ECE ePortfolio Guidelines

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1 Background

The Auburn University Office of Academic Assessment office states, “Student Learning Outcomes articulate knowledge, skills, attitudes, and/or abilities that the program hopes students will achieve as a result of getting a degree in their specific engineering program.” ECE graduate programs have the following four Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

SLO #1: Knowledge – Student will be able to articulate the current state-of-the-art in their chosen area of expertise.

SLO #2: Analysis – Student will be able to solve advanced problems in Electrical & Computer Engineering.

SLO #3: Design – Student will be able to design a process, system, or program related to one of the subdisciplines of Electrical & Computer Engineering.

SLO #4: Communication – Student will be able to communicate their ideas with their technical peers.

ECE graduate students are encouraged to maintain a personal ePortfolio that shows the world some ways that they have achieved the above four outcomes. An ePortfolio is accessible to anyone through a web browser, and describes in words and pictures some of the student’s best achievements. A student’s ePortfolio can make a great impression on potential employers.

2 Building an ePortfolio

Students are encouraged to use the free platform Wix (http://www.wix.com) to create their ePortfolio. Based on past experience, a nice ePortfolio should take no more than 1/2-day to start. For example, review this example ePortfolio created by a current ECE graduate student:

http://ead0012.wixsite.com/elizabethdevore

or study other ePortfolios:

http://wp.auburn.edu/writing/eportfolio-project/eportfolio-examples/

Your ePortfolio may not look exactly like these examples, or any of your peer’s ePortfolios. It is more important that you describe the four Student Learning Outcomes in terms of your own courses, interests, and projects. The ePortfolio should highlight your achievements.
At a minimum, your ePortfolio should describe four elements, one for each Student Learning Outcome. You certainly can have additional elements. Suggested content for each element or outcome is described below. Each element should take no more than 1 hour to complete. For most students, the elements can be easily and readily described using already-completed materials from your coursework or research. For example, if you have written a thesis or dissertation, consider using parts of those works.

**Knowledge** Describe the current state-of-the-art for a problem in your chosen area of expertise. Select the most appropriate artifacts to demonstrate your understanding. These artifacts might include but are not limited to coursework assignments, or sections from theses and dissertations. Please list the ELEC courses that you have taken, and discuss how these courses have contributed to your understanding the current state-of-the-art.

**Analysis** Describe one advanced problem from one of your courses in your plan of study, the relevance of the problem, the approach you used to solve the problem, and comment on the results.

**Design** Describe a process, system, or program that you designed to solve an engineering problem. The problem can be associated with one of your courses in your plan of study, or the problem may come from your thesis or dissertation.

**Communication** Submit a writing sample. Samples could be but are not limited to a class project report, or a paper, or an excerpt of a thesis chapter, or an excerpt of a dissertation. Please limit the writing sample to a maximum of 6 single-spaced pages, or 2000 words.

### 3 ePortfolio Resources

- All outcomes should be described using “artifacts” and “reflective writing.” These two concepts are described here:
  
  http://wp.auburn.edu/writing/eportfolio-project/student-resources/creating-content/

- Other free campus resources are available to help you create your ePortfolio:
  
  - Miller Writing Center (MWC):
    https://auburn.mywconline.com
  - Media and Digital Resources Lab (MDRL):
    http://www.lib.auburn.edu/mdrl/

### 4 Maintaining the ePortfolio

An ePortfolio can be a living document, so that a visitor gets a sense that the ePortfolio owner is continually growing in experience and abilities. ECE graduate students are encouraged to review their ePortfolio annually (possibly every semester) and to keep the content fresh and up-to-date.

ECE doctoral students may submit their ePortfolio to satisfy the Graduate School’s required annual evaluation report. Simply report the URL address to the ECE Graduate Program Officer.