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CYSE 368  
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Reflection #1

The three design workshops that were hosted by Dr. Baaki the past two weeks were enriching and entertaining in teaching us how to be better designers. The first two workshops focused mostly on learning to listen to everyone's ideas, finding the unordinary and expanding upon it, and making your fellow teammates look great regardless of the ideas. I will admit, I struggle working with teams sometimes because trying to come to an agreement on ideas usually ends in arguments that make the overall project worse as a result. Dr. Baaki teaches us how to say "Yes, and?" and it changed my perspective on how to accept all ideas without it turning into a fight and to not get offended if my idea is not well received by my peers. He also taught us to always make our teammates look great rather than tearing them down if an idea does not work, which helped me understand how to have a constructive, yet positive mentality on listening to others' ideas even if they do not work. The final workshop was my favorite because it combined jazz music, one of my favorite music genres, with design thinking to better understand how working with my group should work if we want to achieve the best results possible. Actually getting to play a jazz piano while learning to trust my teammates, in this case being our guest speaker, helped me visualize how I can apply these techniques once we start our company projects. Overall, I loved these workshops and I would love it if we could keep working with Dr. Baaki throughout the semester because his ways of teaching genuinely helped me approach this project with more willingness to work together with people rather than tackling it on my own.