

**GRAP2799 - FASHION RANGE DEVELOPMENT COURSE
ASSIGNMENT 3 - INDIVIDUAL ACADEMIC REFLECTION**

MY JOURNEY

When I first enrolled into the class, I really didn't know what I was in for, and didn't know what to expect. Initially, I wasn't very excited about the class. As I got deeper into the semester, to my surprise this has become one of my favourite classes this semester.

I found that all the content we have learnt in class, has not only been relevant in industry, evidently shown to be used by industry speakers, but it has also been relevant to our assignments- which something that I haven't come across, especially with core subjects. I have loved the content and have found myself really engaged in classes. I thoroughly enjoyed the guest speakers, they always put our content into industry perspective. It was also nice to see how it links to different industries like art and history and how different types of people adapt around the fashion industry. It really opened my eyes as to how valuable fashion really is- its everything and apart of everyone.

My favourite part of this class has most definitely been the assignments. Initially I was dreading three group assignments. I'm usually an independent worker, and don't like relying on other people. My group most proved me wrong. I loved the people I worked with, and I have improved my collaboration skills. I would say I acted as the project leader, but I really tried to include others, make sure everyone was happy with their parts, merge and cross ideas which has most definitely shown and paid off. This is an important skill, especially in this industry and in the fashion workplace.

These assignments have also helped me expand my work and ideas to really achieve. I wanted to do well for myself, but because I loved my group so much, I wanted to do well for all of them. I found myself to be more motivated to push myself and overachieve. This led to an expansion in my skill set. My illustrator skills improved tremendously, and I know my way around the software more than ever. I also dipped into marketing, which is something I aim to do in my future career- and it has got me so excited!

Working with our industry partner caprice, has been such an engaging and new experience. It has made our assignment feel more like work and has set a scene in my head for work mindset in my future career. I liked that we could present fresh ideas to people that were interested in the assignment work we were doing. It felt gratifying and inspirational. It was also so interesting to see the whole process of creating a garment, Caprice really showed us the work and efforts of a team working towards a goal.

In terms of lows this semester, I can't really say I have had one that has really brought my positive opinions on this class down. At times during the semester, I did lack motivation, but I always recovered. I would say my only other issue was my lack of time management. Only by mid semester I realised that this class takes a lot of time and development beyond classes and group discussions. For assignment 2 our group didn't manage our time as well as we could have and it did feel a bit rushed, however we still achieved to our standards and are happy with the results. As mentioned, at the beginning of the semester I didn't really know what I was in for and to my surprise this was one of my favourite classes. I have dived into all elements of creating a product range, and it's made me fall in love with what I'm studying all over again.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT REFLECTION

As mentioned about my role during our assignment/projects was to act as our project leader. I ensured everyone was happy and confident with their sections of work. I wanted to really consider their skills and strengths and allocated accordingly. I also always made sure every section had an additional person allocated if person one needed help- and of course I always offered to help to. My group were so amazing with helping each other out, someone always put their hand up to help someone out. I also ensured that everyone's ideas were discussed and incorporated and checked in with the members of my group to see if they were happy and up to date.

In terms of professional skills, From working in a collaborative team I have learn 5 main skills:

1; Communication (verbal)- I have never personally loved working in group assignments, as in the past I have had a lot of issues with communication, but from day 1, my group have really been active and persistent in communication. They taught me to be confident and comfortable which in turn has exposed me the importance of communicating. I have learnt that its not only to be a good communicator yourself, you also have to encourage your group to communicate their ideas. It was really as simple as asking "what do you think?" or "what's your opinion?". I think because our group got along so well, we were very comfortable right from the start and it has made us into not only friends, but an amazing team.

2; Collaborative Leadership- Although I mostly acted as our team leader, I don't like to be in a position of authority. I converted this worry into making sure my style of leadership was collaborative. Instead of a leader, I would rather describe it as initiating a direction. From here, my group would collaboratively work and I more so brought structure into our tasks when it all got a bit hectic. I always ensured everyone was happy, and always encouraged everyone to ask for help. This style of leadership was effective and has taught myself my style of leadership.

3; Ability to work under pressure- For assignment two, we had a lot of time pressure in terms of completing our survey in time for our caprice presentation. I got to really understand the stake while working in a group assignment. I didn't want to let anyone down and I wanted the best for my group. For the time frame we had, we managed our time amazingly and I was so proud of our overall result.

4; Organisational skills- As these assignments were very heavy with tasks, organisation was key to ensure every element has been completed. At the beginning our group recognised that some parts of our assignment are consequential to other parts. We learnt to rely on each other to ensure a cohesive assignment. Again, this links with our growth in communication skills. Our group were also very clear with allocation, and we often made personal deadlines for particular tasks to ensure everyone had enough fair time to work on their allocated parts.

5; Public Speaking- Personally, I haven't been an amazing public speaker. I often get nervous despite looking confident at times. Our first assignment, I was very nervous as our group wasn't very confident in our initial ideas. As our group gained more confidence, I also gained more confidence. As a group I think we have a very effective and efficient speaking style.

CONTRIBUTIONS AND ROLES

My overall contributions to the project were: Collection creative ideas, CAD illustrations, Marketing, Ecommerce, Contributions to the report, Presentation and Script.

The roles I played throughout my industry project comes as follows;

Project manager:

As the project manager, I collaborated to develop an industry project, whereby I contributed my creativity and organisational skills to achieve a high distinction alongside my group. As project manager, I showed empathy with members struggling to complete tasks, delegated tasks, and always took initiative to motivate our group.

Organising role:

Linking with my efforts as the project manager, I was stern on making communication between our team at the forefront of our dynamic. Here we all worked together to problem solve and complete our industry project to high standards with these collaborative ideas.

Developed Presentation:

Another role I had within the group was to develop the presentation. Combining my CAD illustrations, our group were able to present our ideas to our industry partners with clarity, confidence, and cohesiveness.

Presenter:

As a presenter I developed my public speaking skills and faced my fears of speaking to larger groups. As a result of short time frames, I developed the ability to perform under pressure alongside my group, whereby we produced a presentation that was engaging and applauded by our industry partners.

JOB INTERNSHIP APPLICATION

After you have determined the 3 main skills you gained or strengthened during this project, write up how would you use them for a job/internship application - no more than 50 words per skill. Please guide yourself using the above video.

Collaborative Leadership:

Using collaborative leadership, my group were able to communicate our ideas from all dimensions and create a collection we were all proud of. As the project leader, my role was to allocate tasks and encourage my team members to communicate when they were struggling. From here, I would either take initiative or work with the strengths of other team members to help complete the task. The collaboration between us, helped each member grow within our strengths and as team, we were able to achieve a high distinction.

Communication and Ability to work in a Team:

Our ability to work in a team, was a result of our insistence of dynamic communication, whereby we worked together to problem solve to achieve a rewarded collection.

Ability to work under Pressure:

Across our industry projects timeline, we have experienced high pressure peaks that have led our team to learn to work and adapt to high pressure environment. Using our strengths, we were able to contribute to tasks in an effective manner with high quality. As a result, our assignment was completed on time and to a standard we are all proud of.