

E-Portfolio Reflection

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IDS 493

Introduction

According to Celeste Nyguen(2013) college campuses in the United States have been shifting towards using artifacts to assess education opposed to strictly looking at grades (p.135). During my time in college I can attest to this shift. I have noticed that there is more emphasis on having tangible evidence to showcase my education beyond just good grades. It is important to have research projects, practical examples of technical knowledge, and other artifacts that demonstrate hands-on learning experiences.

Nyguen (2013) also emphasizes that E-portfolios that are used to showcase an individual's academic accomplishments should be viewed as a portal into their life. E-portfolios should be personalized and reflective of a person's identity. In my own E-portfolio, I have strived to embody this concept by ensuring that my e-portfolio speaks to my individuality and my personal interests. Through carefully curated content and thoughtful presentation I aim to convey not just my academic achievements but also who I am as a person and what I am passionate about. I have chosen the skills and artifacts in this portfolio to ensure that I show work that I am proud of.

Skill: Writing

There are a lot of skills that can be showcased by one's proficiency in writing. In these artifacts my communication, professionalism, and versatility will be shown. Writing skills are important for cybersecurity professionals because they are needed for reports, documentation, training, policies, and more. Effective written communication enhances cybersecurity professionals' ability to protect organizations' assets and maintain trust in an increasingly complex threat landscape.

CRJS 310 Cyber Criminology: Foundations - What do Social Scientists Know about Cyberstalking?

Cyber Criminology is one of my favorite courses that I have taken during undergrad. The class was focused around learning the principles of criminology and relating them to common cybercrimes. We also learned about deviant behaviors and how that can translate into cybercrimes and what demographics are more susceptible to those behaviors. This artifact is the final paper for the course and I am very proud of my work. I researched the phenomena of cyberstalking by conducting literature reviews to compile and understand the concept. I learned that cyberstalking is on the rise due to technological advancements and the recent COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally I learned that women are more likely to be victims of cyberstalking and domestic situations make up a large number of cases.

PHIL 355E Cybersecurity Ethics - Should the United States adopt something similar to Europe's new Privacy Laws?

The PHIL 255E course is focused on learning ethical principles and how to apply them to real world issues in cybersecurity. This was done through weekly case studies on important events that have happened over the years. I appreciated this course because there were no hypothetical issues or fake cases. We studied actual events and learned how to rationalize them by using concepts such as confucianism, ubuntu ethics, ethics of care, and more. While there was a lot of reading associated with this course they were enjoyable and I could see myself referencing them in the future. This artifact is one of my case studies that I wrote about the United States' privacy laws and lack thereof.

CYSE 200T Intro to Cybersecurity, Technology, and Society - The CIA Triad

The CIA Triad is a crucial component of cybersecurity and was one of the very first concepts that I learned about. Confidentiality, integrity, and availability are the three core principles that underpin the security of information systems and data. I completed this paper early on in the semester and was my first time being introduced to business writing skills. It was a bit difficult for me to grasp in the beginning since it went against a lot of what I had been taught up to that point, but once I got the hang of it I realized how easy and straightforward it is. This artifact defines the CIA Triad, authentication, authorization, and their importance in cybersecurity.

Skill: Critical Thinking

Critical thinking is an indispensable skill in cybersecurity, empowering professionals to analyze complex problems, assess risks, and make informed decisions in a rapidly evolving threat landscape. In the face of sophisticated cyber threats, critical thinking enables cybersecurity professionals to evaluate the credibility and relevance of information, discern patterns in attack methodologies, and anticipate potential vulnerabilities in systems and networks. By honing critical thinking skills, cybersecurity professionals can navigate uncertainty, adapt to evolving threats and effectively safeguard digital assets against cyberattacks ultimately contributing to the resilience and security of organizations and society as a whole.

IDS 300W Interdisciplinary Theory and Concepts - Unveiling the Complexities of Human

Trafficking: Exploring Motivations and Cybersecurity Challenges through an Interdisciplinary Lens

IDS 300W was by far the most involved and time consuming course that I have been enrolled in thus far. This class revolves around a semester-long research paper, supplemental

assignments, and discussion boards. My research question was as follows; Besides making money, what are the major motivations of human traffickers and what are the major cybersecurity challenges to combating human trafficking? This question highlights one of the biggest global issues today and showcases interest. This paper taught me interdisciplinary research techniques and the importance of using an interdisciplinary approach. This specific paper uses cybersecurity, criminology, and psychology to answer my research question.

CYSE 200T Intro to Cybersecurity, Technology, and Society - Human Factors and Budget Allocation

The CYSE 200T course focused on information technology and the business aspects of cybersecurity. I found this course very interesting and helpful because it gave me knowledge about the business world that I did not know about prior. This artifact is a paper that I wrote in business writing style that details the challenges of budget allocation and what should be prioritized. In this paper I concluded that human factors should be prioritized and technology should only be upgraded when it is absolutely necessary. Budgets are a huge part of the professional world so it is important to be familiar with them and have some prior knowledge of how they work before entering the workforce.

CYSE 407 Digital Forensics Midterm Project

I decided to take this Digital Forensics course during the Fall 2023 semester. I decided to take this course because I wanted to experience one of the different fields of cybersecurity. This class taught me the basics of digital forensics and forensic labs through textbook and online lab instruction. For this project I had to create a floor plan for a forensic lab. Additionally I had to do research on what materials I would need to equip the lab. I also researched the accreditation

process and staffing requirements. This project helped me understand the ins and outs of a forensics lab and the things that go into it.

Skill: Technical

In the landscape of cybersecurity, technical skills play a pivotal role in safeguarding digital assets and mitigating cyber threats. Technical skills allow cybersecurity professionals to navigate complex systems, analyze intricate malware patterns, and develop innovative solutions to protect against evolving cyber threats. During my time at ODU I have not completed any certifications for technical knowledge but I plan to start studying to obtain my COMPTIA Security+ certification during summer 2024.

CYSE 407 Digital Forensics - Final Case Study Project

The objective of this project was to create a mock investigation including a forensic analysis, items for analysis, and conclusion. This mock case was about investigating communications between Russian officials and the suspect, simulating a probable real world issue. I used information from the modules, textbook, and past assignments to complete this project.

By the time I

CYSE 250 Networking and Programming - Final Python Project

The CYSE 250 course was split into two parts, python programming and networking fundamentals. The first part of the lecture was focused on teaching the basics of networking and the second half was spent learning about python and practicing coding. Over the course of the semester we were tasked with many different projects. The final project was a group assignment that was focused on creating a game in python that could be played by users. Me and my partner created a game used to guess words. While the game was simple in the grand scheme of things, it

was a good challenge for my skills at the time. We also wrote a detailed lab report to accompany the game code which included materials, methodology, project roles, and a conclusion.

CS 462 Cybersecurity Fundamentals - Ethical Hacking Demonstration Assignment

CS 462 is a class that focuses on the different distributions primarily focusing on Ubuntu and Kali Linux. Our assignments required us to use instructions and techniques learned in class to complete tasks. This particular assignment was focused on simulating ethical hacking which is a huge field in cybersecurity and very necessary for the safety of systems. This assignment was challenging but I executed all the commands and earned a perfect score. I would like to learn more about Linux and become as familiar as possible with it as I think it will benefit me in my future career.

Skill: Collaboration

Collaboration is a foundational skill in cybersecurity that fosters teamwork, communication, and knowledge-sharing among cybersecurity professionals. In today's interconnected digital landscape, cyber threats are becoming increasingly sophisticated and multifaceted, necessitating collaborative efforts to address them comprehensively. This is especially true for me since I would like to work in a collaborative environment that requires me to connect with people to complete my tasks. Collaboration is one of my strong suits so I would like to use that in my career.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the shift towards using artifacts to assess education as highlighted by Celeste Nyguen, signifies a broader trend towards a more holistic approach to evaluating academic achievements. This evolution acknowledges the importance of practical skills, research experiences, and personal identity in addition to traditional measures like grade. As I reflect on

my own college journey, I recognize the significance of this shift and have witnessed firsthand the emphasis placed on tangible evidence of learning. By embracing the concept of e-portfolios as personalized reflections of identity and accomplishments, I have endeavored to create a digital representation of my academic journey that goes beyond mere grade. Moving forward, I am committed to continuing to cultivate my e-portfolio as a dynamic tool for showcasing my growth, skills, and individuality, ensuring that it remains a true reflection of who I am and what I aspire to achieve.

References

- Ngyuen, C. F. (2013). The ePortfolio as a Living Portal: A Medium for Student Learning, Identity, and Assessment. *International Journal of ePortfolio*, 3(2), 135-148. <http://www.theijep.com>