



*Unveil: Catelinda*

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***Mentor’s Statement.*** This work had the objective of creating a collection entitled “Unveil” for the student designer’s senior fashion show. I was the advisor for the class and the fashion show. The student’s objectives were met as her collection was well received by the visitors and external judges. She worked extremely hard to develop the work’s concept. Her design and actualization also evinced thorough work ethic. The reasons for choosing this work were: 1) Quality: the quality of the work was exceptional, especially regarding her tremendous efforts and the time she spent making this piece. 2) Cohesiveness: the concept and purpose of the design was to create casual women’s wear with a three-piece set that included reversible outerwear for design changes. All the seam lines and closures were secure, and the sewing process was rigorous in making clean edges. The patternmaking and sewing techniques were of very high quality. The design concept concerned the transition from winter to spring; the dark color on the outside transformed into bright color when the outerwear was reversed. In this way, it was designed to be worn in various contexts and different seasons. This concept, design, and construction technique were all cohesive and precise. The top was hand-printed using dye pigments, presenting the leaves that were also one of the representative patterns depicting the transition of the seasons. 3) Aesthetic properties and visual impacts: the design purpose of developing casual women’s wear to be worn in various styles was completed using sophisticated techniques. This resulted in an interesting silhouette, practical style, high quality, and creative fabric dyeing on a soft, causal look. 4) Sustainability: the design was also constructed to be sustainable in that it can be worn in different ways. The garments were made of natural fabrics, flex, and minimal fabric leftovers; the hand-dye process was also sustainably done with minimal effluent and pigment use. Her collection received many compliments from the fashion designers in the industry, not only in regards to her high-quality sewing techniques and wearability but also the unique, sustainable style.

***Designer’s Statement: Design Purpose.*** Utilizing minimalism and mute colors, and fabricated on natural fabrics such as linen and cotton blend, this ready-to-wear collection exhibits the transition from Winter to Spring. To carry out this transformation, the aspect of reversibility is used to unveil Spring colors from an overcast of Winter darkness. This collection, as well as the individual outfits, showcases aspects of sustainability that discusses quality and durability of the garment construction, and variability and transformability that challenge clothing waste. The outfit submission was named “Catelinda” after the combination of two model’s name; it was designed to embody different senses of styles from the women who wore them. An important

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take-away from the purpose of this collection is that the individual garments were designed to be interchangeable with other garments, allowing the creation of different looks.

***Aesthetic Properties and Visual Impact.*** This design is made from natural fabrics: linen blend for all the outer material and cotton blend for the lining material. The printed fabric was hand-dyed using a stamp and fiber reactive dye in the colors black, blue green, and golden yellow onto white linen. The print design is of a single motif (inspired by a lotus flower) that is block repeated in different orientations. The outfits were designed with a minimalistic approach to exemplify a classic and sophisticated silhouette. This is important in executing the interchangeability of all of the garments.

***Process, Technique, and Execution.*** The process began with a simple hand sketch that turned into a technical illustration using adobe illustrator. After satisfaction with the design, a paper pattern was drafted using an existing size 10 block, which was manipulated in size to match the model and structure to match the design. Using the paper patterns, a mockup was created to bring the design to life as well as to see how well it fits the wearer. Once the fitting session is complete and necessary adjustments are made, the fabrication of the real outfit began. The garments were all constructed using the same sewing techniques. Flat piping was used throughout the collection to create apparent bold lines on the seams. The tops were sewn with lining to create clean edges and hems. The jackets/coats were also sewn with two layers, except that it is reversible; this meant that both layers must be constructed in a way where both sides appeared as the “right side”. For this step, it was crucial to minimize mistakes so that both sides were visually clean, so hand stitching was used to close up the openings. Overall, the execution of the garments came out well done.

***Cohesion.*** The collection was created with five visible colors: black, gray, camel, seafoam green, and a hand-printed fabric. Because of the minimal colors, which were used all throughout the collection, and the similar techniques applied, the collection was cohesive. This particular design uses the colors black, gray and the printed fabric. What makes it cohesive is that it can stand alone, but it works well in the collection also. The aesthetics of the outfit is very simple and it doesn't stand out in comparison to others, but it is a piece that is relatable to women as they can see themselves wearing it.

***Originality and Innovation.*** What makes this outfit, and the collection, different is that it is brings up an important discussion of being sustainable. This outfit is made with durable sewing construction, which makes it longer lasting. It is also reversible, which allows different wearing options. Economically, this means that the consumers will purchase less, which essentially means they are throwing out less as well. Although that is not necessarily a proven fact, it brings up a topic for dialogue that is important in the fashion industry today.

***Measurement and US size.*** Bust 33”, waist 28”, hip 38”, length of printed top 13”, length of jacket 17”, and length of skirt 17”.

