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The subject Sdes4101 is the course that the Bachelor of Design leads up to over 3 years, this course holding a lot of exciting possibility, but also a huge weight of stress and hard work that is expected; I embarked on Sdes4101 in semester 1 of 2015. Beginning this course and embarking on my final major work at university, I was naturally nervous about the work but also was curious as to whom my tutor would be and hoped they would be good for this final chapter of university.

I remember on day one of sdes4101, Leong created a calm atmosphere and introduced us to the project, offered tips and advice and led us through some very helpful starting points for the project. He has us reflect upon areas we should be aware of, and our usual habits in regards to design projects – this helped us immensely from day one to be aware of our project time limit, expected outcomes/deliverables and styles of project development.

This framed Leong's style of teaching for me for the semester – He would calmly chat through your project with undivided attention, and offer great tips, advice, insights and areas to look into. The nature of sdes4101 is very demanding, in terms of research, analysing and the development of ideas, concepts & designs. I found as the semester wore on and my energy being stretched, coming to class to discuss my thoughts and ideas with Leong were always very motivating and helped me progress further with my project each week.

One specific element I found crucially useful within Leong's teaching style was his impressive wider- knowledge on past and present design, and his resourcefulness in suggesting avenues or specific examples to look into – to progress one's ideas and project forward. Much of my final project highly referenced precedents/research that Leong suggested to look into, my project would not have been as successful without this input.

At the start of many tutorials Leong would engage the whole class in discussion, this was a great way to start our tutorials as the discussion points were always highly relevant and also kept our tutorial feeling like a united class, as opposed to isolated individuals/table groups working on projects. Leong would often talk about new or noteworthy design in this initial engagement of the tutorial, and would often choose topics/examples that lended itself being useful to many in the class for their projects to think about.

If assessments were up-coming, this initial engagement would also include Leong calmly running over what was required, tips on presentation and always provided prior examples to refer to. This greatly helped in the lead up to these assessments. Not only in regards to presentation/ assessment was Leong's advice limited to, but he provided insight that allowed his students to develop and be prepared for the 'real world', and become career-ready. Leong spoke to us as Designers and pushed us in our ideas.

Leong has a wonderful ability to provide calm to his students, and help present typically stressful assessments in a light that makes them feel achievable and straight-forward. His calm nature, but also ability to provide useful aid for idea progression and strong motivation is indispensable, and I am so beyond pleased that I was able to have had Leong as my tutor during this project. I do recall all students within my class being so thankful for having Leong as their tutor also, as his style of teaching is highly motivating, effective, insightful with the wide variety of design knowledge/precedents, and ultimately he helped each of us to create our best-possible projects.



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