



# Integrating an ePortfolio system in an online environment for higher learning

Al Francis D. Librero

Assistant Professor

Faculty of Information and Communication Studies

University of the Philippines Open University

<http://www.upou.edu.ph>

<http://www.allibrero.com>

[alfrancis.librero@upou.edu.ph](mailto:alfrancis.librero@upou.edu.ph)

# University of the Philippines Open University

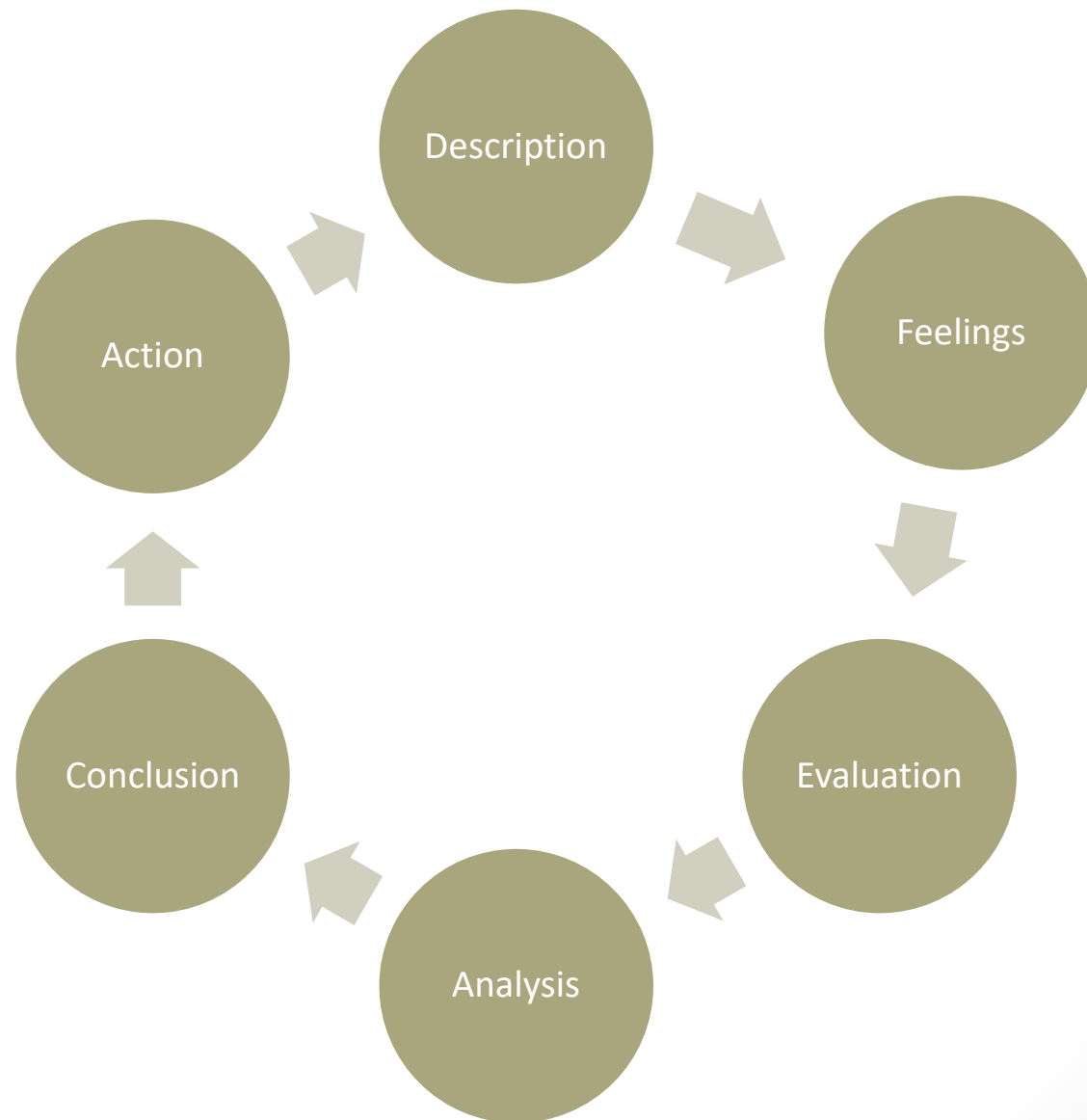
- Virtual campus in the University of the Philippines system typically with 2,000-3,000 enrolled students in a given semester.
- All courses are deployed online via Course Management System (Moodle).
- Caters to students scattered across and beyond the Philippines.
- BA Multimedia Studies (BAMS)

# BA Multimedia Studies

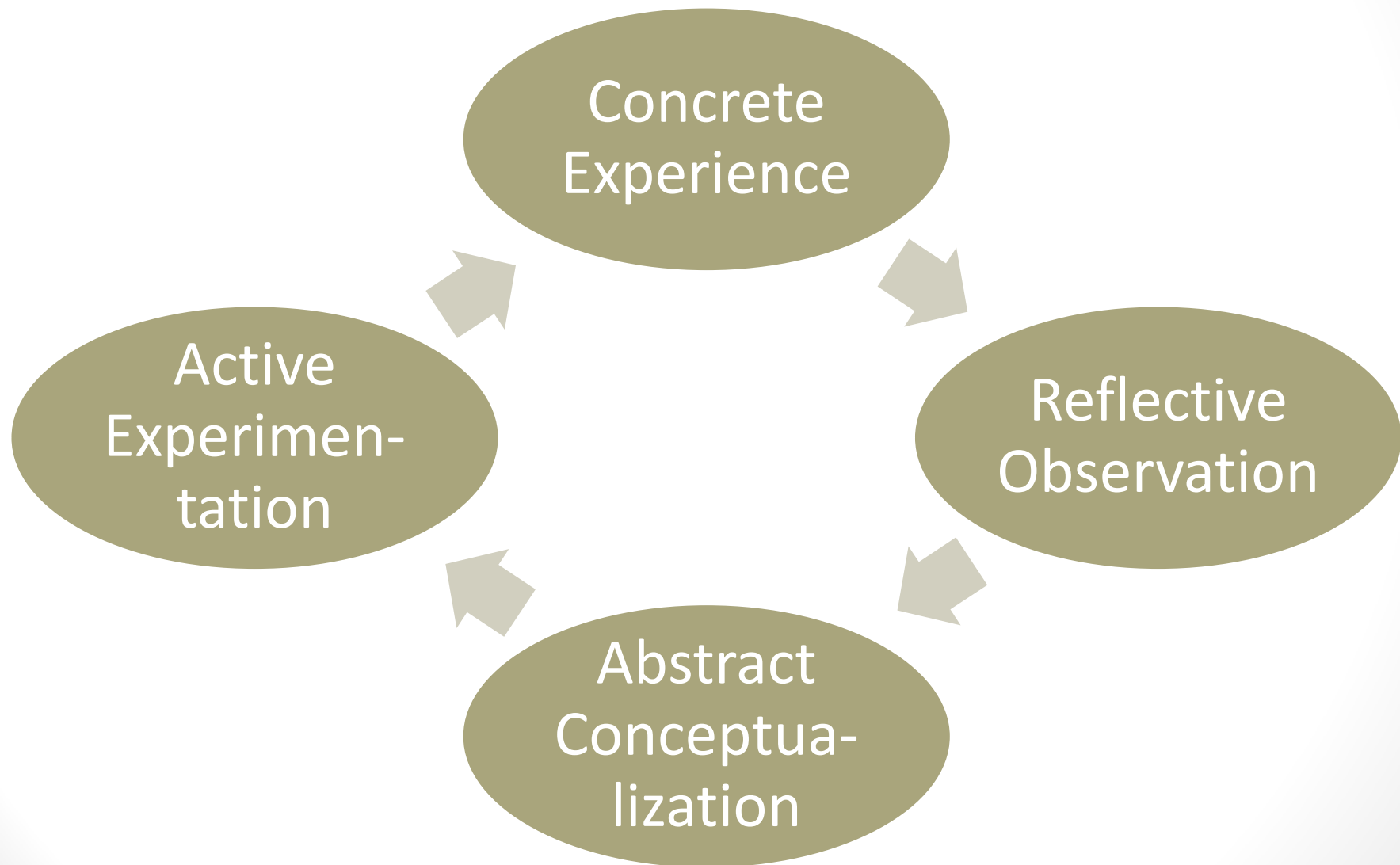
The BAMS program drives students to become adept with the theoretical and practical aspects of multimedia.

However, UPOU has little in the way of allowing students and faculty alike to publicly showcase their research and creative work. Reflective learning off one's own work as well as others' is not innate even in the BAMS program.

# Gibbs' Reflective Cycle



# Kolb's cycle of experiential learning



# Students

- Peer review
- Reflective learning
  - Course wide
  - Program wide
- Integrated artifact repository
  - Blogs
  - Multimedia
  - Theses and projects
- Job application tool

# Faculty and Institution

- Holistic assessment
- Academic advising
- Efficient and transparent peer assessment
- Research tool (rich source of student data)
- Potential OER
- Public information/relations

# Objectives

- Explore and evaluate the feature set of Mahara, an open-source ePortfolio system
- Conduct an initial assessment of ePortfolios as a tool for learning and teaching effectiveness.
- Develop an appropriate general framework for the adoption of an ePortfolio-based assessment for BAMS courses.



# ePortfolio System



- Open source software
- Moodle integration
- Less ambiguous

# Mahara installation

**ePortfolios** | AI Libroero | Settings | 5 | Logout

Search users

**Dashboard** | Content | Portfolio | Groups | Administration

## Welcome

UPOU ePortfolios is a fully featured electronic portfolio system with social networking features to create online learning communities. Currently, this system caters to the Bachelor of Arts in Multimedia Studies program under the Faculty of Information and Communication Studies in the UP Open University.

If you've just signed up and not sure what to do, check the [Starter's Guide](#) (currently at version 0.2) to help get you up and running. Then visit the [Mahara online manual](#) or download the [PDF](#) (or [epub](#)) version for the how-tos during your building process.

### Create and collect

Develop your portfolio

- Update your profile
- Upload your files
- Create your résumé
- Publish a journal

### Organise

Showcase your portfolio

Organise your portfolio into pages. Create different pages for different audiences - you choose the elements to include.

### Share and network

Find friends and join groups

- Find friends
- Join groups
- Control your privacy
- Discuss topics

### AI Libroero

15 pending friends

**My groups:**

- BAMS Veterans (Administrator)
- MMS 100 2014-2015-1T (Administrator)
- MMS 100 2014-2015-2T (Administrator)
- The "Soundtrack" Project (Administrator)

### Online users

(Last 10 minutes)

AI Libroero

Show all online users

### Latest pages

**Assignment #3: Knowing where you're at (Part 2)**  
This is a sort of reflection of assignment #1 and critiquing my images submitted earlier which ar...  
rhodora.blancaflor (Rhodora Blancaflor - rhodora.blancaflor) - Updated 25 March 2015

**Multimedia Studies 173 2014-2015-2T**  
This is the page dedicated to MMS 173.  
Marionne Faye Adique (marionnefaye.adique) - Updated 24 March 2015

**Bico-MM173-BlogNo.4**  
Renato Bico (Renato "Rene" Bico - renato.bico) - Updated 24 March 2015

**Bonus Assignment: One shot summary**  
Regine Fontanilla (07reginefontanilla) - Updated 23 March 2015

**MMS 173: Knowing where you're at (part2)**  
Marilyou Balayo (marilou balayo - mariloubalayo) - Updated 22 March 2015

### Inbox

- New message from Jean Alfonso-Decena
- New page access
- New page access
- New friend request
- New page access

[More »](#)

### Topics I am following

- Re: Access Denied
- Re: Access Denied
- Re: Access Denied
- Re: Access Denied
- Re: Can't locate sent messages

# Mahara installation



**Al Librero**

Administrator of UP Open University

[Edit this page](#)



## Academic ePortfolio

[MMS 100: Introduction to Multimedia](#)

[MMS 172: Audio in Multimedia](#)

[MMS 173: Photography in Multimedia](#)

[MMS 198: Biomodd \(New Media Art Practice\)](#)

[Research](#)

[Media demo page](#)

## Profile information

- **First name:** Al Francis
- **Last name:** Librero
- **Official website address:** <http://fics.upou.edu.ph>
- **Personal website address:** <http://www.allibrero.com>
- **Occupation:** Assistant Professor
- **Email address:** [alfrancis.librero@upou.edu.ph](mailto:alfrancis.librero@upou.edu.ph)

## My groups

[BAMS Veterans - Admin](#)

[MMS 100 2014-2015-1T - Admin](#)

[MMS 100 2014-2015-2T - Admin](#)

[The "Soundtrack" Project - Admin](#)

## My friends



Abi Viloria



Abra Ulric Ayco



Aileen Domingo



Ais Quintela

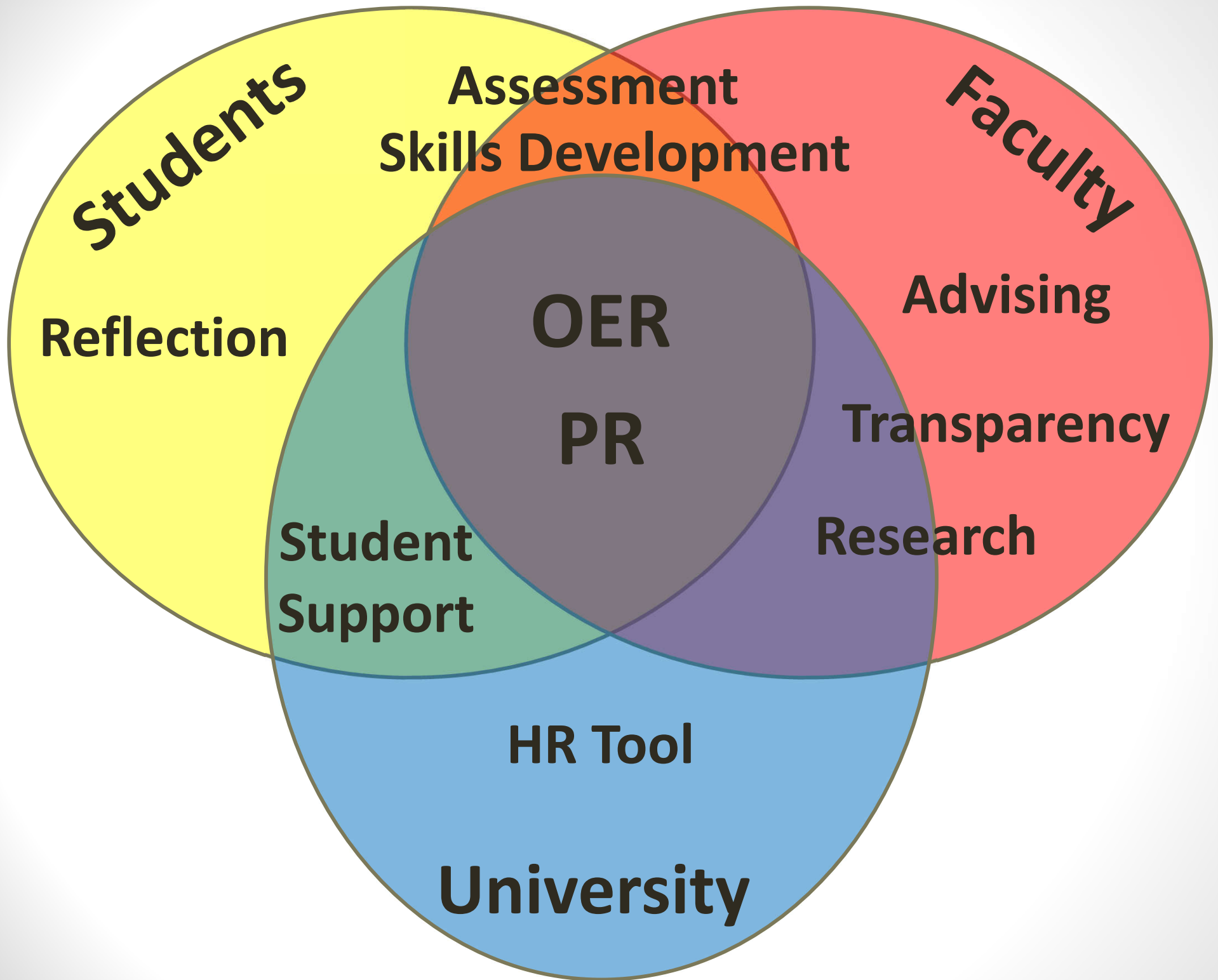


Alexis Llaguno



Allan Del Rosario





**Students**

**Reflection**

**Assessment  
Skills Development**

**Faculty**

**Advising**

**OER**

**PR**

**Transparency**

**Student  
Support**

**Research**

**HR Tool**

**University**

# Pilot course requirements

Old set	New set
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 9 Quizzes (up to 15 items each)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4 Quizzes (less than 10 items each)</li><li>• Starting ePortfolio Profile</li><li>• Reflective blogging</li></ul>

# Immediate benefits

- Additional substance in course content
- More balanced display of both aptitude and practical skills
- Gauges ability to write
- More engaging than quizzes
- Exposes certain student habits
- Allows a better glimpse of the student profile

# Immediate challenges

- Additional layer to the course which some students may find too difficult
- System restrictions can be unforgiving, especially for the careless
- Technical issues
- Additional content management system that requires maintenance

# Further development opportunities

- Systems integration
- Program-wide reflective learning
- Transparent and authentic Assessment
- Building learning communities
- Participatory OER development
- ePortfolio and digital culture development





# Thank you!

Feel free to contact me:

[alfrancis.librero@upou.edu.ph](mailto:alfrancis.librero@upou.edu.ph)

[www.allibrero.com](http://www.allibrero.com)