

How to Write an Artifact Summary for the General Education Curriculum Portfolio

Rule of Thumb: Short, sweet, and packed with insight! (no more than 6 sentences)

*Follow this sequence of questions: **What? So what? Now what?***

1. Identify the Essential Learning Outcome (ELO) the artifact meets:
 - See the course syllabus and the GE matrix
2. Write an Artifact Rationale:
 - **What?** - A description of the artifact and the objectives of the assignment per the course syllabus. Be specific. For example, is the essay/speech meant to be informative, persuasive, argumentative, etc?
 - **So What?** - Explain what you learned from completing the artifact.
 - **Now What?** - Identify the long-term value of the project and its applicability to the GE curriculum as a whole.
3. Artifact Summary Example:

Critical Thinking, History: Critical thinking is a habit of mind characterized by the comprehensive exploration of issues, ideas, artifacts, and events before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion. History provides students with context for understanding the world and powerful tools for shaping the future.

I completed a Primary Source Project assignment using an excerpt from *Hammurabi's Law Code* as the foundation. I learned that primary source material can be interpreted in many ways and that sources, even law codes that were created with a single purpose, can provide insight into a range of historical circumstances. I also learned that understanding history helps me better understand the world as it is today. The processes of researching and interpreting primary source material are valuable tools that I can use to develop more fully informed conclusions. I can also use these tools to contextualize current events by researching the history of a particular concept or practice.