers say an electronic portfolio would be useful to them in ensuring that job applicants have the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in their company or organization” (AACU, It Takes More than a Major: Employer Priorities for College Learning and Student Success).
The FLLeP will allow you to:
1. make links between FL study and other academic and non-academic interests and pursuits
2. make links between (1) components of a course, (2) learning in class, at home, and online, (3) one language course and the next
3. develop an awareness of your progress, learning styles, goals in acquiring a second language, and tools for lifelong learning
4. discover, understand, and communicate what, how, when, and why you learn
5. develop digital literacy skills
6. archive your work and track your progress over time
7. engage in a critically reflective, collaborative process that augments learning as a community knowledge-building endeavor
8. publish work in a public forum and for an authentic audience
9. select multimedia artifacts that allow for a more multimodal and holistic assessment of second language development
10. construct and present an online FL learner identity

Components
The components of the e-portfolio have been carefully designed to promote the attainment of the learning goals described above.

1. Обо мне (About Me)
   a. What do you want your audience to know about you? In the About Me page, tell your reader something about yourself, your academic and personal interests, and your experience with foreign languages.
   b. Record a short video. You may use equipment provided by the ASCIT Lab (New Cabell Hall 298).
2. Вступительное эссе (Reflection 1: Getting Started)
   a. In your initial reflection, you will describe your vision and goals for the course and specific steps and learning strategies that will lead you to attaining those goals. You may use your essay from the Student Questionnaire.
3. Словарь (My Dictionary)
   a. Every week you will select a new Russian word, which you encountered in the news you listened to, or in the text you read. It may be just a word you really liked. Please aim at words at the advanced level rather than simpler ones. You will also provide English translation, synonyms in Russian, and your own two sentences with this word.
4. Дневник (My Journal)
   a. Every two weeks you will write a short journal entry (50-100 words, but you’re always welcome to write longer entries) reflecting anything that happened to you in your life. What made you happy? What made you sad? What fun things did you learn? Etc.
5. Презентация (My Presentation)
   a. This page will include both the first draft and final revision of your presentation on the topic you select (upon instructor’s approval), as well as
any embedded video materials, audio files, pictures illustrating the chosen topic.

i. Composition, first draft
ii. Composition, revision
iii. Media materials

6. Итоговое эссе (Final Reflective Essay)
   a. In your final reflective essay, you will reflect on what you learned during the semester, from engagement with your peers in class and online, and on your learning processes and ongoing linguistic and cultural development. What are the strengths and weaknesses of your portfolio? What worked and what didn’t work? Discuss your choice of documents and selection of media to present your learning. What connections do you see between your learning and your other personal and academic interests? How will you apply what you learned in this course?

7. Peer Interaction
   a. Commenting online. Throughout the semester, you will read each other’s portfolio entries and engage in online interaction using the comment feature. You need to leave comments on at least three of your classmates’ blogs.

8. Showcase and Celebration of Final e-Portfolio
   a. At the end of the semester, you will present your final work to your peers and reflect on what you learned as a class from each other.

Assessment
Throughout the semester, you will engage in self-assessment and peer assessment of portfolios using the checklist/rubric.

Grading Criteria
The grade is based on completeness (you included everything) and punctual submission (you complete everything on time, by 5 pm December 4 2015)

E-Portfolio Tool
You will create your FLL e-portfolio using WordPress embedded in Collab, using the online training tutorials here: http://tinyurl.com/tutorial-student. For any technical issues or questions, e-portfolio consultants will be available for office hours to help you. Do not contact your instructor with technical questions about WordPress.