

## Unit 4 Reflection Blogs

### Process of creating a web folio

The final assignment for ENGL 301 Technical Writing involves creating a Web Folio as a place to showcase the assignments I have accomplished throughout the semester. The goal of the Web Folio is to create a space where a potential employer or university graduate acceptance committee can go to browse academic achievements, volunteer pursuits, and professional experience. I am a psychology major and would not consider myself to be particularly well-versed in technology and website building, so I chose to use the UBC Blog I had already created at the beginning of the semester. I appreciate the ease of working with UBC Blogs. I switched the theme of my blog as I found my original theme to be fairly boring and not at all visually pleasing. Adding pictures to my blog was a good way to break up any large chunks of text, and bring another element of storytelling to my blog. The main difficulty I had with creating my Web Folio was the different formatting that is required in UBC Blogs. Going from Microsoft Word to UBC Blogs was difficult as UBC Blogs didn't accept the format that my resume was in, so that was the most challenging aspect for me.

The Web Folio is so great for the students of ENGL 301 to have, because we have worked so hard on countless assignments throughout the semester, and now we have a chance to showcase our hard work. Not only is this Web Folio useful for representing the work I have accomplished throughout the semester, but it will also be so valuable for me to have moving forward in the academic and professional world. I believe that I will continue to use my blog after ENGL301, and will continue adding to it when I graduate. My biggest hope is that I am accepted into the Bachelor of Therapeutic Recreation Program at The University of Lethbridge, as adding that to my blog will feel like the greatest accomplishment for me.

All in all, the process of creating my Web Folio was fairly simple, and enjoyable, too! I am pleased to have medium that showcases my best work from ENGL 301, as well as my academic achievements, volunteer experiences, and my professional experience.

## Self-assessment reflection

This is my final blog post! Congratulations to my peers for completing a challenging yet rewarding class.

As I am completing ENGL 301 Technical Writing, I can easily say that this class is one of the most beneficial classes I have ever taken in my four years of university. The main reason I believe this is because ENGL 301 prepares you for life outside of university. Wherein some classes you are simply taught the concepts and then tested on them, ENGL 301 allows you to practice the concepts and skills you learn, practice again, and again once more! This class has provided me with so much knowledge of actual tangible assignments, documents and concepts I will face in the professional world. Before I took this course, I believe I was a good writer, and now, I believe I am a great writer. ENGL 301 has really helped me sharpen the skills I already possessed, and has also taught me many new skills I had not yet learned.

In terms of weaknesses, I definitely had difficulty with fully understanding the concept of writing with “YOU-attitude”. Although I now completely understand (and appreciate) this form of writing, this was not something I was familiar with, and as such, the first few assignments I wrote that required “YOU-attitude” were weak. Another weakness I have that was brought to my attention through peer review is the fact that I overstate my points. I have a difficult time stating a point once and then moving forward, and this became apparent through my assignments in ENGL 301. To combat this, I have worked very hard to self-edit my assignments and whittle down what is unnecessary.

I believe the greatest strength I developed throughout the course is the skill of peer reviewing. I believe that peer reviewing is such a valuable skill to have, and also understanding how to accept others’ peer reviews is important. I have had the opportunity to peer review all of my group members’ assignments multiple times, which has taught me how to provide good quality feedback in a positive and reinforcing way. The two best assignments I have produced throughout the course are the business letters (complaint letter and apology letter), and the application package. I was pleased with how my business letters turned out, as I believe I am good at conveying messages that can be negative in nature without being rude or accusatory. The application package highlights many of the skills I have learned throughout ENGL 301, including using a professional tone, removing imperative verbs, and only including the most relevant information. With the application package I learned how to best present myself and my accomplishments in a brief yet well-detailed manner.

I plan on using the documents from the application package that I created for this course to apply to The University of Lethbridge Bachelor of Therapeutic Recreation Program in 2020. I believe that I now have a much greater chance at being accepted into the program with this application package that has been peer reviewed and graded, and self-edited many times. The skills and strengths that I developed and learned in ENGL 301 will undoubtedly help me in the future with not only my application to The University of Lethbridge, but will also help me in my future goal of starting my career as a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist. The valuable skill of learning how to communicate professionally will be so helpful to me in the future. As of right now, I still have one semester at UBC left, and I plan to use the skills I have learned from ENGL

301 for the remainder of my time here. I am grateful to this course and to Dr. Paterson for teaching me how to become a technical writer.