

'Record of Observation or Review of Teaching Practice

Session/artefact to be observed/reviewed:

Size of student group: 13

Observer: Montana Williamson

Observee: Natalia Zwardon

Part One

Observee to complete in brief and send to observer prior to the observation or review:

What is the context of this session/artefact within the curriculum?

-Session for Year 2 Interior Design Course: Unit 7 on Atmosphere. This session aims to introduce the concept of atmosphere and its integration into visual representations within students' projects.

How long have you been working with this group and in what capacity?

-Since September 2023 weekly meetings

What are the intended or expected learning outcomes?

-Use of different media to represent atmosphere in their project

What are the anticipated outputs (anything students will make/do)?

-In the 2nd part of workshop, students will quickly put together a paper model, then use phone to take a picture and tweak them in Photoshop or any other application. They'll aim to capture their atmosphere and play around with lighting effects.

Are there potential difficulties or specific areas of concern?

-Lack of student engagement

How will students be informed of the observation/review?

What would you particularly like feedback on?

-The engagement aspect of the session

How will feedback be exchanged?

-Discussion feedback

Part Two

Observer to note down observations, suggestions and questions:

- Great to see the variety of models produced by the students as the tangible responses
- The slides would benefit from some more imagery for those students who have a range of accessibility needs
- The sizing of the text should be the same throughout to make it easier to identify
- Throughout the slides all the texts were very small making it hard to identify the words
- It would be great if you could pose a series of questions to break up the length of the slides and allow the students to gather their thoughts whilst you are teaching
- Language barriers may also be a barrier and so things such as text and literature used should consider the diversity within the cohort
- It may be useful if running this unit again to provide handouts to allow students who have accessibility needs.
- The set up of the presentation for future could be moved around to allow students to feel more involved and more immersive.

Questions to consider for feedback forward

- How has this presentation impacted your understanding as the tutor?
 - Can you consider three things you would change if you had an opportunity to conduct the seminar again?
 - How does your own positionality play a part within your teaching practice?
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Part Three

Observee to reflect on the observer's comments and describe how they will act on the feedback exchanged:

- More Imagery for Accessibility: I understand the importance of catering to diverse learning styles and will ensure that future presentations incorporate visually engaging elements.
- Consistent Text Sizing: I acknowledge the importance of maintaining consistent text sizing throughout the slides to aid readability. Moving forward, I will ensure that the text size remains uniform to make it easier for students to identify and comprehend the content. I will follow the UAL guide.
- Posing Questions: Your suggestion to pose a series of questions throughout the presentation is excellent. I will incorporate this strategy to facilitate better learning outcomes.
- Consideration of Language Barriers: I appreciate your reminder to consider language barriers and ensure that the text and literature used are inclusive and accessible to all students. Going forward, I will be more mindful of the diverse linguistic backgrounds within the cohort and adjust my teaching materials accordingly.

- **Providing Handouts:** Providing handouts for students with accessibility needs is a practical solution that I already do. I offer an alternative format for accessing the material through the Padlet. Moreover, I created a digital library where students can access recordings, handouts, and supporting materials.
- **Presentation Setup for Immersion:** We encounter challenges with room booking and space arrangement in the Milbank site. We often find ourselves struggling to make the most of the available resources. Despite the limitations, we try to make the best use of what we have, even if it's not the most ideal situation. I will be more mindful about set up of the class.
- **Impact on Understanding:** This presentation has significantly impacted my understanding as a tutor by highlighting areas for improvement in my teaching approach. I now recognize the importance of addressing accessibility needs and fostering inclusivity in the learning environment.
- **Changes for Future Seminars:** If given the opportunity to do the seminar again, three key changes I would consider are: (1) Increasing the use of imagery to enhance accessibility, (2) Implementing a consistent text size throughout the slides, and (3) Incorporating more interactive elements such as questions to promote student engagement. Such as a mirror board where students can write their answers, adding more interactive tools to create an immersive teaching environment.
- **Being a Polish woman here at UAL,** I know I need to be extra mindful of how I come across. My background shapes how I see things and how I interact with everyone, from students to colleagues. I want everyone to feel valued and heard, regardless of their background. This means incorporating different cultures and point of view into my lessons, adapting my teaching style for different learners, and encouraging open discussions. It's also about being aware of power dynamics. As a white woman, I recognise the privileges I have, and I don't want my presence to reinforce inequalities. I'm committed to challenging these issues through my teaching and by constantly learning and reflecting on myself. Building relationships is key, too. I approach everyone with a listening ear and a willingness to learn from their perspectives. In the end, being aware of my own background allows me to better support all my students. It's about creating a space that celebrates diversity and helps everyone reach their full potential.