

WRITING THE COMPONENTS OF THE PORTFOLIO

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

In 1-2 pages, describe your approach to education and the principles that underlie your teaching. For example, you might discuss your personal theory of learning, characteristics of a good teacher and a good learner, your view of the roles and responsibilities of students and teachers, the aims of instruction and how these might change under different conditions, or environmental factors that promote or impede learning. This statement should spring from careful reflection on your educational strengths and practice. Illustrate your principles with examples from your own teaching, to show how they are related.

If you find this statement is difficult to write, look at examples on some of the websites listed on the previous page.

YOUR FIVE-YEAR GOALS AS AN EDUCATOR

This list might include both aspirations for achievement and plans for learning and growth, ideally linked together. Keep the list brief and focused. Consider discussing your goals with your mentor(s).

DESCRIPTION OF YOUR EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS: (include some or all five parts)

- I. TEACHING
- II. CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT
- III. MENTORING/ADVISING
- IV. EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP/ADMINISTRATION
- V. OTHER INFORMATION

Each of these components is likely to be included in the portfolio of a veteran teacher, but you are unlikely to develop activities in all areas from the start of your career. Complete only those parts that are relevant to your work. If necessary, invent a new category to fully describe all your major educational contributions. No two careers are identical.

Your EP should convey to reviewers the **quantity, quality, and scholarly nature** of your educational work. Look through the template and decide in which sections your past and current educational activities belong. You may compile information for all sections, or concentrate on one or two areas.

The final page of this template provides a **systematic approach to describing scholarship in education** that can be used to complete any of the five components of the template. Use whatever parts apply to your work. If your EP does not address educational scholarship, think about how to develop this critical part of your career in the future.

This template is designed for you to update your EP on a regular basis. As you work on your EP, **think about any new areas you would like to be able to add to it over the next five years**. This reflection will help you refine your five-year goals.