

# PROJECT 0: WEB PUBLISHING

© 1999-2014 The Pennsylvania State University

## Introduction

We get a sense of who is in the class with us by reading the personal introductions that are posted in the Lounge, but that information isn't that easy to access as we go through the course and it doesn't go with you throughout the program.

The goal of this project is for you to establish a Web presence so that your classmates and instructors know a little bit about you. As you proceed through this course, and through your certificate or degree program, your Web page can expand into a personal e-portfolio that showcases what you've learned (*but does not include actual homework assignments – do not let others benefit from your hard work*), and includes your reflections on how your learning relates to your personal and professional experiences and goals. One advantage of publishing your portfolio on the Web is that it can easily be shared with instructors, fellow students, current and future employers, and interested others. Depending on which program you are in, you'll do one or both of the following options:

- **Complete the "About Me" section in the ANGEL Profile Editor.** By completing this section in the profile editor, everyone in the course will be able to read something about you by clicking on the user profile link in the course roster.
- **Create a Web page via easy Web publishing.** There are a number of routes you can follow to create a Web page. Free tools provide a simple way to create and maintain an e-portfolio.

---

### 1: Complete the "About Me" section in the ANGEL Profile Editor. (required for all CPGIS and MGIS students)

It is easy to add information about yourself in the profile editor.

1. Within ANGEL, click the Preferences button  on the far left.
2. Click Personal Information.
3. Complete the About Me section. If you want to get fancy, you can add images, etc. by clicking HTML Editor under the text box.

---

### 2: Create a Web page via easy Web publishing. (required for all MGIS students, recommended for CPGIS students)

Any one of the following options is recommended and should only take ten minutes or so to set up. You should pick the one with which you are most comfortable. A listing of advantages and disadvantages of each are listed below the steps.

1. Login to the blogs at Penn State <http://blogs.psu.edu/> or create an account at <http://sites.google.com/> or <http://www.weebly.com/> or create a profile at <http://www.linkedin.com/>.
2. Walk through the wizard, or study the help, tutorial, or guided tour to learn how to use your chosen tool.
3. Use the tool to create a Web page. Take note of your URL string. See the examples below.

4. Next, go back into your ANGEL Preferences settings, click Personal Information, and in the Homepage field enter the URL for your Web page. Save and leave the User Profile Editor.
5. It is a good idea to test your URL link, so go into your course, go to the Communicate tab, click Course Roster, and then find your name and click the www entry. Make certain your Web page opens. If it does not, verify that you have entered the URL string correctly.

Example URLs:

<http://www.personal.psu.edu/youruserid/blogs/myblog/>

<http://sites.google.com/site/yoursitename>

<http://yoursitename.weebly.com/>

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/yourname>

#### Advantages and disadvantages:

**Penn State blogs** have the advantage that they are easy to set up, and are supported at Penn State if you get stuck. They have the disadvantage that your content may be deleted if you take some time off from the program, and will be deleted once you graduate. (We are working on getting this changed, but there is no guarantee.)

**Google Pages** and **Weebly** are similar to each other in their advantages and disadvantages. They are both easy to set up and use, and they will persist indefinitely. They have the disadvantage of being run by private companies and the hosting and creation tools and terms of use are subject to change.

**LinkedIn** is somewhat different from the others. This is a professional networking site. The advantage of LinkedIn is that it enables online networking. The disadvantage is that it is slightly more cumbersome to create and add to your public profile, and if you are not interested in Web networking, it would not be a good choice.

---

## Need Help?

If you feel that you've followed all the steps and checked everything, and it still doesn't work, ask for help!

- If you don't understand one of the steps, see if your question has been answered in the "Project 0" discussion forum in ANGEL, or post your own question.