## Assignment #5: Portfolio, Spring Term Due Date – June 9, 2005 (no later than 10 a.m. at my office)

**Purpose:** To examine and showcase your own work in the context of the course goals, while strengthening your capacity for self-reflection.

**University Studies Goals:** Critical Thinking, Communication, Diversity of Human Experience, Ethics and Social Responsibility – see course syllabus for detail on these goals.

This final portfolio should be done as a web page, using the tools shown to you in mentor session. It is an opportunity to showcase the work you've done, the improvements you've made, and the work you're most proud of for this year.

## What Should be Included:

1. All the year's work – all written assignments **for the year** should be submitted on a CD ROM. (The same CD ROM should contain a complete working copy of your portfolio web site).

2. A thoughtfully designed **website** that contains hyperlinks to web pages with **each** (and all) of the following (in order):

a. Your biography – this is an edited (possibly expanded slightly) version of the very first assignment you did for the Fall term ("About Me").

b. A narrative explaining everything that follows, including a personal assessment of your work for the year. The assessment should analyze your strengths and weaknesses as a student in this course. It should also include some reflection on your personal growth during the course of your freshman year – in what areas did you improve; in what areas did you not improve? What do you think you need to do to improve in those latter areas? How has this course helped you to (a) bridge the transition from high school to college; (b) improve your writing skills; (c) improve your time management skills; (d) improve your public speaking skills; (e) increase your comfort with technology, especially the use of technology to present your work in this class and in others; (f) improve or develop your critical thinking skills; and (g) appreciate the diverse points of views your classmates bring to college?

c. A brief narrative describing two pieces of written work you're most proud of this year. Explain what your goals were in those two written works and why you're proud of them. Be sure to include links to these works in the narrative.

d. A brief narrative describing the four University Studies goals (see the course syllabus for details), and hyperlinks to two written examples of your work for EACH goal. These examples should be of papers that you see as exemplary of the goals and that show off your talents particularly well in doing so. This means that with four goals, you will probably have hyperlinks to 8 papers for the year, although it is possible that one paper may meet more than one goal. Each paper should be prefaced by a paragraph or two explanation of how and why you think the paper meets the goal, and why you think this is the best illustration of your work in meeting it. (If you wish, the prefacing paragraph can be on a separate linking page so that the papers themselves are not interrupted by the commentary).

e. A separate page with links to EVERY assignment you submitted for the ENTIRE year. (i.e. you need to put everything you've done on the website with links to each piece. It is not necessary to write up anything about the papers that aren't related to the elements required in "c" and "d" above).

f. Anything else you wish – examples of poetry you've written for other classes, short stories you wrote last year, links to your favorite gamer sites, whatever.

The entire website should be loaded on your PSU webspace (see example address below) and tested under several browsers (minimally Internet Explorer and Firefox) to be sure all elements display correctly at several different resolutions (1024 x 768; 1280 x 1024).

(http://web.pdx.edu/~<yourPSUloginname>

You should make a CD copy of the entire website, which you will turn in along with the copies of all your papers (also on the same CD). I will check your portfolios online, not from the CD, but the permanent record of your portfolio is stored on CD.

In making the website, pay attention to design issues (make it easy to navigate; don't use flash animation unless you need it for illustrating a point). Use colors that are easy on the eyes. Keep in mind that PSU's webserver doesn't support any of the fancy features available in FrontPage or most of the other web-authoring tools. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU TAKE SPECIAL CARE TO PROOFREAD YOUR WEBSITE VERY CAREFULLY. THESE WEBS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO OTHER UNST FACULTY AND STUDENTS. I WILL BE MUCH MORE CRITICAL OF WEBSITES THAT ARE CARELESS ABOUT SPELLING, GRAMMAR, AND PUNCTUATION THAN I MIGHT OTHERWISE BE.

These Portfolios are worth 20% of your grade. Eighty (80) percent of the grade is for the content of the website (do you include everything required and write the necessary narratives); the remaining 20% of your grade will be on design – this is entirely subjective, but will include things like whether it is easy to find all the required elements and whether everything flows cleanly. Kelvin can be a big help on design issues. Be sure to consult with him if you have questions.

LATE PORTFOLIOS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. EARLY PORTFOLIOS WILL BE GLADLY AND GRACIOUSLY ACCEPTED.