Project Reflection Essay

One of your major assignments this semester was to develop and complete a project, either of your own design or in partnership with one of several education technology organizations. The projects are extremely diverse, and to accommodate this diversity, you were asked to develop your own rubric by which you would like your presentation and final deliverables to be judged and evaluated.

Along with your final project, you need to submit a reflective essay in which you both reflect upon and evaluate your learning and your project. The two purposes of the essay are for you to crystallize your learning from this effort and to provide an evaluation of the final product.

There are many ways for you to reflect on what you have learned. You might provide an overview of the process of developing your project. You might highlight some of the elements of the project that you are most proud of. You might describe some of the challenges or obstacles that you overcame or that stymied your efforts. You might describe how the project was informed by readings or conversations from class, or how your independent work helped you see some of these ideas in a new light. There are many right ways to do this.

There are two things that you must do somewhere in the body of the essay, which are to use your rubric to evaluate your own efforts and assign yourself a grade on the A-F scale. In using the rubric to evaluate your own efforts, look through the various criteria that you established and evaluate how your work stands up to those criteria. You should “fill out the rubric” and assign yourself a rating in each of the benchmark categories that you created (an easy way to do this is to highlight in boldface the phrases from your rubric that best apply to your corpus of work). Then, you should assign yourself a grade, using any criteria that you so choose, and explain your reasoning.

While mapping your final presentation and project onto your rubric and onto a traditional grading scale are important exercises, they are meant to support a broader purpose of this essay—for you to reflect on what you have learned.

As a guideline, I’m suggesting that the essay should be approximately 1,000 words, but longer or shorter pieces, or pieces with multimedia elements may be appropriate. The reflective essay should be submitted, in Canvas, with the final project on Dec. 3.