

Personal Development Plan

Where am I now?

By now, I have done one semester. Considering the insecurity at the start, I feel quite comfortable at this study by now. I also think that I have a much clearer view on what my target is next semester: what I can learn and what should require some polishing. This semester I covered most of the competencies, and gained basic awareness of any competency. Some competencies are still lacking some more in-depth awareness, so these should be covered more next semester. Competencies I gained the most awareness of are **Ideas and Concepts**, **Form and Senses**, **Design and Research Processes**, **Self-Directed Learning**, **User Focus and Perspective**, **Teamwork and Communication** and **Socio-Cultural Awareness**.

That means I still lack some awareness in **Integrating Technology** and **Designing Business Processes**. The last one, **Descriptive and Mathematical Modeling**, lacks any awareness, though I have a slight idea what it is about.

Where do I want to be?

Next semester I want to have full awareness over each of the competencies. For some that requires just working with the knowledge I gained for them, in order to get more in-depth awareness. For others I do need to take some more action in order to gain more knowledge and awareness of these competencies, like covering them in an assignment, or in doing workshops.

How am I going to achieve that?

Next semester I'm planning to do an assignment related to one of the competencies I still lack a great deal of awareness for. I prefer one for the competency Designing Business Processes. For the SDL-week I should search some workshops which would give me some more in-depth knowledge on the competencies **Designing Business Processes**, **Mathematical and Descriptive Modeling** and **Integrating Technology**. I found that big pieces of awareness I gained were also acquired unconsciously. By reflecting I looked back to these moments, and got more aware of it. So one thing I should keep doing, is making reflections.

Goals

Learning how to work with an arduino

S – I'd like to learn how to work with an arduino. I think this is really necessary when it comes to prototyping. This way you really can build something that actually works. Also, it's easier to make a prototype interactive. I attended a workshop for working with an arduino, but after that I didn't do that much with it.

M – For refreshing my memory, I'll try to find another arduino workshop during the SDL-weeks. Furthermore, I'll also experiment some with my Arduino kit. I have some LED, resistors and wires with which I can try out some examples myself.

R – The last time, I found out how to work with it, but the knowledge appeared to become passive. I didn't do that much with it.

T – Next SDL-weeks I want to take some time fiddling with the Arduino.

Developing each competency to a certain extent

S – The first semester I developed a great deal of competency to some extent. Up next is to fill the gap, and develop the others.

M – In the end, I want to develop all the competencies to the awareness stage, at least. If possible, I would like to find more connections between certain competencies. For example, I also could read books to gain more awareness or maybe more in-depth knowledge on these competencies. Reading the books 'Allemaal Andersdenkenden' (Get Jan Hofstede), 'Interaction Design: Beyond Human-Computer interaction' and 'Sketching for Designers' will give me a chance to develop Socio-Cultural Awareness, User Focus and Perspective or improve my drawing skills.

R – The goal is realistic, but I do need to pick the right workshops, assignments and extra-curricular work.

T – By the end of the second semester I'd like to have all the competencies developed in a state of awareness.

Exploring the designers' community

S – I would like to get more awareness in the designers' community, to be aware of what's going in this community.

M – These SDL weeks I'm planning to go to Strijp-S and explore some of the exhibitions and stands over there.

A – Going to Strijp-S, I need to be quite pro-active. I need to go to the exhibitions, and document my view on everything I see. Where possible, I could ask questions, start discussions.

R – As this is nearly impossible to finish as the community is not standing still, it's best to keep on exploring. I think it's good to form a view on where to find information of the developing community, and how to find it. Also, it's a good opportunity to practice looking from different views on the same subject. It's thus more realistic to learn thinking like a designer.

T – In the SDL-week I'm attending multiple exhibitions, workshops and also a seminar. But I know it's good to make a habit out of it, and that's not done in the SDL-weeks only. I hope to develop a skill by the end of this semester.