

Portfolio Scoring Guide

Mastery: The majority of the portfolio displays these characteristics.

Ideas

- Clear understanding of readings and essay topics
- Strong awareness of what the reader needs to know about the topic
- Clear ability to respond critically to one's own and others' experiences and ideas

Organization

- Controlling central idea and overall cohesive structure in each essay
- Clear sequential relationship between supporting ideas and central argument/controlling idea.
- Focused, cohesive paragraphs

Development

- Relevant examples with clear explanations of what the examples demonstrate
- Explanations in body paragraphs clearly linked to controlling idea of essay
- Examples which include detailed support
- Evidence of strong synthesis, argumentation, analysis, and/or problem-solving skills

Style

- Sentence variety
- Strong voice and control of tone
- Effective vocabulary

Mechanics

- Fluency and control of sentence construction
- Almost no syntactic, grammatical, and spelling errors

Competence: The majority of the portfolio will display these characteristics.

Ideas

- Demonstration of basic understanding of readings and essay topics
- Most essays show awareness of what the reader needs to know about the topic
- Demonstration of ability to respond critically to one's own and others' experiences and ideas.

Organization

- Controlling central idea and generally cohesive structure in each essay
- Generally clear sequential relationship between supporting ideas and central argument/controlling idea.
- Generally focused, cohesive paragraphs

Development

- Mainly relevant examples with clear explanations of what the examples demonstrate
- Explanations in body paragraphs usually linked to controlling idea of essay
- Most examples include specific details
- Across the portfolio, writing shows evidence of synthesis, argumentation, analysis, and/or problem-solving skills

Style

- Sentences include some variety
- Sentences usually include effective vocabulary

Mechanics

- General fluency and control of sentence construction
- Minimal syntactic, grammatical, and spelling errors

Not passing: The majority of the portfolio lacks the characteristics of the passing portfolios.**Ideas**

- Limited understanding of readings and essay topics
- Limited awareness of what the reader needs to know about the topic
- The portfolio includes minimal critical response to one's own and others' experiences and ideas.

Organization

- Lacks overall of a central focus and logical structure
- Light or uneven relationships between supporting ideas and central argument/controlling idea
- The majority of the paragraphs do not cohere and are not focused

Development

- Body paragraphs include few examples or minimal explanations of what the examples demonstrate
- Explanations in body paragraphs occasionally linked to the controlling idea of the essay
- Examples occasionally include specific details
- Across the portfolio, essays are mainly developed through summary, narrative and/or description

Style

- Sentences only occasionally show variety
- Vocabulary is very basic

Mechanics

- Limited fluency and control of sentence construction
- Frequent syntactical, grammar, and/or spelling errors