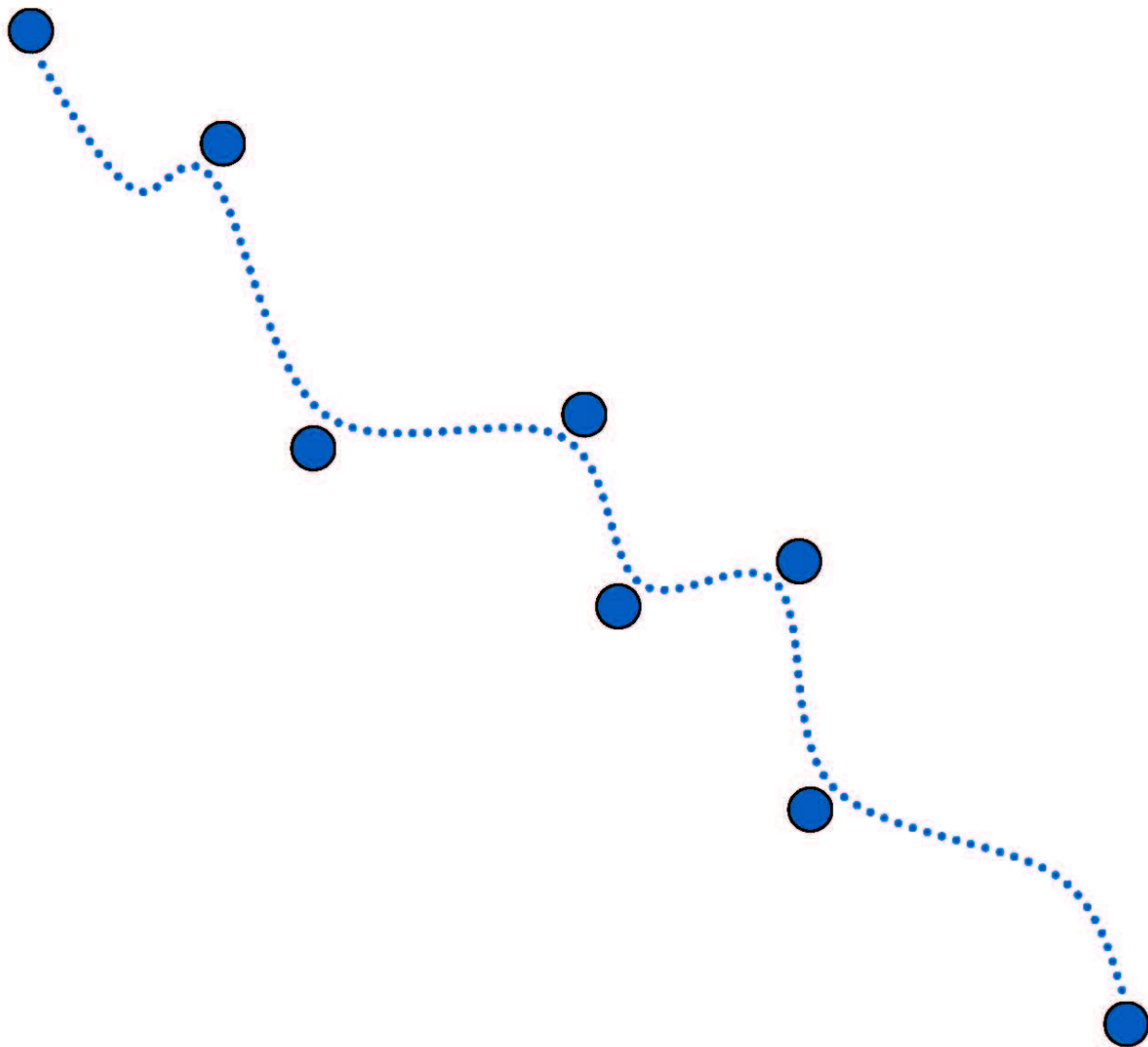


FBM RETROSPECTIVE PORTFOLIO BUILDING GUIDE

Connecting the dots



THE RETROSPECTIVE FRAMEWORK

Who should use this framework?

This guide is useful for soon-to-be graduates who want to consolidate their portfolio and for students who want a benchmark to see how far they have come and where they should be heading next.

If you are the latter, you may still want to use **Part 2 of the Proactive Framework** to identify and maximise various opportunities while finding your true passion and interest. Ultimately, have faith in the process and try anything that interest you without worrying about where it will take you.

Follow the subsequent checklist presented below. You will be more aware of yourself as well as how to create a refined action plan to seek out the most relevant opportunities and make the most out of them.

"You can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backwards. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future."

- Steve Jobs



At the end of the day when you look back, you can connect the dots and figure out the picture that it was trying to draw.

And if you can't do so, there's always the option of passing it off as abstract art, which can also be valuable. It is ultimately what you make of your own journey that will define your portfolio.



I. CHOOSE YOUR [THEME]

What is the primary use of your portfolio?

The first step is to determine what you are using your portfolio to apply for. By doing so, you will be able to shape your reflections and thought process in a more coherent manner.

- University** For example, a 'Work' portfolio can emphasise more on work experiences and internships
- Scholarship** while a 'Scholarship' or 'University' portfolio can include more academic achievements.
- Work** Remember, your portfolio still can have multiple uses!

2. REFLECT ON YOUR [EXPERIENCES]

How has your experiences shaped your motivations and values?

List 3 to 5 major experiences that had the most impact on you. Use the following questions to shed some light on what you may want to do in the future

- What was your most interesting insight?
- How did your involvement and participation in this fit into your broader goals for developing yourself?
- What would you want to improve on?
- What did you realise about yourself?
 - Did this give you a new perspective,
 - Challenge your point of view,
 - Introduce you to new techniques, skills or processes?

3. REFLECT ON YOUR [ATTRIBUTES]

What skills did you possess and/or develop?

Once your theme has been decided, it is time to evaluate your suitability in the institution/organisation based on your past experiences.

Hard Skills:

- What are the skills needed by your desired organisation?
 - Which skills are you passionate about learning?
 - Which skills do you possess and/or have developed?

Transferable Skills:

- What are the skills relevant to your desired organisation?
 - Which skills have you showcased in your past experiences

4. DECIDE ON YOUR [CHARACTER]

What persona do you want to portray with your portfolio?

The final step is to decide on how you want to portray yourself to others. Your portfolio should ultimately present a cohesive picture of your strength and values.

- Leader**
- Humanitarian**
- Scholar**
- Innovator**