

CS130(0) - Final Project

Release Date: December 6, 2018

Due Date: Varies with task; ALL final hand-ins are due by December 20, 2018 at 12:00PM (noon)

Late passes CANNOT be used

Overview

Now that you've learned so much about design and UX research, you will prepare a portfolio based on your work from this class to be presented!

1. [Project: Portfolio](#)

You will create a portfolio for this project to undergo a portfolio review. We will help connect you with a reviewer from industry who will look over your portfolio with you and give you feedback. If you already have a Portfolio and do not want to do the portfolio review, you may do the Alternate Project below. Sign up for a portfolio review time slot [here](#).

2. [Alternate Project: Individual Showcase](#)

You will improve on one of your previous assignments from this course and present it online to receive comments from strangers. **Only complete this project if you already have your own portfolio (and don't wish to use it for the project) and have provided us a link to it through the spreadsheet [here](#).**

Note that part of the grade for Project: Portfolio Review comes from peer review practice! Students doing the portfolio review will practice presenting their portfolios as well as reviewing the portfolios of other students before industry portfolio reviews take place.

Having a portfolio review by someone in industry will be a valuable opportunity for those who are not experienced with making their own portfolio and even for those who do have experience with making their own portfolio, as it gives you a chance to iterate and improve on your portfolio more. Ideally, make this portfolio useful for you after this course is over!

Please refer to the [Grading and Requirements](#) and [Appendix](#) sections towards the bottom of this handout for supplementary help.

Project: Portfolio

Creating a Portfolio

A design portfolio is valued not only for the quality of designs, but also for a designer's ability to clearly communicate the decisions that they made. The two key components of a portfolio are **content** and **presentation**. [Cofolios](#) and [UW](#) have examples of university students' portfolios.

For this project, you are to create a portfolio with at least **4** items in it (which can be a PDF or a website). At least **2** of these items must be assignments from this course. You may also use items outside of class (even programming work) in your portfolio as well. Think about the theme of your portfolio -- what makes you unique? Are you a mobile interaction designer making playful experiences? Or are you a UX researcher enabling social good? Or a visual web designer focusing on mixed reality?

Content - Your Work

Portfolio pieces are meant to showcase your design work and design thinking skills. You do so by 1) walking the portfolio reviewer through your thought process with text and 2) augmenting your text with images, videos, prototypes, etc. of your designs.

Have a reasonable narrative. For example, a common one keeps the following in mind:

Context/Problem - What problem does this solve? Why should we care?

Research/Feedback - What are users currently doing? What do they want/think?

Design Iterations (with justification) - What are the tradeoffs? Explain your design decisions.

Conclusion - What are your lessons learned, insights, takeaways, etc.?

Presentation

Tips and ideas can be located in the [Appendix](#) at the end of this handout.

Peer Review Practice

Peer review practice should help you gain confidence about presenting to an industry professional. You may also want to implement changes to your portfolio before the official presentation based on the feedback you receive.

This will take place during class on Thursday, 12/13. **Note that this is immediately before our industry reviews officially begin, so start early!** You will practice presenting in groups of 3-4 students who are also doing a portfolio. Each student should present for about 15-17 minutes to mimic the actual portfolio review that will take place. From there, the rest of the group should take 3-5 minutes to give feedback on the presenting student's portfolio and presentation. When

presenting, be sure to keep your narrative in mind as you explain your portfolio. Additionally, be sure to lay the context for each piece--the purpose, the challenges you dealt with, and the reasons why you made the design choices you did. Keep in mind that you are explaining each project in your portfolio to someone who is not familiar with the project at all. The TAs will send out additional tips on how to present as this date approaches.

If you are unable to attend this class time, then in order to receive partial credit for this portion, you are expected to schedule a peer review practice with at least one other student doing a portfolio regardless if they attended class or not.

Summarize your peer review practice and include the names of the peers involved when you hand in your assignment.

1:1 Portfolio Review

Portfolio reviews will be 20-minute 1:1 sessions between you and someone from industry. You should strive to finish your presentation within 15 minutes, and leave some time for setting up the call and answering extra questions.

Sign up for a portfolio review time slot [here](#). The TAs will email students with more information on how to contact their reviewers with tips on how to present their portfolio as review dates approach. If you do not hear from the TAs within a couple days of your time slot, please email the TA list!

Key Dates

<i>(Suggested) Sat. 12/8:</i>	Sign up for a portfolio review time slot here
<i>Thurs. 12/13:</i>	Peer review practice during class
<i>Thurs. 12/13 - Wed. 12/19:</i>	Portfolio reviews take place
<i>Thurs. 12/20 @ 12PM:</i>	Submit final hand-in through Gradescope

Final Hand-in Requirements

Submit a PDF of your portfolio or a PDF of a link to your portfolio in addition to a summary of your peer review practice to Gradescope by Thursday, 12/20 at 12:00pm (noon).

Alternate Project: Individual Showcase

For this individual showcase, you will improve an assignment you completed in this class to the point where it is engaging to an audience and present your showcase as an article or video online.

Before proceeding with the Alternate Project, please provide a link to your current portfolio for TAs [here](#)! The TAs will email you back ASAP to confirm that you are set for the Alternate Project.

Preparing Your Online Post

Select one of your assignments from this course (which even includes Iterative Design) that you think can attract people to your ideas and improve on it on your own. After making improvements to your assignment, transform it into an online article or video that engages an online audience. Your work should stand alone and provide value to the reader or viewer. What is a headline or setup that might attract a reader or viewer? What will they get out of this?

Have a reasonable narrative. For example, a common narrative keeps the following in mind:

Context/Problem - What problem does this solve? Why should we care?

Research/Feedback - What are users currently doing? What do they want/think?

Design Iterations (with justification) - What are the tradeoffs? Explain your design decisions.

Conclusion - What are your lessons learned, insights, takeaways, etc.?

Sharing Your Work Online

Post your work where it is possible to get feedback from strangers (i.e. people who do not know you personally). Where online would you find traditional users/demographics relevant to your design? Consider posting anywhere like Google Sites, Medium, HackerNews, Morello, GitHub, YouTube, Weebly, Brown CS hosting, Vimeo, Behance, your own hosting, etc. Basically, there should be a place where people can potentially comment on what you post.

Share your work until you receive **insightful** comments from **at least 3** different strangers. For example, these comments should be constructive and specific enough (i.e. more than just "this is cool") so that you can analyze these comments in relation to your work in the write-up you will hand in. If you do not receive enough comments, keep posting them on different forums until you receive at least three. If you have made **at least 5 attempts** (what counts as an attempt is detailed in the final paragraph of this section) and still do not receive enough comments, we will not penalize for that, but expect you to include your reflections on possible reasons and improvements in your write-up.

To help get more useful comments, use the self-test: if you saw this article posted by someone else, would you really spend time reading it? This is a high bar and many people will ignore you, so

think about what value your work provides to the reader or viewer. Gather a diverse range of comments by sharing your work broadly, and not just in a design forum asking for feedback. If you are not receiving comments when you post, think about how you may want to change the narrative of your work to be more compelling. What is something that others will not want to miss?

Take screenshots of the comments you received from **at least 3** different strangers, or evidence that you made **at least 5** reasonable attempts to gather comments (i.e. posted on at least 5 different forums). The locations in which you make your posts can all be on the same website, but they must be posted in different forums of the same website (e.g. different subreddits of Reddit or different groups on Facebook). Include these in your write-up that you will submit.

Examples of Engaging Online Posts

[New Car UI](#)

[Credit Card Form](#)

[Contact Lens Case from a former TA](#)

Key Dates

<i>(Suggested) Sat. 12/8:</i>	Provide a link to your current portfolio here
<i>(Suggested) Thurs. 12/13:</i>	Post project online for comments
<i>Thurs. 12/20 @ 12PM:</i>	Submit final hand-in through Gradescope

Final Hand-in Requirements

Submit to Gradescope a PDF containing a link to your work and screenshots of either comments from at least 3 different users or of postings to at least 5 relevant places online.

Grading and Requirements

Please remember that late passes cannot be used on the final project. Each project option has a different rubric.

Project: Portfolio Review (14 points)

Portfolio Content (8 points)

- 3 points - Contains at least 4 portfolio pieces, at least 2 of which are class assignments
- 5 points - Each portfolio piece stands alone with its own appropriate narrative

Peer Review Practice (2 points)

- 1 point - Presents their portfolio to peers during class on Thursday, 12/13
- 1 point - Summarizes feedback from the peer review practice with peers' names

Presentation and Style (4 points)

- 2 points - Points based on reviewer feedback after adequately showcasing work during an interview with an industry professional
 - 1 point - Portfolio reflects some design principles from class
 - 1 point - Portfolio conveys a theme about you
-

Alternate Project: Individual Showcase (14 points)

Content (6 points)

- 6 points - Revisions to original assignment improve it substantially

Online Post (8 points)

- 6 points - Narrative stands alone and is engaging to the respective online audience
- 2 points - Provide screenshots of insightful comments from at least three different strangers, or of the five reasonable attempts made to gather comments at appropriate online places

Appendix: Online Portfolio Building Tips and Ideas

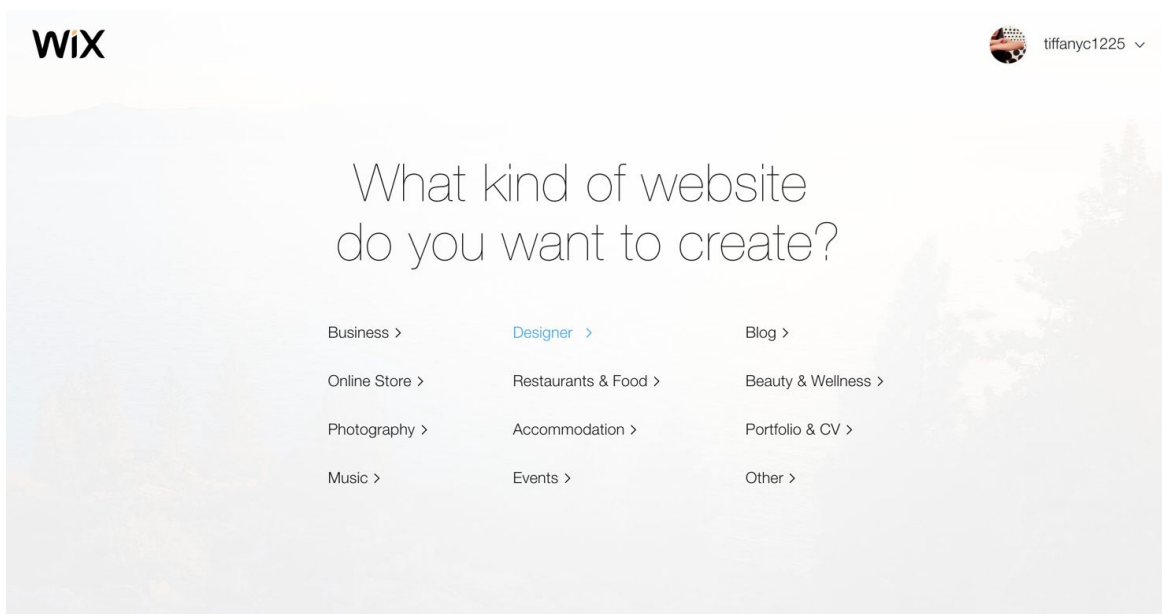
For online portfolios, you can use website makers like [Wix](#), [Squarespace](#), or [Adobe Portfolio](#), or you can code your own website using languages such as HTML/CSS/JavaScript. If you are unfamiliar with coding, we recommend that you use a website maker to begin with! Over a longer period of time (i.e. outside of this class), you can begin building your own website.

In this appendix, we will go over some of the following approaches for portfolio building:

- [Website Makers](#)
- [Building Your Own Portfolio Website - Logistical](#)
- [Building Your Own Portfolio Website - Design](#)

Website Makers

Wix, for example, has website templates specifically for designers.



After selecting the Designer category, you also have the option to quickly create a website template:



Choose How You Want to Create Your Website



Let Wix ADI Create a Website for You

Answer a few simple questions and automatically
get a website designed just for you in minutes.

[Start Now](#)



Create a Website Yourself with the Wix Editor

Start with a template and make it your own. Add anything with
easy drag and drop & 1000s of advanced design features.

[Choose a Template](#)

Selecting the Portfolio category will generate a website design that is geared towards designers featuring their work!

What do you want to create a website for?

Q |

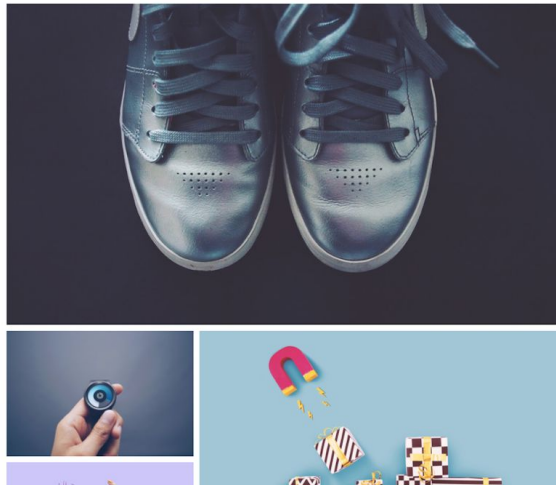
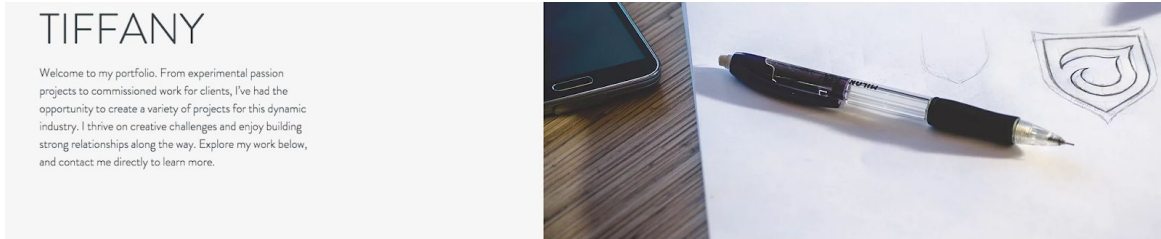
EXAMPLES

- Graphic Designer
- Artist
- Portfolio
- Architecture Firm
- Design Studio

Next >

Tip: Select your business or website type so ADI can start custom building a website for your needs

Skip >>



Building Your Own Portfolio Website - Logistics

If you would like to code your own website, the following is one way that TAs have done so in the past!

1. Obtain a domain name (i.e. www.myportfolio.com). Domain names can be purchased through domain companies like [Namecheap](#), [GoDaddy](#), etc.
2. You will need a place to host your website's HTML, CSS, image files, etc. [GitHub](#) will allow you to create a personal repository which you can connect to your domain name.
3. Once you connect your GitHub repository (with website files) to your domain name, your website should be up and running.

If you would like to avoid purchasing a domain name, you may also host your portfolio website through [GitHub Pages](#) such that your site would be linked in the following format:

`https://<your-github-account>.github.io`

Building Your Own Portfolio Website - Design

Traditionally, the first page of an online portfolio will feature 1) four to five of your portfolio pieces, and 2) a brief intro/description of yourself.

Each portfolio piece is featured with an image, a title, and keywords describing the nature of the project. Portfolio pieces tend to be showcased in a grid pattern. See [here](#) and [here](#) for examples. To make a grid, you can use the handy CSS Grid and Flexbox skills that you've learned from this class!

J

JESSICA NIP

ABOUT
WORK + PLAY
RESUME

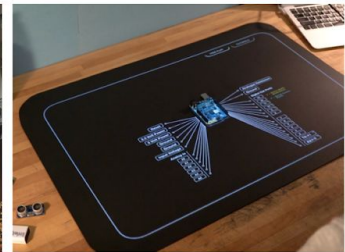
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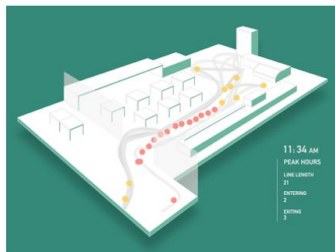
Mixed Reality at Microsoft
Internship | Interaction | UXUI | Mixed Reality



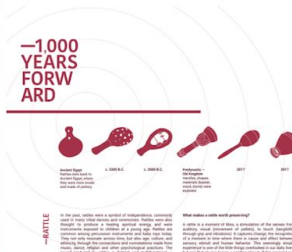
Immersive Museum Learning
Interaction | UXUI | Mixed Reality



Clairvoyant
Product | Interaction | UXUI



Data Visualization
Service Design | Visual Communication



1,000 Years Forward
Speculative Design | Visual Communication



Munch
Mobile | UXUI | Communication

Case study/portfolio piece pages are simply divided into different sections (previously specified in the [Portfolio](#) brief) which discuss the thinking and outcomes of the designs. Text is supplemented with multimedia like images, videos, and GIFs.

For more specific questions, or if you are having trouble coding your portfolio, please come to TA hours, use Piazza, or contact the TA email list!

Good luck! ✨