

My Engineering Design Class Summary

I never saw myself as a designer of any kind. I do not think of myself as creative or skillful in design projects such as the ones I faced in this class. However, now that I am at the conclusion of Engineering Design 100, I have a new perspective on design and what it means to engineering. While design does involve creativity, it is no limited to it at all. Through the design projects experienced in this course, I learned that a design project includes so much more. Design begins with brainstorming, where creativity does begin as the group generates product ideas. Concept matrices are completed and surveys are given out in order to narrow the ideas. Once an idea is obtained, the group then proceeds to producing a prototype, cost analysis, and marketing ideas. This level of the process really opened my eyes, for the creativity I struggle with was not a big issue. I enjoyed this second half a lot, researching similar products and consumer needs as well as coming up with marketing ideas. Overall, the process I experienced was fun and enjoyable throughout, and while disagreements occurred, it was good to see the best ways to solve them.

I feel that these two design projects helped me come to realize the truth about a design process and how it really works. It gave me tons of knowledge about what to expect in my future career. I believe this class made me more prepared for the expectations I will need to fulfill not only on interns but in my job as well. In addition, the CAD section of this course helped diversify my skills and what I can provide to companies. I learned much more than what I already knew and am better skilled in Solidworks. I also have gained tons of experience with graphics. I knew nothing about graphics before this class, and now I have the skills I need to move forward. I can provide a good basic graphic of designs to better visualize and narrow down ideas. In conclusion, through my experiences with graphics, Solidworks, and the design projects, I feel much more prepared for an engineering career and what the future will hit me with.