Erik Sierra

CS499 3-1 Journal

03/22/2025

Software Engineering and Design Enhancement Journal

**Part 1:**

I think an ePortfolio can be a valuable tool for self-promotion, especially in a professional or academic setting. It serves as a digital showcase of your skills, accomplishments, and experiences, giving potential employers or collaborators a more complete picture of who you are beyond a resume or LinkedIn profile. For example, a CS student can include code samples, class projects, certifications, and internship highlights, which can help demonstrate technical skills and growth over time. By curating and regularly updating an ePortfolio, you can maintain a professional online presence that aligns with their career goals and personal brand.

To mitigate risks while maximizing marketing potential, it’s important to be intentional about what you share and how you present it. You should avoid posting sensitive information or proprietary content such as anything protected under NDAs, unpublished work, or data that doesn’t belong to you. Instead, focus on public-facing projects or anonymized versions of your work. Additionally, using watermarks, disclaimers, or limited-access features (such as password-protected pages) can help reduce the risk of content misuse. Keeping the ePortfolio clean, well-organized, and visually appealing also ensures a stronger impression without oversharing.

However, there are some notable downsides to consider. One of the primary concerns is the exposure of intellectual property - code snippets, designs, or written content posted publicly can potentially be copied or plagiarized without permission or credit. There’s also the risk of oversharing, which can lead to unintended consequences, such as revealing weaknesses, inviting unwanted critique, or presenting outdated information. Lastly, maintaining a professional tone and consistent branding is key; otherwise, an ePortfolio can backfire and leave a negative impression. Balancing transparency with caution is essential to making the most of this powerful self-marketing tool.

One course outcome I’ve achieved so far is to “Demonstrate an ability to use well-founded and innovative techniques, skills, and tools in computing practices for the purpose of implementing computer solutions that deliver value and accomplish industry-specific goals.” In category one of the enhancements (Software Design Engineering and Design), I’ve successfully improved my previous code using more efficient and maintainable processes, through multiple tools which all contribute to the end solution to help deliver the goal in mind. I’ve also been able to achieve the outcome such as “Develop a security mindset that anticipates adversarial exploits in software architecture and designs to expose potential vulnerabilities, mitigate design flaws, and ensure privacy and enhanced security of data and resources.” By being able to improve security and allow sharing of code without hardcoded credentials, security has much improved and reduces the possibilities of vulnerabilities.

**Part Two:**

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| **Checkpoint** | **Software Design and Engineering** | **Algorithms and Data Structures** | **Databases** |
| **Name of Artifact Used** | PublicAzureBudgetLoader.py | PublicAzureBudgetLoader.py | CREATEBUDGETTACKER.sqll |
| **Status of Initial Enhancement** | Completed | Planning | Planning |
| **Submission Status** | Submitted | Not submitted | Not submitted |
| **Status of Final Enhancement** | In Progress | Planning | Planning |
| **Uploaded to ePortfolio** | Uploaded | Not yet uploaded | Not yet uploaded |
| **Status of Finalized ePortfolio** | In Progress | Planning | Planning |