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Eng. 101  
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### Portfolio Critical Analysis

I believe that Katherine Van Loo's portfolio is a good model for Eng. 101 students, and it meets the standard of online writing portfolio genres because it gives a variety of Van Loo's work and it also includes things about the writer herself. The reason for this online portfolio is to get others to read her work.

**Comment [BKB1]:** I changed the times that I used her first name to instead using her last name to make it more professional.

The online portfolio contains creative writing stories, coursework stories, background information, her resume, her education background, and the writer's current situations. This is the content of the online portfolio and it matches almost all of the other online portfolios' content. The content of her portfolio is a good example for English 101 students because it includes the variety of topics that each of the other writing portfolios include.

This writer put on her online portfolio two different types of writing: Creative writing/stories and scholarly writing/course work. Her style of writing is story-like, descriptive, and more "free" for her creative writing stories. Her style of writing for her course work is more on the professional side using less descriptive words. Looking at the other portfolios, I have noticed that many also have a variety of different styles of writing. For example, Daniella's online writing portfolio includes humorous stories in her portfolio along with more professional and newsletter type of writing. Having a variety of writing styles to look at on a portfolio is important because it gives a good example of how the writer uses different styles of writing in different genres.

Daniella Slon: <http://www.daniellaswriting.com/index.htm>

**Comment [BKB2]:** Instead of putting my citations only on the last page, I put the ones that I used on each page at the bottom of that page.

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The visuals that are used in Van Loo's portfolio are all done by her. Van Loo enjoys photographing and there is one section in her portfolio that gives viewers a chance to look at some of her photography work. She does not have many visuals any where else on her portfolio like most of the other online portfolios. I think that having more visuals and eye catching background is beneficial because it catches the eye of the onlooker and makes them want to look at each section of the portfolio and they do lose interest faster. In Chad Fasca's online portfolio we see how he uses different graphics by each topic on a page, in doing so; Fasca gives an idea of what that paragraph of information is about. Fasca also talks about how he enjoys graphic designing and that is definitely evident on his online portfolio.

Van Loo does not seem to be writing this portfolio to get a job, instead she seems to be trying to get her work out there and read by people so that others may be able to enjoy her work. Van Loo does have her resume posted, so getting a job with her work is not out of the question, but it does not seem to be her main focus of her portfolio. Jeff Meuezlear's portfolio seems to be the same genre in this aspect. Meuezlear uses his online portfolio as a reflection on his progression as a writer; he also does not seem to be after just getting a job. He talks about how he has learned that professional writing is not just getting paid for something you write; instead it is a process of analyzing genres. Making an online portfolio to just get a job is not a good standard because it will just be focused on one content area instead of a few of them.

Chad Fasca: <http://www.fasca.net/cmfwriting/>

Jeffery Meuezlear: <http://homepages.dordt.edu/jffmzlr/Writer%20Portfolio/index.htm>

Throughout Van Loo's personal reflection essay, she gives a back ground story about her self and the variety of work that she has written. Also in the essay there are links to each type of work that Van Loo has done in the past. This is a very nice because it gives a quick guide to her styles of writing and the kinds of work that she usually does. Another portfolio that does this is Alicia Brown's portfolio. Although there are not as many links in Brown's portfolio as there are in Van Loo's, it is still a nice idea and it makes navigating their portfolios quicker.

The structure of Van Loo's online writing portfolio includes an essay that helps us get to know the writer herself, then in that essay she talks about her work that she has done in the past, and the last thing she talks about in that essay is her writing in the workplace. In Heather Carlile's online portfolio she also writes an essay about herself, but her structure is very different from Van Loo's structure. Carlile's personal essay is more of an introduction of herself and how she came to be the writer she is today. Carlile does not talk much about her actual work that she has on her profile, nor does she give a description of what to expect in her portfolio like Van Loo does. Although Carlile's personal essay is not bad, it just doesn't include as much information as Van Loo's does, but too much information on the personal essay page can sometimes take away from the rest of the online portfolio. Even though having a lot of information is sometimes nice, for English 101 students Carlile's structure for a personal essay was easier to read because was just a simple introduction to the author. That does not mean however, that Van Loo's personal essay structure does not meet the standard for the genre, because Van Loo and Carlile still did the same basic thing, it is just that one was more easier to read.

Alicia Brown: <http://pigseye.kennesaw.edu/%7Eabrown15/>

Heather Carlile: [http://www.msu.edu/%7Ecarlileh/portfolio/cover\\_letter.htm](http://www.msu.edu/%7Ecarlileh/portfolio/cover_letter.htm)

While comparing the format of Van Loo's portfolio to Tyler Spoon's portfolio, I noticed some very big differences. One difference in the format that I saw right away was the homepage. Van Loo's home page has a menu bar, linking me to her personal essay, resume, and her work. But Spoon's home page just had links below his personal paragraph describing what kind of story I will find if I click on the "here" button. I decided that this format for a homepage looked very unprofessional compared to Van Loo's homepage, and the standard format for online portfolios. An unprofessional portfolio is not a good example of a writer's online portfolios for English 101 students, nor does that meet the standard of the genre. By comparison to Spoon's format, I think that Van Loo did an excellent job at designing a professional, and enticing portfolio that does meet the standard well and is also a good example for English 101 students.

Going through Van Loo's online portfolio, I really get a good understanding of what an online portfolio all includes. Van Loo's portfolio is conventional because of her sentence style, and the way that she meets the rhetorical appeals standards of most online portfolios which allows her to meet the need for her audience to understand her portfolio. That is why I believe Van Loo's portfolio is a good model for English 101 students, and it meets a clear standard for online writing portfolio genres.

**Comment [BK3]:** Here I am trying to show how Van Loo is conventional with her portfolio and how her portfolio meets the standard or the "norm" for online writing portfolios.

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Katherine Van Loo: <http://kairos.wide.msu.edu/~katie/essay.html>

Tyler Spoon: <http://web.bvu.edu/students/spoodyl/portfolio.htm>