

## **Product Progress Assessment**

My final product for Independent Study and Mentorship is a prototype for my phone case company. Along with the prototype, the business as a whole will be an important part of the final product as it goes along with the prototype. In terms of staying on track with my original goal/calendar, I have fallen behind due to outside sources. When I had first created my calendar, I had not accounted for any type of error and would have stayed on track if everything ran smoothly. However, I am behind schedule because the individual I had chosen to create my prototype with the specifications I gave him has cancelled on me. I was forced to choose another 3D designer and later found out that he went on vacation. I must now look for a third 3D designer to create the prototype for my product. I will push through these obstacles and work my hardest to complete the final product in time.

On the other hand, some successes I am having is that I am constantly improving and learning from all the problems that are arising. I have a better understanding of what designers to choose and which ones to pass up on. I know what the designers need in order to create the product and will work on giving them all the information I possibly can. Furthermore, the business as a whole is running smoothly and I am making significant progress. I created the website landing page and have created a pre-order list of potential people who would purchase the phone case. Also, after a long time of waiting, my partner and I have created a bank account as the other banks we reached out to in the past would not let us due to our age.

I am not pleased with the way the product is progressing as I was supposed to have it finished by March 24, 2017. The reasons it is not done yet is due to factors that I have no control over so I must not be dissatisfied with myself because of that. I have to look on the bright side of things and know that I still have optimal time to complete the product. The designers I had contacted had asked for more detailed sketches as the phone case is very hard to describe. I still must make more detailed sketches so that the designers have a much clearer understanding of what I am looking for. After this, I will be able to move on and choose another designer as the previous two have essentially cancelled on me.

My mentor has played a large role in product development. He has not done it directly in terms of contacting designers himself but has given me advice and guidance along the way. I believe my mentor is doing the right thing as he is making me do everything myself so I gain as much experience and knowledge as possible for the future. He has also assisted me with the business as a whole as I am given a direction to move forward in. Without my mentor's suggestions, I would not be where I am today and would have many unanswered questions. In the future, if there comes a time where I absolutely need his help for the product, I will ask him and see what he can do to help me out. Thus far, I appreciate all he has done and will continue to learn as much as I can from him.