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DIS60304
Design Research Dissertation
STUDENT's PROGRESSION & REFLECTION WEEKLY UPDATE
March/April – July 2023 Semester

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Programme: Bachelor of Design (Honours) in Creative Media

Date	Item – Tasks to Do	Progress Remarks / Action/ Reflection	Student's Signature	Lecturer's Remarks
Week 1	☑ Live Online Briefing on the Introduction to the Module details, expectation and Assessment Rubric. ☑ Recorded Online lecture on Writing A Research Dissertation ☑ Retrieve notes from MyTIMeS / Microsoft Teams ☑ Watch the supplementary lecture video on YouTube on ☑ Developing Effective Study. Skills I: Critical Review/Literature Review/ Effective Academic Writing ☑ Perform Tasks on Google Classroom: Assignment 1 (The writing of Draft Dissertation)	• Retrieve notes from MyTIMeS / Microsoft Teams • Organised the format of the draft dissertation • Read the MIB thoroughly • Started drafting the Literature Matrix • Completed 1st draft of Literature Matrix and identified potential subheadings **Reflection:** Why pass the module when you can pass away? (for legal reasons this is a joke) After building what seems to be the first draft of my Literature Matrix from my critical review and identifying the potential subheadings, I decided to revisit my 5 articles. Like, for real this time instead of just referring to the notes I made during DRM. The outline posted on Google Classroom had a detailed guide on how to construct a Literature Review, and it wouldn't hurt to reread the articles to make my upcoming Literature review more comprehensive.		**General feedback:** • utilize Mendeley to refresh ourselves on the articles reviewed in DRM • adhere to the deadlines and guidelines posted on google classroom to avoid snowballing work • Work towards deriving writings from previous DRM assignments to make dissertation draft more comprehensive

	☑ Organise the format of the skeleton of the draft dissertation ☑ Read the MIB thoroughly ☑ Start drafting Literature Matrix & determine subheaders(themes) ☑ Derive work from DRM into the dissertation draft ☑ Reread the 5 articles chosen			
Week 2	☑ Recorded Online lecture on Writing a Literature Review ☑ Retrieve notes from MyTIMeS / Microsoft Teams ☑ Watch the supplementary lecture video on Developing Effective Study Skills II: Critical Thinking & Enquiry ☑ Perform Task on Google Classroom - Assignment 1 (continue with The writing of Draft Dissertation) ☑ Feedback on Google Classroom / Microsoft Teams / Google Drive ☑ Derive work from DRM into the dissertation draft ☑ Reread the 5 articles chosen ☑ Complete Literature review draft 1	• Watch the supplementary lecture video on Developing Effective Study Skills II: Critical Thinking & Enquiry • Perform Task on Google Classroom - Assignment 1 (continue with The writing of Draft Dissertation) • Revised Literature Matrix and identified sub-headings • Reread the 5 articles chosen • Completed the first draft for the Literature review This week has been hectic with orientation events that I only started doing my Literature review on Saturday, so… Not my best work. Trying to revise the sub-headings from last week's progress was a challenge, and I'm honestly a bit lost on my direction. It could be the burnout and exhaustion, though. I managed to pull together a literature review anyway, will get feedback and revise it asap.		**General feedback:** - **Specific feedback:** • Identify themes based on each article • Best to have an overview of the whole sheet instead of separating them. • The working title is too long and confusing, advised revising • Add a Findings & Conclusion section for every article **Subheadings feedback:** • Suggested to put 'youth & video games' first • Group cultural elements together • Character design should be its own big topic • Have Cultural expression as its own big topic, with awareness-related topics under it.

		After reviewing what I've written, I realised there was less emphasis on character design, despite it being part of my big title. Will have to revise that.		
Week 3	☑ Recorded Online lecture on Writing on the Methodology ☑ Retrieve notes from Microsoft Teams ☑ Watch supplementary lecture video Developing Effective Study Skills III: Critical Analysis ☑ Assignment 1 (continue with The writing of the Draft Dissertation - methodology) ☑ Feedback on Google Classroom / Microsoft Teams / Google Drive ☑ Further revise	• Retrieved and reviewed notes on writing Methodoloy from Google classroom • Written the introduction section of the draft dissertation • Started drafting the methodology section of the draft dissertation • revised the literature review based on given feedback I found the research methodology section to be slightly easier to write compared to other sections, perhaps because of how many parts can just be copied from the primary research part in DRM.		**General feedback:** • elaborate more on comparisons between articles • have some arguments **Specific feedback:** • Not necessarily have to be critical in a sense of 'agree or disagree'. Can make comparison between similar points and connecting each article • Do not use 'introduction' in literature review to avoid confusion with previous section. Suggests to use 'overview' instead • Paragraphs do not have to be long • More citations (ibid) • Revisit it and weave in details & elaborate more critically, especially when it comes to parts where it's still vague
Week 4	☑ Recorded Online lecture on Analysis & Discussion ☑ Retrieve notes from MyTIMeS / Microsoft Teams ☑ Watch supplementary lecture video on Effective	• Completed research methodology section draft • Retrieve notes from Google Classroom on writing the results and findings. • Started drafting the Results and Findings section of the draft dissertation		**General feedback:** • Analyze and interpret • **Specific feedback:**

	Writing of the Literature Review ☑ Assignment 1 (continue with The writing of the Draft Dissertation) ☑ Feedback on Google Classroom / Microsoft Teams / Google Drive ☑ Revise Methodology section ☑ Draft Findings section of the dissertation	Okay turns out the supposed easier part was actually just me being delusional, cause of course there's more to it what was I thinking. Tried my best to make necessary revisions to the methodology section and making sure no details are missed. Starting to worry about the looming deadline 😀		• Make it clear that the reader can understand without looking at the raw instruments • Can justify survey questions by sections (in detail) • Personalize everything based on our own research • Limitations on methods only (sampling, instruments, designed) discussion part is general overall as a whole (all sections) • check grammar • Citations on why visual analysis (and survey) is good from method gurus (sometimes from social sciences) • research design, research sampling, research instrumentations • Add flowcharts to assist explanations • Make it VERY descriptive for the entire flow of the process • Conceptual framework • Revisit in terms of explicitness and descriptiveness to the maximum • State significance of each source (eg:unesco)
Week 5	☑ Retrieve notes from Google classroom ☑ Watch supplementary lecture video on Effective	• Completed research methodology section revision • Completed draft of Results & FIndings (Visual Analysis)		-

	Writing Research Methodology ☑ Assignment 1 (continue with The writing and Work on Research Implementation – Draft Dissertation) ☑ Feedback ☑ Revise Methodology section ☑ Start drafting findings: VA	• Started drafting Results & FIndings (Survey) • Retrieve notes from Google Classroom on writing the results and findings. • Started drafting the Results and Findings section of the draft dissertation I am honestly not sure if the findings section is supposed to be formatted like that, but I tried drafting it out anyway, hopefully the revisions wouldn't be too brutal. Also unsure how to write the discussions when some discussion points are already included in findings but I'll worry about it after the feedback session. The holidays contributed to not a lot progress and lot of procrastination, gotta buckle up and get back on track soon.		
Week 6	☑ Work on Research Implementation Assignment 1 – To finalise the Draft Dissertation Research Implementation – ☑ DEADLINE NEXT WEEK on Draft Dissertation ☑ Live online briefing on Final Dissertation with Visual Design ☑ Feedback on Google Classroom / Microsoft Teams / Google Drive ☑ Continue to draft findings section: survey ☑ Complete drafting discussion	• Completed Findings section: survey • Completed discussion section • completed introduction section I caught up with the findings and discussion section! The things one can do when under immense stress. There was some difficulty in meeting the word count of the discussion in the beginning. Really tried elaborating everything as much as possible. Also wrote out the entire "future research direction" part thinking it was part of the discussion only to realise after that it was a section on its own :D Thank godness it wasn't a big hit to the word count.		• discussion should focus on the research objective and question • Analysis is different from discussion • Discussion is a compare and contrast on whether the findings can answer the objectives & questions & hypothesis, as well as between findings & literature review • 1st part of findings should relate back to methodology • Elaborate on the findings and have a summary conclusion

	☐ Begin drafting introduction & abstract			
Week 7	☑ DEADLINE on Draft Dissertation ☑ Live online Sharing session on Visual Design for Final Dissertation. ☑ Work on Assignment 2 – Initial Conceptual Visual Design for Dissertation ☑ Continue to work on the Visual Design for Draft - Final Dissertation ☑ Feedback on Google Classroom / Microsoft Teams / Google Drive ☑ Complete abstract ☑ Complete conclusion ☑ Complete labeling of figures, tables and page numbers	• drafted abstract • drafted conclusion • drafted acknowledgement • revised introduction • completed table of contents, table of figures & appendix • formatted and made final revisions to the draft dissertation • submitted the draft dissertation This has got to be one of the most stressful weeks of my uni life. I swear I will never procrastinate again(not true probably). There was an unexpected challenge with formatting the dissertation because google docs wasn't a strong enough platform, so I had to migrate everything to microsoft word, which caused a hell lot of alignment mishaps and even then I still had problems trying to generate the list of figures and tables. Multiple youtube tutorials later nothing helped, so I ended up making them manually. The deadline was literally the night itself, so desperate times call for desperate measures. I tried my best with the time I have, and am glad its done and over with.		• include links, screenshots in appendix • Refer to Jonathan's re-recording for notes on sound dissertation
Week 8	ILW	• structured moodboard for Assignment 2		-
Week 9	☑ Live online Sharing session on Visual Design for Final Dissertation.	• finalized on design direction for assignment 2 (font, colour palette, graphics) • Did more research on editorial layouts • Started doing layout design for pages		• working title, put Genshin impact ? • consistent colour of the band, what in mood board is kind of what is expected

	☑ Work on Assignment 2 – Initial Conceptual Visual Design for Dissertation ☑ Feedback on Google Classroom / Microsoft Teams / Google Drive ☑ Finalize design direction ☑ Complete layout for Assignment 2	Editorial pages gives me ptsd of typography, but I tried anyway, with a lot of struggles. It was difficult to focus on cultural aspects as my research was not focused on any specific culture, just culture in general. I also wanted to incorporate video game aspects into the design if possible. Admittedly, I was starting out with quite the jumbled concept that is not very solid to execute.		● Recall design principle theories and how to articulate those theories into practice ● character design is fluid ● Imagine how much culture can be implemented and represented, in terms of fonts maybe? ● Colour palette can be different for different sections ● Consider existing layouts ● be more specific when searching ● Make sure the overall look and feel are consistent ● observe publication books ● focus on design decision and layouts for this week ● Do not use illustrator for publication, use indesign ● design charts as well ● look into page number design
Week 10	☑ Live online Sharing session on Visual Design for Final Dissertation. ☑ Work on Assignment 2 – Initial Conceptual Visual Design for Dissertation ☑ Feedback on Google Classroom / Microsoft Teams / Google Drive ☑ Finalize design direction ☑ Complete layout for Assignment 2	● finalised design direction ● drafted overall layout Decided to go for a retro newspaper style that depicts Chinese/Japanese aesthetics. The chosen cultures are mainly due to the fact that the selected characters in my visual analysis are based on those 2 cultures. It was a challenge relearning InDesign, and overall a struggle to design editorial layouts since it was never my strong suit. However, the feeling of achievement after getting the hang of Indesign, and sometimes discovering ways to		-

		make things easier was unmatched. I actually quite enjoyed the process upon reflection.		
Week 11	☑ Live online Sharing session on Visual Design for Final Dissertation. ☑ Work on Assignment 2 – Initial Conceptual Visual Design for Dissertation ☑ Feedback on Google Classroom / Microsoft Teams / Google Drive ☑ look up more cultural design elements to be implemented ☐ Finalize Assignment 2	• transferred sections 1-6 to InDesign and began with the body text layout • work on visual publication layout • transferred all figures and tables into InDesign After getting the hang of the design direction, I was progressing at a steady pace. I wanted to go with and having a set of assets I can use, the process was easier. It was interesting to play around with different layouts. My style was stuck to a more traditional and consistent one, experimental layout designs looked off to me for some reason. I'm thankful that the deadline was extended so I could polish it better for submission.		• better hierarchy of cover. Video game character design line can be better focus • no paragraph can be heavy as one column. Add some paragraphs/ columns • 12pt is ok for A4 • Edit kerning • Look up some new/ modern table of contents layouts • looks more sporty/contemporary than cultural inclined • need more cultural representation • Look up more irregular Japanese waves • some graphical elements too consistent. • Can add some unbalance/uneven elements
Week 12	☑ Work on Assignment 2 – Initial Conceptual Visual Design for Dissertation ☑ Feedback on Google Classroom / Microsoft Teams / Google Drive ☑ Start brainstorming points for assignment 3 ☑ Edit Draft dissertation for Final Dissertation	• Finalized visual design publication • Exported visual design publication and converted into ebook • Decided on journal article publication focus topic The deadline extension was much needed… I barely made it to the deadline. This visual design publication assignment proved to be much more challenging than I initially thought. After struggling my way through the design, it turned out that a font		**Turnitin Submission** • do not self-plagerise **Draft Dissertation** • inconsistency on spelling (British & US) • Problem statement, RORQ, need elaboration • Change conclusion to summary instead and

	☑ Complete Assignment 2 ☑ Convert Assignment 2 into ebook on Flip HTML	I was using was copyrighted and wasn't allowed to be exported as ebook. Thank goodness it was a title font and not the body text, or we would have a lot of problems. A lot of technical issues popped up throughout the process, from designing to exporting, but I'm glad I made it in time.		leave only the main conclusion as conclusion **Visual Design Publication** -no need to be too consistent w background colour -leading -Bigger column -Unjustified is fine. No need to be too consistent -sans serif fonts work better together. **Journal Article** ● focus on one specific subtopic from the dissertation ● the subtopic can be one of the research objectives or a fusion of all objectives ● the topic should be something I can elaborate on, and perhaps add some new views to it in the article ● take note on the word count of each section and be careful when copy pasting from the dissertation. ● try to summarize the dissertation into the article as much as possible

Week 13	☑ Go through feedback for Draft DIssertation ☑ Work on Final Dissertation ☑ Turnitin submission ☑ Work on Assignment 3	• Went through feedback for draft dissertation • revised draft dissertation for Final Dissertation • Submitted Final Dissertation • drafted assignment 3 article Revising the Final Dissertation has been incredibly challenging, as there are a lot of paraphrasing and re-paraphrasing that needs to be done, because i simply do not remember which part has been referenced and which part has not, and which part was worded similarly to the original source and which has not. Even after trying my best, the similarity index was unfortunately still fairly high, but honestly i have no idea how Turnitin evaluates anything because many names of IPs were highlighted alongside many generic wordings and cited sources. I hope it would not be too big of a deal, though nothing can be changed at this point as there is only one submission allowed. I'm just glad to finally complete this assignment. Update: It wasn't a big deal at all. I just misunderstood how individual indexes work 😬Well, that was a scare. On the other hand, I did manage to get started on assignment 3 and completed the first draft. Though it's mostly just plucking content, sometimes straightup copy pasting from the dissertation, but it's a base I can work on refining.		draft dissertation feedback
Week 14	☑ Complete Assignment 3 ☑ Assignment 3 submission on Google Classroom	• Complete Assignment 3 • Submission for Assignment 3 • complete eportfolio		• Specify location of target audience: globally

	☑ Blogger posts ☑ Weekly Progression Sheet	• complete weekly progression sheet Assignment 3 write-up is done! Insane how this DRD turned out to be the first module I'm finishing this sem. Writing the journal article has been a smoother process as the dissertation has already laid the groundwork for it. This module has been a trip and did its job making the semester a lot more stressful than it needed to be. I've learned a lot about academic writing and am always thankful for Dr Hayati's patience and guidance. ***Overall Reflection:*** This task has been a breather after the intense final dissertation, with the added motivation of it being the last stretch of the module. It was interesting to summarize a lengthy dissertation into a short < 10-page journal article, with some parts struggling to meet the word count while others went completely over it. This module has been a challenge but I'm grateful to have completed it in one piece. My time management was admittedly very whack this sem with the amount of extracurriculars and hobbies on my plate, but still being able to meet every deadline has not been an easy feat, and I'm glad I pulled through.		• tweak the article more, not too similar w dissertation and relate more to focus • Position strategy in raising awareness!