

Learning Portfolio Summary 2014-2015

In the 2014-15 academic year, the primary goal of our learning portfolio pilot was to get as many instructors to use learning portfolios as possible. This was driven by the need to better understand how a range of faculty felt about the Pathbrite learning portfolio platform and how it worked in a range of courses.

Approximately 775 students in 48 courses had some contact with portfolio work during the Fall and Spring semesters of 2014-15. Many of these students were in core first-year or learning community courses, including courses in Writing, Honors, Block U, and LEAP. A number of academic disciplines were also represented in the pilot, including Architecture, Humanities, Modern Dance, Medical Laboratory Science, and Social and Behavioral Science.

We found that, by embedding portfolio work explicitly within courses, student participation was much higher than in the previous year. In that year we asked students to voluntarily participate in the pilot but only got a handful of participants.

In 2015-16, we plan to continue evaluating Pathbrite as a potential long-term platform, as well as refining key aspects of the pilot. We will also pilot a 'program portfolio' in co-curricular programs that are not necessarily tied to a specific course; this is likely to be the best path of growth going forward.