

Overall, my capstone experience has been good and helpful for me both as a student and as a designer. Throughout this experience I have been able to look back at all of the designs I did and see how I grew as I gained more graphic design skills. I also got to see how I grew as a student since I was able to understand assignments more as I took more challenging courses and had a lot more feedback from peers and professors.

In relation to my own experience at Southern New Hampshire University, my capstone experience was significant because of how much I gained. I got feedback on all of the assignments I have worked on in the past and was able to reflect on what was working in each design, or what was not working. By receiving feedback for my own designs, I was able to learn how others give feedback. This helped me in trying to give good feedback to my own peers and create spaces where we are thinking on how to improve and what to look for when reviewing each other's projects. Being able to connect with other graphic design students has made my experience at Southern New Hampshire University comforting especially since there could be difficulties when trying to connect with others through an online space. Some connections I see between the capstone experience and my academic program is how feedback is formed and how to critically look at rubrics or directions for assignments. Each course I took I was able to hear from different peer perspectives and it overall helped me in both receiving and giving feedback. And with that skill I was able to give even better feedback throughout the capstone. Also, for each course I had to see what assignments I completed that got a good grade or good comments from the professor. By doing this I was able to better understand rubrics for more challenging assignments for both my academic program and my capstone experience.

Some feedback I chose to incorporate into my print ready portfolio and portfolio website was to add more design elements and color. Several of my peers have expressed that they felt my

portfolio in general was lacking in some extra design elements that could maybe be beneficial to my portfolio. After hearing several peers have similar feedback for my portfolio site and print ready portfolio, I decided to take the time to look over my designs and brainstorm what else could be added. I incorporated more of the green color in my logo to both my designs so that there were fewer blank spaces. And for my print-ready portfolio specifically I added more variations in page designs rather than having each page just be blank with the pictures of my projects. In regard to the improvement of projects, collaboration is extremely important because of the increased number of eyes on a project. When working on something alone, sometimes you could get stuck into seeing the project just one way. When there are more people seeing the project, they could point out simple mistakes and ways to improve the project that you may have not thought of at all.

Throughout this capstone experience I learned that I should look back on my projects a lot more than I do, and I should continue to look for feedback and give feedback. I will apply what I have learned to a future professional life by remembering to take the time to review things. I want to remember that sometimes review does not mean looking over it once, it could mean looking it over several times whether that means on my own or after I received feedback from someone else. I also want to continue to learn from others when they give me feedback and apply it to how I construct my feedback. Taking the time to learn from others through my professional life I think will help me slowly improve as a professional since I will be starting out fresh with not much prior experience.

I will maintain ethical principles and maintain social responsibility in order to advance in the graphic design industry and create artifacts that leave positive lasting effects on people and societies. I will do this by making sure I stay up to date on cultural influences in our society. This

could include politics, religion, societal norms, and so on. I will continue to learn more about what society thinks is ethical and what I personally think is ethical. I think being able to learn from my surroundings while also forming my own opinions will help in remembering that I want to produce artifacts that are socially responsible. And I also want to give others the opportunity to critique my work, so that will help me even more in creating something that follows the ethical principles of design and the ethical principles of our society or culture. I also want to remember that since society is constantly growing and changing especially with the help of how fast the internet grew, that what is ethical may not be ethical the next day. I want to be able to change more easily if the social responsibility changes. I also want to be able to receive criticism well and see how if there is criticism that could be applied to what I create. With the help of other's feedbacks and forming my own decisions, I will be able to maintain ethical principles through both design and my personal or professional life.

The goals I have for my professional life is to overall be able to create content for social media. Ideally, I would like to apply my graphic design skills I have gained from my degree and college experience, though I also enjoy posting on social media for my personal platforms. I think with the skills I have gained from both the graphic design and media arts degree and the skills from posting on social media, I want to have a career that continues to create or design something for others to see. As a professional I would like to pursue something that I personally enjoy rather than working just for financial stability. I enjoy creating things whether that is through graphic design, music, or hands on crafts, and I know I would like to continue creating through a career. My goal is to also continue to show my craft with others and also support others in the way that I am pursuing my own goals. I would like to create a welcoming and comforting community that is not ashamed in the world of creation, because sometimes it was

difficult for me to want to share my art and design with the culture I was used to. Sharing my stories, supporting others, and continuing design are all goals that I hope to pursue in my life as a future professional.