

THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Common Core Student Recognition Award

Guidelines for Preparing Learning Portfolio

A learning portfolio is a reflective summary that showcases how the student has engaged with the common core curriculum, highlighting their achievements, growth, and learning experiences. This learning portfolio should not merely be a collection of course materials and assignment samples; rather, it should serve as a self-reflective document that demonstrates the student's engagement with the Common Core Program and how it has shaped their lifelong educational journey.

The learning portfolio must be in English and can be presented in either written or video format. For a written portfolio, it should **not exceed 4 A4-sized pages**, and appendices may be added where deemed necessary. For a video portfolio, the duration should **not exceed 10 minutes**.

Important Note: Considering that students should have completed most of the 30 credits for the Common Core, it is not necessary to summarize learning experiences from every common core course. Students are encouraged to summarize their learning or select courses that best represent their growth and learning journey for inclusion in the portfolio.

The following elements should preferably be included in the learning portfolio, where applicable:

1. Self-reflection

- A self-reflective statement that reflects on their journey through the common core curriculum, including, but not limited to, motivations for choosing the common core courses, the goals aimed to be achieved from common core studies, and how experiences with these common core courses have influenced personal and academic growth

2. Learning Experiences

- Illustrate specific learning experiences from one or more courses that have had a significant impact on the student
- Describe how these learning experiences have influenced the student's perspectives, values, or understanding of issues beyond their major field of study, highlighting any projects, discussions, or activities that enhanced their understanding and engagement with the subject matter

3. Achievements and Contributions to Learning

- Detail any notable academic achievements related to their common core studies, such as special projects, meaningful work, or recognitions received
- Specify any activities related to the Common Core, such as participating in workshops, seminars, or study groups, and explain how these experiences contributed to their overall learning

4. Alignment with Common Core Program Goals

- The learning portfolio must explicitly address how the learning experiences align with the three goals of the Common Core Program:
 - **Broadening Horizons:** Provide evidence of how the student engaged with diverse academic disciplines and discuss interdisciplinary projects, topics, or achievements that expanded their worldview. Highlight specific experiences that challenged their perspectives, broadened their knowledge of the subject matter, enriched their understanding of complex issues, shaped their understanding of global challenges and cultural diversity, etc.
 - **A Passion for Learning:** Share examples or artifacts that illustrate the student's enthusiasm for learning beyond the classroom, e.g., independent research, reading beyond the course syllabus, actively engaging in discussions with peers or faculty
 - **A Lifelong Pursuit of Excellence:** Reflect on how experiences or skills and insights gained in the Common Core Program have prepared the student for personal growth (e.g., overcoming challenges or discovering new interests), academic pursuits (e.g., influence on academic plan and performance in major study), career preparation (e.g., developing skills that will be beneficial in chosen field), or contributions to the community (e.g., making a positive impact on society), demonstrating a commitment to ongoing development

5. Future Aspirations (Optional)

- Explain future aspirations, including plans to build on the knowledge and skills gained from common core studies and the steps the student will take to continue their personal and academic growth