AMM 3120A Textile & Apparel Digital Activity Reflection

Introduction of Course

This course focuses on learning the most important digital technologies of today's apparel industry. The course combines 2D and 3D computer software such as Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, and Browzwear VStitcher to develop a cohesive product line with specific parameters like target market and season. Lectures provide comprehensive walkthroughs of each computer software and teach advanced skillsets with digital software and product development. I learned how to develop original textile pattern designs using adobe photoshop and illustrator. I also learned how to use Browzwear VStitcher to translate my 2D designs into a 3D model simulation.

Favorite Part of the Course

The most exciting part of this course was learning Browzwear VStitcher. I was so excited I decided to invest in a proper desktop computer rather than remaining confined to the many laptop limitations. Buying a desktop computer has drastically improved my workflow in all of my courses, but especially when using demanding software like VStitcher in this course. I can now add more detail to my designs and render more realistic apparel in VStitcher. The computer has allowed me to elaborate more on my designs, which is another reason why I enjoyed this part of the course. Although this has been the most exciting part, it has also been the most daunting to learn as well. Just staying on top of all six of my courses with deadlines nearby has been challenging in itself.

Challenges of the Course

       The challenges with this term's virtual instruction were limiting, but I did make some adjustments to my schedule to stay on top of all my assignments. At first, it was hard to remain focused on only virtual lectures, but without any other options, I had to adapt to it. I was previously employed on campus, but the position was temporarily paused due to Covid-19. I have taken advantage of currently not being employed to focus on my studies. With my rigorous school schedule, I had to create a routine for myself and set multiple reminders to stay organized with due dates. Having the right home environment is essential, so I knew I had to make myself as comfortable as possible to be on the computer for several hours almost every day. I would occasionally attend virtual lectures outside to get some sunshine and a change of scenery; this also helped me feel less isolated behind a screen all day. With others in my home working remotely, I also invested in creating a workspace in my room to minimize distractions, so I purchased a desk/table and office chair. Having to buy essential items such as a desktop computer, desk, and office chair was another challenge I faced due to the costly investment, but it was quite worth it. On a positive note, I did cut my hour and a half commute to campus, so it did allow me to save on gas and experience less burnout.

Feedback

       The only feedback I could offer is to consider improving the scheduling of assignment due dates at the end of the semester. With an additional week still left of school, I strongly feel like this reflection assignment could've waiting till next week, rather than being due on the same day as a major project. However, having worked in the AMM department myself, I clearly understand that AMM's goal is to best prepare students for real-world scenarios. Overall, this

course has been one of my favorites at AMM thus far. I enjoyed the degree of creative freedom given and learning more about the different types of digital technologies being used in the apparel industry today.