

Website Project Proposal: Work Repository

Matthew Olivo

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For my project, I plan to create a Work Repository of key work I have completed at Rutgers and from previous jobs in Finance, Management, and Marketing. It will include everything I've learned in my finance classes, including personal finance, investments, the time value of money, and real estate. Case studies I have worked on that provide key financial information that could be important in the future. As well as marketing and management files that I can work on and obtain due to my full-time work as a salesman. Although this class is to appease future schools and educators, the purpose is to integrate computers and the web into teaching and learning. I have zero intent or interest in going into the education field. I have completed the requirements for both my majors, Finance and Management. I will be eligible to graduate by the end of this year once I complete my general education requirements. This project will be the amalgamation of everything I have and will be working towards. The work repository will serve as a reference point for everything I have worked on, so future employers can see the actual work I produce rather than just a list of classes on a transcript.

This project matters to me because I'm about to graduate and go into the real world. Right now all the work I've done is just scattered across old folders on my laptop, random Google Drive files from my job, and Canvas submissions I'll lose access to the second I graduate. Between finance classes and working full time as a salesman, I've built up a decent amount of stuff that actually shows what I can do, but none of it is organized in a way anyone outside my head could actually use. Putting it together into one place means I'll actually have something to show for the last four years instead of it just disappearing into old class folders nobody will ever open again.

The audience for this site is mainly future employers and hiring managers, since the whole point is to have something I can point people to rather than just handing them a resume. I chose that audience because a resume only tells someone what classes I took or what my job title was; it

doesn't show them the actual work. Someone looking to hire a finance or management person would get a lot more out of seeing a real case study or a real-time, money-value problem I solved than just seeing "Finance 301" listed on a transcript.

For the site tool, I'm going with WordPress. I picked it mainly because it's free, it's easy to organize into different pages or categories so I can split my work in finance from my work in marketing/management to my job, and it doesn't require knowing how to code anything, which matters since I'm not trying to learn web development; I just need somewhere to put all this work where it looks decent. The examples provided in the module seem optimal, and I want to model it after the exhibits.

As far as the theory side goes, building this site lines up pretty well with constructivism.

Constructivist learning is built around the idea that "students construct their own meaning by building on their previous knowledge and experience" (Surgenor, 2010, p. 1). That's basically what I'm doing here, since I'm not just dumping old files onto a page; I have to actually go back through everything from the last four years and figure out how it all connects and what it's actually showing, which means I'm rebuilding my own understanding of it instead of just copy-pasting.

It also connects to cognitive information processing theory. Per Surgenor, encoding information by connecting it to what you already know, rather than through plain repetition, leads to "deeper understanding of the material and more durable memories" (Surgenor, 2010, p. 3). Going back through years of finance and management work and organizing it into a repository forces me to reprocess it all instead of it just sitting untouched, so it should stick with me better than it would have if I never went back and pulled it all together.

References:

Surgenor, P. (2010, March). *Constructivism & social constructivism* [PDF]. Teaching Toolkit: How Students Learn 4. University College Dublin, UCD Teaching and Learning.

Surgenor, P. (2010, March). *Cognitivism* [PDF]. Teaching Toolkit: How Students Learn 3. University College Dublin, UCD Teaching and Learning.