DIRECTIONS:

I. Please indicate your response to the following 7 questions by choosing one option for each question AND by providing comments:

1. How helpful was your advisor’s guidance in completing a successful portfolio experience?

     Helpful- 2
     Not helpful

Comments
She told me that the portfolio should be centered about the goals and objectives as well as the core classes. This was very useful information in helping me decide how to structure my portfolio. She also was available to answer my questions promptly, which I very much appreciated.

She gave me lots of good tips and was always willing to look through my work.

2. Did you attend an orientation for the portfolio experience?

     Yes- 2
     No

3. If you did attend an orientation for the portfolio experience, how helpful was it to you?

     Helpful- 2
     Not helpful

Comments
The orientation was extremely helpful. It helped me understand the characteristics a person much have to stick with the lengthily process of creating a portfolio. One of my main reasons for choosing to create the portfolio was because I fit these characteristics. I also learned the importance of keeping all my work (graded and ungraded), it came in
handed when I began working on my portfolio. Also, having the chance to see how previous students structured their portfolios was extremely beneficial.

I liked hearing the perspective of someone who had been through the process. I identified with the personality of the portfolio presenter, and it helped me in confirming my decision.

4. How helpful was the SLIS Portfolio Guidelines handbook in completing a successful portfolio experience?

Helpful-2

Not helpful

Comments
The handbook was helpful; it provided a way for me to outline how I would structure the portfolio. Thus, the large project could be broken down and not seem so overwhelming at times.

I looked to it often to make sure I was prepared.

5. How helpful was the portfolio experience in reassessing your career goals as you moved through the SLIS program?

Helpful-2

Not helpful

Comments
The portfolio experience was extremely helpful in reassessing my goals and objectives. I looked at my strengths and weaknesses, anticipated experiences I wanted to have and then pursued them. The goals and objectives helped so that I could make a plan to work toward them.

The portfolio process makes every class more meaningful as I would be looking for ways the classes could help me work toward my goals, and how I could show growth. In turn, the classes shaped my goals as I worked through the process.

6. How helpful was the portfolio experience in preparing you for entering a professional career?

Helpful- 2
The portfolio experience truly helped me align the tasks I performed at work and within my coursework to assist me in better understanding how they could correlate together in a single job. The portfolio experience provided me with an extensive project I can show potential employers I successfully completed.

I know I can do the work required of me, and have evidence to back up my beliefs.

7. Now that you have completed the portfolio experience, was your advisor’s guidance accurate in reflecting the nature of the portfolio experience?

Yes- 2

No

Comments

Yes, she told me that all my experiences should work toward achieving certain goals and objectives. Thus, when I was performing coursework I often went back to how I could use each experience to meet my goals and objectives.

I knew just what to expect. I felt very prepared.

II. Please provide your answers to the following 4 questions.

8. On average, about how many hours each semester did you spend working on the portfolio and/or the portfolio presentation?

   60-70 hours

I did most of my work on the breaks between semesters. It was a great time to reflect. I couldn’t really say how many hours I put into it. It was an ongoing process that I would return to frequently. There was definitely more time spent at the beginning as I set up structures and links.

9. For you, what was the most beneficial aspect of the portfolio experience?

The most beneficial experience was looking at the different courses and realizing how what I learned in them could benefit me in applying for jobs as well as in my future positions.
The portfolio made every class more meaningful to me. I wasn’t just fulfilling class objectives, but challenging myself to see all the ways that the work I was doing applied to my professional goals.

10. What part of the portfolio experience did you like the most? Why?

The part of the portfolio experience I most enjoyed was putting together information on my current and future potential jobs as well as putting together information on my Internship and Digitization Collections Projects. This is because these were very influential in the types of positions I am currently applying for.

The presentation - I liked sharing my work, having the feedback on what I had presented, and experiencing the confirmation that I had created something worthwhile.

11. What suggestions do you have for improving the portfolio experience?

I had a hard time starting out, perhaps having more concrete examples of what the portfolio should encompass. It would also be useful to have a list of recommended software to use (i.e. wikis, website servers). For instance I used Google Sites to create my portfolio and did not realize until it was completed I could not download the webpage to a CD directly. Thus, it would be good if this was conveyed to students and perhaps they could be directed to more useful software to use for the creation of their websites.

It might have helped to have a bit more structure in place as to what is expected in the presentation. I had a great advisor, who prepared me well, but most of the prep was oral, I didn’t have as much to rely on from the school as I did the portfolio itself.