

Appendix A

A.1: Methods and Materials

This study began as part of the CD-ROM Portfolio Assessment Project, a broad effort to assess learning in general education courses at Seaver College, the undergraduate school of Pepperdine University. As the project evolved, it became possible to store materials on web pages as well as to create CD-ROM's, and current assessment projects using portfolios continue under a new title, the Digital Portfolio Assessment Project (DPAP). Articles on assessment at Pepperdine and links to assessment sites at other institutions and organizations are accessible at <http://assess.pepperdine.edu>. Most of the student portfolios analyzed in this study are also available at our web site. Several students in the study did complete interviews and choose materials for a final portfolio, but they did so after the deadlines, which technical staff had established, to scan and digitize their work. Students' digital portfolios are password protected but academic researchers can request a password by contacting our director of assessment through our web site.

The Assessment Office web site can also be accessed by going to the Pepperdine University home page at <http://www.pepperdine.edu>. Point to schools and click on Seaver College. From the quick search directory on the Seaver College home page, click on assessment office.

Student self-assessment forms and interview questions used in this study are on the following pages of Appendix A.

A.2: CD-ROM Portfolio Assessment

School Year _____

Student ID# _____

Please answer the following questions, as they relate to your portfolio of work completed during the past school year.

1. Give examples of 1 or 2 pieces of work (assignments, projects, tests, et cetera) that you think represent significant learning during this year. Why is this work especially important?
2. What are 1 or 2 specific things that you did that helped you learn from this work?
3. What are 1 or 2 specific things that your instructor did that helped you learn from this work?
4. Give 1 or 2 examples of work from this year that you think were less successful, where you did not learn as much. How do they demonstrate less successful learning?
5. What are 1 or 2 things that you did that hindered you or interfered with your learning on this assignment, project, test, et cetera?
6. What are 1 or 2 specific things your instructor did that hindered or interfered with your learning on this work?
7. During the summer, faculty researchers will be reviewing student portfolios. What can they find out about student learning by looking at your portfolio? Please give one or two examples of things you would like them to notice about your work.
8. How well does your portfolio capture your learning during this year? Give one or two examples of important

learning experiences that are not represented in your portfolio.

9. What are the benefits students might experience from participating in the CD-ROM Portfolio Project?
10. How could the project be improved for next year?
11. Will you participate in the project for another year? Explain why or why not.

A.3: CD-ROM Student Portfolio Project

Interview Questions: Yearly Interview

We all experience change in various areas of our academic, social, emotional, and spiritual life from year to year. The purpose of this interview session is to allow you to respond reflectively about the changes that you have experienced during the last year.

Please look over the following list and indicate if you feel you have changed in any of these categories since last year. Mark each response with a 0—no change, 1—slight change, 2—some change, or 3—significant change.

Question	Response
1. Reason for being in college	_____
2. Interest in your major	_____
3. Involvement in service/volunteer work	_____
4. Desire to learn	_____
5. Interest/involvement with other cultures	_____
6. Personal, ethical, and moral values	_____
7. Communication skills	_____
8. Mathematical and quantitative skills	_____
9. Desire to get a high-paying job	_____
10. Desire to develop a meaningful worldview	_____
11. Attitude toward general education courses	_____
12. Interest in living/working overseas	_____
13. Seeing relationships between different courses	_____

14. Connecting experiences in and out of the classroom _____
15. Critical thinking skills _____

A.4: CD-ROM Portfolio Project

Writing Interview: Senior Year

1. What is your major now? Have you changed majors? Why? What were your previous major(s)? What is your career goal?
2. (Ask student to review areas of change.) In which areas listed on our yearly interview questionnaire have you changed most since your freshman year? Explain.
3. Focusing on writing, has your writing changed over the years you have been in college? Explain.
4. What experiences in college, either positive or negative, have been most important to your writing?
5. Have classes or teachers helped you with your writing? How?
6. What have you yourself done that has had an impact on your writing?
What difficulties have you had, if any?
What writing strategies have you developed?
How would you evaluate your own skill as a writer at this point?
How important is writing in your academic life and in your future career?
7. What else could your teachers have done or could you have done yourself that might have helped you be a better writer?
8. Have experiences outside of the classroom been

important to your writing? Explain. Could you give me a sample of that writing?

9. Could we review some samples of writing from your portfolio?

For each year, would you choose at least one sample of work that you think is representative of your development at that time?

For each piece, please answer the following questions: How is this piece representative or typical of your writing during your ____ year?

Tell me about this assignment. What can we learn about you and your development by looking at this piece?

For pieces written after the first year, please answer the following questions: Does this show a change in your writing? How? Explain.

10. Can I check on some background information? What is your age now? Where are you from? Where did you go to high school? What are your parents' occupations?