

**Center for Excellence
in Teaching**



REFLECTIVE TEACHING PORTFOLIO

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TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

My teaching philosophy can be described in one simple sentence. “Learn for yourself, not just for a grade”. I believe it’s very important that the students are able to use the skills they learned in school when they get a job in the real world. So, I structure my classes in a way that at the end of the lectures I always give them examples of how this new skill can be used in professional life and show them how important it is to know technology as a designer these days.

MASTER TEACHERS

One of my biggest assets is that I had the opportunity to study in different countries and cities. I studied Business Management in Istanbul and London, Fashion Design in Milan and Menswear Design in New York so I definitely had many opportunities to observe master teachers. Each program was extremely disciplined and it allowed me to be heavily involved in each aspect of the Fashion industry from design to production to sales. Balancing the creative with the business side of the industry can be delicate, but knowing how things will sell and knowing how to be current will help you as a designer.

SUCCESSFUL - LESS SUCCESSFUL LESSONS

One of the most successful lessons I remember is the one I was teaching Masking in Photoshop for FF143-105. The lecture started very clear, everyone was at the same level and the flow was very smooth. But I think the most important part was that I was using my own photography for the examples and students really appreciated to see a unique piece of images rather than pulling them up from the internet. This made them think differently. I wanted to show them that as designers they can be as unique as they want in any part of the design process and merge creativity with technology nicely.

I had one class in particular which I considered less successful because it was one of my first classes and I didn’t use the time wisely and finished earlier than I anticipated.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

I teach CAD, so technology is the main component of my classes. The programs we are using update and change very frequently so we have to upgrade our knowledge and keep it fresh all the time.

NEW IDEAS

After the workshop I have new ideas about how to connect with the student better. I am planning to create some group exercises like we did in the workshop. It breaks the ice and also you have fun while learning.

EVALUATION

I meet with my students individually few times to review their work and to give feedback before the Finals so I they know what I am expecting. I want them to love and own what they do and to be able to use the portfolios they created in my class for their job interviews.

BIGGER PICTURE

Technology plays a big role in fashion business and education. Especially with remote teaching I think we realized how important it is that we integrate technology to our life and education.