

CRAFTING MEANINGFUL RELECTIONS FOR ePORTFOLIO
by Kris Sward

Evidence: Journal entry regarding feeling overwhelmed

OLTD Outcome Addressed:

- Moderation and mediation
- Understand how to build rapport and manage groups

In order to show evidence of my learning in 503 I chose to share a journal entry that I created when I was in the middle of our learner-led seminar entitled Too Much Information. At this point in the week I was getting a little bit panicky that no one was chiming in on the activities outlined in the website and had sent a 'gentle nudge' email to the group to get things moving.

As I mentioned in my final project for 503, this journal entry reminds me of my own need to slow down and let things happen. Patience is a virtue, I said, and I need to employ it in my online lessons. I spent so much time working to create an engaging piece of work and was excited to share it with my classmates, but then felt a little down when no one was immediately jumping on board with it. I think the fact that we all have busy schedules, are bogged down with family, work and school commitments and were all trying to pull together something unique and amazing for our cohort led to people not getting right down to business. My background as a face to face teacher doesn't help because I'm used to my students getting down to work after the lesson.

I think the key reflection in this piece comes at the end of my entry where I talk about Ben preparing his wiki and relating that he was spending so much time doing that he hadn't gotten to Seminar 3's activities. At that moment it was like a light bulb lit up in my head because I could completely relate. One week prior to this happening that was me in the same position of not being able to get to my discussion posts because I was prepping for my seminar.

From this I need to pull another 'belief' from my final paper and that is 'if you build it, they will come.' After developing engaging, interesting units or lessons and posting them online for the end user, I need to employ patience and sit back and let the learner's learn. Not a strong point of mine, but I'm working on it and I think with more practice in the online teaching and learning realm, perhaps that will come.