Identity in the e-world

by [Betsy Damon](http://www.plymouth.edu/webapp/courses2/user/view.php?id=20904&course=16493) - Sunday, November 3, 2013, 9:25 PM

The e-Dentity I want to achieve and have others discover through my eportfolio is of a person who is well-versed in education, technology, and student needs. I want to be seen as capable and creative - someone that is a treasure that should be snapped up rather than the unsure element portrayed simply through my resume. I want to be a fully-developed three-dimensional teacher with invaluable experiences that administrators want to interview and hire.But my e-Dentity won't cease to be once my real-life identity includes the title of paid educator! My eportfolio will continue to elaborate on my experiences and talents supporting my continued value to schools and the educational system.

Because my eportfolio is being used to create a fully-rounded representation of myself, I need to include many different types of artifacts for different purposes. In order to make sure that the viewer understands my purpose related to including each artifact, I need to be very explicit in documenting and reflecting on why each piece has been selected and what I learned from each artifact including what category each piece fits into. I have different pages in my eportfolio that may reference the same artifact but coming from a different category. Some of my classwork reflections get a little longer than professors might like because I tend to include my thought processes for how I might do it differently in the future or how it could be used in a younger or older grade so another purpose for these artifacts is as a way to collect my thoughts for review in the future which is a very meaningful connection in itself!

I find it interesting that PSU uses the National Clearinghouse for enrollment verifications and transcripts. It makes it easier to get everything where it needs to be and is available online 24/7. The one piece that is missing is having the ability to store eportfolios for transfer to future employers and colleges.

One thing I love about being connected through classes and social media is the ability to network and learn of new resources more easily and sometimes by accident. That happened with the Palevich's article on using identity as a year long theme unit. I immediately added it to my portfolio under the "websites, blogs and software to search/explore" so I can be able to access the excellent resources in the future. This also shows future employers where my interests lie and what I hope to explore at a later time. I thought it was interesting when Palevich states "I thought I kenw these kids but I  learned something new about each and every student." Sometimes we forget that our students are more than just the kid on paper or present in our classroom. They are an amalgam of experiences and settings that crystallize into facets that are shown as the light shines brightly on each.

I'm still a little iffy on the reflective blog that Swain spoke about. I tend to be invisible in real-life and on the Internet, rarely getting feedback and/or comments from most that I am connected to. Blogging or posting on my wikispace are being met with similar lack of projected interest. It is encouraging to find that workshape presentation invites and having articles published. I think I do well with the forum posts and responses on Moodle but that forum is not ideal for presenting documentation and discussion. I know this is one of the areas where I need the most guidance!

**Re: Identity in the e-world**

**by**[**Ethel Gaides**](http://www.plymouth.edu/webapp/courses2/user/view.php?id=11461&course=16493)**- Wednesday, November 6, 2013, 9:41 PM**

**Hi Betsy,**

**Thanks for sharing with us your thoughts on refelctive blogs. Dr.Helen Barrett has posted her thoughts and graphic on Level 2: Reflective Journal/Blog at:**[**https://sites.google.com/site/k12eportfolios/planning/level2-reflective-blog**](https://sites.google.com/site/k12eportfolios/planning/level2-reflective-blog)

**This blog may be of support to you.**