

REPORT AL RIENTRO DELL'ESPERIENZA DI SCAMBIO -
A.A. -

<u>Cognome</u>	REN
<u>Nome</u>	QIUMING
<u>Matricola</u>	797568
<u>Anno di corso</u>	2.LM
<u>Corsi di studi</u>	DESIGN DEGLI INTERNI
<u>Sezione</u>	I1
<u>e-mail</u>	qiuming.ren@gmail.com
<u>Sede di scambio</u>	University of Antwerp
<u>Stato</u>	Belgio
<u>ID ERASMUS (per sedi in EU)</u>	B ANTWERP01
<u>Semestre svolto all'estero</u>	2°

Testo

When I stepped out of Italy five months ago, I had never thought my exchange life in Belgium would fly so quickly.

In general, this semester is a very special period for me, not only because of the Erasmus exchange experience, but also because of the EPS project cooperation. As everybody knows, EPS project, the abbreviation of "European project semester", means many European students, who are all from different countries of Europe, finish a common project with a specific topic together in five months, although each one may study a totally different subject in their home university. To be honest, at the beginning of this semester in University of Antwerp, I was a little inimical and had no confidence to this kind of studying way, because at that moment I thought that I knew nothing else except for my own major. However, after five months' cooperation with my teammates, I felt very inspired by a lot of interesting new ideas. I think this may be the charm of teamwork, to make the connotation of your design more affluent, which could be the most significant aspect for a promising designer in the future.

On contributing to the progress and results

Specialist contribution

For the whole period of the project, as an interior designer, my main contributions to our team are not only about spatial research and study. The tasks are more specific on all the details and dimensions, so thinking deeper and more thorough is what I did after the midterm presentation. As what I have learned in my home university, the interior designers always pay more attention on functional divisions and spatial perspectives. However, the detailed nodes are always considered as the tasks for the furniture designers. That is to say, this is the first time for me to study deeper on precise structures and dimensions. With not that rich knowledge about materials, I contributed to the selection of the materials for our design as well. A good designer should always be in the real society, so we went to some material market to search the suitable materials for our project. When designer talks about "material", of course, it is not only about the textures or colors, the combination of all the separated parts is also a quite important problem to be solved. Technical connection is also my contribution to our team. In addition, with my professional aesthetic insight, I contributed to the adjustment of the general shape and appearance of the project. To sum up,

detailed study, material selection and appearance adjustment are my most important contributions to our team after the midterm presentation.

Contribution to the project communication

After the midterm presentation, my English level is much advanced, both on oral expression and on formal report writing. Our supervisor of EPS project helped us to conclude our main weakness on the formal presentation and the lack of interaction with the audience is my disadvantage to be amended. As the first period of this semester, my language task in our team is still to unify our different writing styles, including the font and the format of the report. Together with all the other designers, we work smoothly because we divided all the tasks reasonably and properly. With the help of our English teacher, everyone gets an obvious progress on the project communication.

Work process in my opinion

During the second phase of the semester, our work process was more intensive than before. Our focus was principally on the development of the product and all the subtasks was still within the expected track. Among all the work processes, the Gantt chart was still the most important and useful tool as it was during the first phase because it limited us in a strict working schedule to make sure every step was on its right way and kept us efficient and punctual all the time as well. The Facebook group and Dropbox files are also organized timely and clearly.

What I learned

Generally speaking, I learned more about the design itself from the other team members during the project. As what I have mentioned in the specialist contribution part, trying to be inspirational and patient on all the details and materials is my main task. My team members always think over all the structures of the design carefully and reasonably but I used to design things just functionally. So for what I learned, I would like to say that I learned to pay more attention on technical issues.

Achieved results

All of our steps are still strictly controlled on a right track, so we have already achieved all the expected results until the end of the project. We went deeper on what we achieved before the midterm presentation, especially on all the detailed technical structures and finally, we solved all the problems of the combination.

Actions in the future

Since the project is already finished, my expected action in the future is to practice what I have learned about product development during this semester. Trying to think in an industrial way could be an inspiration idea on my prospective design career.

On contributing to the teambuilding

Social contribution

Social communication is not my advantage because of my introverted personality. From midterm presentation, I have practiced more on the eye contact with the listener when we are talking or discussing about the project.

Personal evolving

My sense of participation in a project is much stronger than before after a lot of social communication with the supervisor and the team members. My idea about design is clearer than the beginning of this project.

Intended points of improvement on a personal level

For my personal ability, the flexibility in design and the practical implement will be improved during my future design career.

Intended points of improvement on a team level

For my responsibilities in a team, trying to express the ideas clearly and exactly is one of my most important intended improvements on a team level. In addition, because of my aesthetic proficiency, which might be different from the other team members, my distinctive ideas bring us many unexpected surprises for the project.

To sum up, I have learned so much new skills during the period of Erasmus exchange, both on technical problems and on the connotation of design. Now I am confident to say that these five months exchange life in Belgium would be a very unforgettable and precise memory in all my life.

Autorizzo al trattamento dei miei dati personali ai sensi del Decreto Legislativo n. 196/03 da parte del Politecnico di Milano.

Firma REN QIU MING