

Interviewer: Okay. Can you just tell me about the most memorable aspect of your experience with the ePortfolio?

Interviewee: [Laughter]. I think with the ePortfolio, I'm not the most—I can't think off the word—technologically savvy. I'm just not really great with—[laughter]—computers.

For me, what I remember most is trying—I chose a visual theme. It was hard because what I wanted to do was do pictures to represent each of the different essays or each of a pair of essays that was like a representation of the different essays. Sorry, that was [inaudible].

What ended up happening was to get the pictures all to be perfect squares and to get it in the way that—you know, you imagine something and then you really want it to be that way. Eventually, I got it to look how I wanted it to look— [laughter]—but, for me, I remember really nit-pickingly trying to get these pictures perfect.

I guess my thought was that it was great that it was a small class because it allowed me to figure out and talk with people about how do I get this to be the way that I want it to be in my head. That was great. I dunno. It was a little challenging at times. [Laughter]

Interviewer: Okay. What were your aims for the ePortfolio? What narrative did you hope to tell?

Interviewee: I guess that I wanted to tell what I was saying earlier, just about how I had this passion for writing personal essays, but then in my political science courses experienced resistance to that. Then in my capstone course, I was able to do something that combined both interests and both styles of writing in a way that I think worked.

I also wanted to show also along the way not just that but the other pieces or courses also that were happening in the midst of that. I feel like I have a great—I dunno—a good mix of essays from earlier on in my college career to later that shows how the minor and my writing courses have allowed me to grow as a writer.

Interviewer: Okay. Did you design the ePortfolio to create a particular reader experience?

Interviewee: Yeah. I wanted—I dunno. I wanted something that was visually appealing, which is why I went with the grid of those pictures on my homepage, but I also—because my capstone project could be—I dunno. I was talking about relationships, so I didn't want it to be pink and lovey-dovey.

[Chuckles]

Interviewee: That's why I just went with the blue and the gray, the black and white. It's not really black. I guess it's gray. The black and white photos. Just more masculine colors. Because my essay was so personal, I didn't want a really fluffy design to go with it. I wanted a little bit of contrast. I didn't want it [audio distortion] of the feminine.