



Harvard GSD
Design Discovery Program

Student Evaluation

Student: Julia Chen
Instructor: Rolando Girodengo
Section: UPD-04

Student Goals for Design Discovery and beyond:

Julia does not come with a design background but has a clear idea of what she wants to achieve. She is looking for a program similar to City Science at the Media Lab, or MDes/MDE/MUP at the GSD. She wants to use this opportunity to get some clarity into the different programs available to her.

Week 1- Analysis: Origin Objects

Strengths:

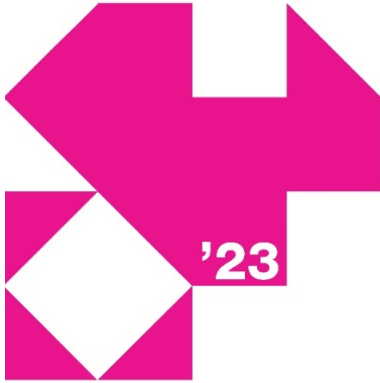
The initial analysis Julia had was a very interesting approach to the Site. Her unique set of skills helped her see it through a different lens that was beneficial not only to her but to the studio as a whole.

Challenges:

Although the lens in which Julia approached the site was interesting, she had some challenges grasping the complex nature of the approach. This caused her to not have a strong Site Portrait.



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Week 2 – Speculation: Assemblies + Interactions

Strengths:

She is a very hard worker and is not afraid to do the work. She will try things even if they end up not working and that does not discourage her. She is committed to the program and will seek out help when needed. She is eager for constructive criticism.

Challenges:

Julia has some challenges keeping with the allotted time for her presentation. She tends to beat around the bush and not arrive at solid arguments, and that causes her to take a lot longer to explain her points.



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Week 3 – Synthesis/Proposal: “Urban Block System”

Strengths:

Julia worked a lot and this was showed in her final presentation. She developed a comprehensive project and strong visuals to support her narrative. She was not afraid to try out new tools and techniques for digital and physical making. Although she initially struggled to arrive at a scheme she was able to quickly develop it and site it in the context

Challenges:

If given the time Julia could continue developing the project in order to work on the intricacies that the site require for her project.

Additional Notes:

During this program Julia has proven that she is a very talented and driven individual. I'm sure whatever path she chooses for her graduate education will see her as a committed and passionate learner.



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