

## "Making the Connection"

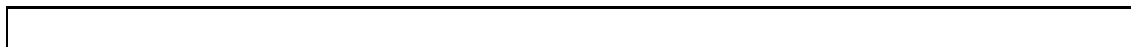
### Documentation of Core Student Competencies

#### Portfolio Process Guide for Students of WV State Community & Technical College

Over the next several semesters, as a WV State Community & Technical College student, you will begin to build your General Education Portfolio. All students will begin to build their Portfolio in their College 101 course, unless you are a transfer student or have had College 101 waived. In these cases, advisors will instruct individual students about how to build their Portfolio. You will complete your Portfolios as you advance through your courses and submit the Portfolio during your Capstone Courses.

WVSCTC's approach to General Education is through the successful completion of a core curriculum and also the attainment of embedded general education outcomes in the major courses culminating in the Portfolio process. This process will guide you in the assembly of artifacts, or evidence of learning, and the creation of accompanying reflection papers that signify the connection between your classroom learning and your life experiences and the general education outcomes or Core Student Competencies.

You are encouraged to **collect** many different examples of your class work. You are also encouraged to select artifacts that demonstrate learning through different media, text, audio, video and graphics files. As you create a personal record of work from your core curriculum and major courses, you will begin to **select** your best work for inclusion in your Portfolio. Once your artifacts, or evidence of learning, have been gathered, you will **reflect** on how these course assignments demonstrate your attainment of the seven (7) Core Student Competencies. This practice of reflection is intended to prepare you to "**make the connection**" between the Core Student Competencies and their relevance in the larger community.



This four step process provides a framework for working on the Portfolio. Looking at these terms more closely may prove useful in planning your Portfolio.

- **Collect** - You should begin to collect artifacts from your course work, starting from your first semester and continuing through each following semester. This collection of evidence of learning will also allow you to see your work, your progress, and your growth over time.
- **Select** - You will select artifacts or key assignments from your collection that you believe best demonstrate your attainment of the Core Student Competencies.
- **Reflect** - You will be asked to write a reflection about these key assignments. Reflection, like looking at the images you see in a mirror, is a when you look at or examine the act of learning and when you document your path of learning as you create a specific assignment. When you reflect on your learning, you are thinking critically about a specific learning experience and drawing connections between what you learned and how this can be applied.
- **Connect** - You will use your Portfolio to make meaningful connections between artifacts created from your academic, co-curricular, service, community and work experiences and the Core Student Competencies. In other words, how did the creation of the artifact relate to a particular Core Student Competency and how can that learning be applied in the future.