**The ePortfolio Requirement for Introductory Astronomy**

First the good news : There will be no traditional exams in this class.

Now the other news (I won’t call it bad news) : You will have to submit an ePortfolio.

***What is an ePortfolio?***

An ePortfolio (electronic portfolio) is an electronic collection of evidence that shows your learning journey over time. ePortfolios can relate to specific academic fields or your lifelong learning. Evidence may include writing samples, photos, videos, research projects, observations by mentors and peers, and/or reflective thinking. The key aspect of an ePortfolio is your reflection on the evidence, such as why it was chosen and what you learned from the process of developing your ePortfolio. (Adapted from Philippa Butler’s “Review of the Literature on Portfolios and ePortfolios” (2006), page 2.)

Montgomery College is piloting the use of ePortfolios for general education. Therefore, this is a new thing for Montgomery College (and for me!). Things may not go perfectly smoothly with this project. I don’t want this to be difficult or annoying. Therefore I only ask that you do your very best. The effort and attitude with which you approach this is more important than the final product.

***Details:***

You may choose which platform you want to work with, but you will need to put in the time to learn how it works You will be responsible for learning the technology (i.e., I am here to help you with content. I will not show you how to upload a photo to Weebly.) Each of the portfolio sites has online resources, and you can find lots of videos online to help you in any of the sites. I also hope you will help each other learn how to use the sites.

For Introductory Astronomy, there will be three main ePortfolio assignments and one final project. See below for a calendar of dates.

A portion of the requirement will be to evaluate your several of your peers’ ePortfolio assignments. I will provide you with a rubric and the links to the ePortfolios you are to evaluate.

I require that you stick to the deadlines. Like any other assignment in this course, late work is unacceptable unless there’s a major (verifiable) tragedy in your life.

***Portfolio Calendar of Assignments***

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Description** | **Due Date** |
| Setting up your site | Select your platform, set up your site, and write your welcome/About me text | **Due Monday 28-Sep-2015** |
| Peer Review #1 | Review assigned portfolios | **Due Monday 5-Oct-2015** |
| Presentation #1 | Develop and post presentation materials to your portfolio | **DUE Monday 19-Oct-2015** |
| Peer Review #2 | Review assigned portfolios | **DUE Monday 26-Oct-2015** |
| Presentation #2 | Develop and post presentation materials to your portfolio | **DUE Monday 16-Nov-2015** |
| Peer Review #3 | Review assigned portfolios | **DUE Monday 30-Nov-2015** |
| Final Presentation | Develop and post final presentation to your portfolio | **DUE Monday 30-Nov-2015** |
| Peer Review #4 | Review assigned portfolios | **DUE Monday 7-Dec-2015** |
| Completed Portfolio | Revise and finalize your portfolio | **DUE Monday 14-Dec-2015** |

***Grading***

You will receive an overall grade for your portfolio, as well as a grade for each individual assignment in the portfolio. The peer reviews will be counted as 25 points each, adding up to a single Peer Review grade. Each assignment will have a rubric used to evaluate your effort, the content and the quality of the assignment.

**Assignment #1- /100**

**Assignment #2- /100**

**Assignment #3- /100**

**Assignment #4- /100**

**Peer Review(25 points each): /100**

**Overall portfolio grade: /100**