

Benchmarks, Methods & Prep for Professional Semester

Concordia University Bachelor of Arts, Elementary
Curriculum

Benchmarks

- Benchmarks 1 and 2 should already be complete –
- If you have not been accepted into the College of education (1) or the Teacher Ed Program (2), the Multidisciplinary Studies major may be your best option



Benchmarks

Benchmark 3 Preparation for the Professional semester – **Start now**, do not wait

- Application to the Professional semester
- **Fieldwork Logs/Evaluations**
- **Fieldwork Reflections**
- **Fieldwork Lesson Observations**
- **Dyslexia Certificate (free online training)**
- **Portfolio***
- Consent to Release form
 - **Requires passing Teacher Certify to get released****
- Acceptance letter
 - **Requires passing TExES (Content and PPR)*****

*Portfolio – In BBLearn

The screenshot displays the BBLearn Home Page interface. On the left is a yellow navigation sidebar with the following items: Certification Preparation (Education) (with a home icon), Home Page, CTX Website, Join your program here >, Benchmark 1, Benchmark 2, Benchmark 3, **How to Prepare a Portfolio** (circled in red), Work on Portfolio, Submit your Portfolio, Tools, Check My Benchmarks, Student Self-Support, Tutor.com Online Tutoring, and Blackboard Help. The main content area has a purple header labeled 'Home Page' and three panels: 'My Announcements' (no announcements in the last 7 days), 'My Tasks' (no tasks due), and 'What's New' (no notifications). On the right is a 'To Do' panel with sections for 'What's Past Due' (0 items), 'What's Due' (select date: 09/13/2017), and a breakdown by day: Today (0), Tomorrow (0), This Week (0), and Future (0). The page is last updated.

*Portfolio – In BBLearn

How to Prepare a Portfolio



Getting Started

1. Click on **Work on Portfolio** below OR Under the Navigation Menu (upper right hand corner where you see your name), click **Tools**, then click **Portfolio**
2. On the My Portfolios page, click **Create Portfolio** (gray button near left)
3. Give the portfolio a *Title*
4. Click **Select a Template** (Professional Education Portfolio)
5. Click **Submit**
6. After you click submit, you will be given the option to take the tour.
The tour will walk you through the basics.



Adding pages and artifacts

1. After creating a page, give it a title by clicking the pencil icon.
2. The first section in the page will be created for you.
3. Give the section a title by clicking the pencil icon next to a section title to edit it.
4. Each section has a content editor for creating written content.
 1. You can also associate one or more artifacts with each section.
 2. You add artifacts to a section and use the content editor to reflect on those artifacts.
 3. You can add artifacts from previous course assignments or submit your own.



Adding Personal Artifacts

1. On the My Artifacts page, click Add Personal Artifact.
2. Provide a title, description, and content for the artifact.
3. The description is visible only to the artifact owner.
4. Click Submit.



Adding Course Artifacts

1. On the My Artifacts page, click Add Personal Artifact.
2. Under *Browse Criteria* select a course

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Home Page

My Announcements

No Course or Organization Announcements have been posted in the last 7 days.

[more announcements...→](#)

My Tasks

My Tasks:

No tasks due.

[more tasks...→](#)

What's New

 [Edit Notification Settings](#) [Actions ▾](#)

No Notifications

To Do



What's Past Due

▶ **All Items** (0)

What's Due

Select Date:

▼ **Today** (0)

Nothing Due

▶ **Tomorrow** (0)

▶ **This Week** (0)

▶ **Future** (0)

Last Updated:

*Portfolio – In BBLearn

The screenshot displays the BBLearn Portfolios interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes a home icon and the text 'Portfolios Homepage'. Below this is a sidebar menu with a '+' icon at the top, listing various portfolio sections: 'About Me', 'Who I am', 'Resume', 'Philosophy of Education', 'My Philosophy', 'The Purpose of School', 'Effective Teaching', 'Beliefs about Students', 'Our Beliefs about Teacher Dispositions', and 'Our Beliefs about Pedagogy'. Each section has a trash icon next to it. The main content area is titled 'About Me' with a pencil icon. It features a section header 'Who I am' in a light blue box. Below this, a message states: 'Section Instructions do not appear in final view' and 'Instructions: Tell us (or your future employer about who you are as a person and an educator.)'. A blue button labeled 'Add Artifact' is present, followed by the text: 'No Artifacts. If there are no artifacts, this area will not appear in the portfolio.' Below the button is a rich text editor toolbar with options for bold, italic, underline, font face (Arial), font size (3 (12pt)), text color, bulleted list, numbered list, link, and unlink. The text area below the toolbar is empty. At the bottom of the main content area, a path is shown as 'Path: p'. The interface is decorated with a pattern of small plus signs.

**Certify Teacher

- Test practice with embedded tutorials
- Certify Teacher [website](http://www2.certifyteacher.com) (http://www2.certifyteacher.com)
- Purchase two tests - NOW
 - Core Subjects EC-6 (#291) – Content Exam
 - Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12 (#160) – PPR Exam
- Discount
 - Use Concordia email address
 - Code: TORNADOS4728
- Pass each one twice with 90% or better to get released to take TExES

**Certify Teacher

Process

- Select Exam Mode and take the test (up to 4 hrs.)
- Get score report immediately – will generate an individualized study plan
- Go to Study Mode to get only questions over content you missed
- Go to Exam History Page to track your progress
- Select Exam Mode again – repeat until you get 90% or better in ALL 5 subtests
 - ELAR
 - Math
 - Science
 - SS
 - Fine Arts/Health/PE

***TEXES

Texas Examinations of Educator Standards

- State Certification Exams needed to graduate and be certified to teach
- Two tests required (computer – 5 hours)
 - TExES Core Subjects EC-6 (191) (267 MC questions)
 - TExES Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12 (#160) (100 MC questions)
- Take content exam when ready – don't wait if content classes are completed
- Take PPR during Teacher Ed Seminar – semester prior to student teaching or when methods classes are complete
- More practice – ETS [website](http://cms.texas-ets.org/texas/) (http://cms.texas-ets.org/texas/)