

天主教輔仁大學英國語文學系學士班畢業成果
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, FU JEN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
GRADUATION PROJECT 2021

指導教授：董多芳老師

Dr. Donna Tong

真善美聖

Reflection on Participating 2021 Department Magazine

SANCTITAS BONITAS

PULCHRITUDO

VERITAS

學生：蔡欣樺 撰

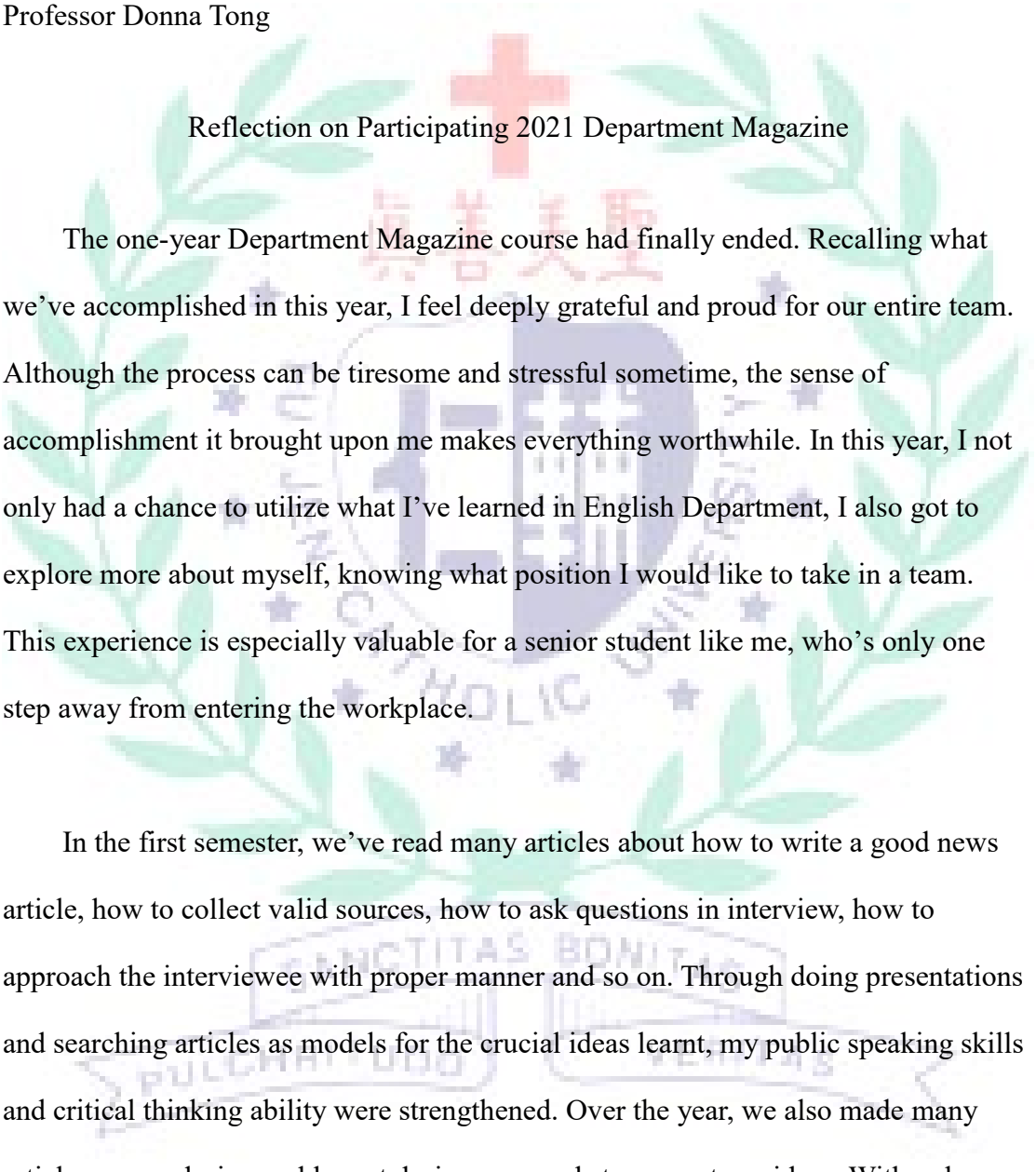
Lizzie, Hsin-Hua Tsai

Lizzie Tsai

406110310

LOD- 2021 Department Magazine

Professor Donna Tong



Reflection on Participating 2021 Department Magazine

The one-year Department Magazine course had finally ended. Recalling what we've accomplished in this year, I feel deeply grateful and proud for our entire team. Although the process can be tiresome and stressful sometime, the sense of accomplishment it brought upon me makes everything worthwhile. In this year, I not only had a chance to utilize what I've learned in English Department, I also got to explore more about myself, knowing what position I would like to take in a team. This experience is especially valuable for a senior student like me, who's only one step away from entering the workplace.

In the first semester, we've read many articles about how to write a good news article, how to collect valid sources, how to ask questions in interview, how to approach the interviewee with proper manner and so on. Through doing presentations and searching articles as models for the crucial ideas learnt, my public speaking skills and critical thinking ability were strengthened. Over the year, we also made many articles, cover design and layout design proposals to present our ideas. With only an hour for each class meeting, every proposal and presentation should be kept crisp and right to the point. This training really helped me a lot in changing my bad habit of doing lengthy and complex presentation. Language, like all other kinds of skills,

should be maintained through constant practice. I'm glad I'd took this course in my senior year to keep my English writing and speaking skills polished.

I also learned many different styles of doing presentations from other team members. In the process, I realized great ideas would shine if conveyed with good language, but a good proposal or presentation would not be good without good contents. Therefore, I become more and more aware of "what I want so say", and constantly asking myself if the idea I want to present worth listening or reading. I suppose with all those training in English Department, it's not how fancy or fluent the language is used that matters, but whether the language makes what you want to convey clear, logical and pleased to read or hear.

Beside language skills, the course also gave me a chance to learn more about team-working. To publish a newsletter or magazine, it requires several steps and cooperation among different job sectors. For instance, each article should go under inspection of at least two copy editors, the design of magazine layout and cover should be consistent in style and the design of website should also reflect the theme and style of the actual copies. These all require effective communication, job distribution and schedule arrangement to get the wheels turning. If anyone doesn't finish their job on time, other members involved in the following process will have difficulty finishing their job too. For this reason, problem solving and crisis dealing abilities are also very important. It is necessary to prepare backup plans for all possible issues, and set specific time and criteria for when and how those backup plans should launch to keep everything under control. In the second semester, we once lost contact with a team member who's in charge of writing and editing several articles for the magazine. We thereby redistribute her jobs to other members after few

more days of waiting.

Working in a group, sometime also means you have to do something you're not good at. To actually print out our magazine, money for printing is a big problem. In order to collect sufficient money for printing, we have to ask for sponsorship from shops around the campus, and each section was required to obtain certain amount of sponsorship. Being one of the section editors of News Section, I have to conquer my fear to approach strangers. However, from this experience, I not only become more confident when talking to strangers, I also learned that the pith of asking for sponsorship is not how sincerely you plead or how eager you look. Instead, the key is to make the sponsorship a fair trade. By emphasizing what kinds of promotion and brand image the sponsorship can bring to their shops, the deal we provided became much more attractive. This indeed, is a lesson of marketing. In the field of marketing, costumers' needs should always be put into consideration. Only when the right product is sold to the right customer will a win-win transaction occur, and sponsorship in fact, can be seen as a kind of product.

Throughout this entire journey, I personally assume the best part is being able to incorporate my own interests and learnings from different courses. Double majoring in Finance and International Business, and minoring in Information Management, I always have a desire to incorporate what I've learned in different departments and see how my multi-disciplinary understanding can assist me to provide ideas different from others. Thus, I'm grateful that this course gave me an opportunity to write articles about the field I'm actually interested in. Within the four articles I wrote throughout the year, two of them are related to technology. The first article is an introduction to a course I took in the Finance and International Business Department

related to program trading, and another is about the Smart City Forum & Exhibition held in this year. In my opinion, it's a pity that students studying in English Department, with such solid foundation in English writing, seldom write articles related to technology because the concepts and terminologies are too complex or beyond what we learned in English department. However, technology indeed, takes up a huge part of our life. Therefore, I decide to challenge myself to write these two articles not only to test my proficiency in these fields, but also to try expressing them through clean and understandable words in English. Although the toughness of the process indicates much more practice is required for me to express freely in the topic, it still gave me a great sense of accomplishment when I eventually finished writing all of them.

Another position I took in Department Magazine design team is web designer. Although we did not create the webpage straightforwardly from scratch, this experience along with my previous experience of making website through coding, provide me a chance to compare and contrast the difference between the two. The editing software we used is Weebly. Weebly allows the user to create a website without any experience in coding. It also provides plenty of templates for users to choose from, which makes the entire process much easier. However, simplifying the process also means sacrificing certain degree of flexibility. Using Weebly, the font is limited and the position of passage or image block will be automatically arranged evenly on the page, which means placing them at designated position and with designated width and height are not allowed. Create the webpage straightforwardly from scratch on the other hand grant designer total flexibility to style the webpage, position each element and add whatever cool functions through programming language such as JavaScript. Yet, the process can be complex and tedious due to the

pre-requisition of the knowledge in programing. Thus, in my opinion, using Weebly is a good choice since the readily built functions not only saves us time, but it also allows us to focus on the art and layout of our webpage.

To conclude, I appreciate everyone I have work with and learned from within this year. I will cherish everything I learned from those opportunities given throughout the course, and transform them into skills which I can apply in the workplace. This magazine that we made together will also be properly placed on the shelf next to my desk as a constant reminder of all the hard work we've done and the most original impetus as a writer, an editor or a designer to explore and share with passion and to refine them with care and thoughtfulness. I believe these are the most valuable things I can take away from this course.

Our Team



Staff members of 2021 Department Magazine