

3 EXAMPLES OF DOCUMENTATION FAB ACADEMY – WEEKLY CLASSES

The three examples of weekly task documentation I choose, all came from last year's MDEF students. I choose them due to their structure, how they showcased them, the documentation's connection to each other and last but not least obviously their drafting.

The first one I choose it was Josefina Nano's:

EMERGENT FUTURES



Key points:

- main parts - the challenges visualised the most and have separated menu points

-Reflections are under one menu point, they are connected and by that easy to see the development.

-Reflections are very well structured by the 4 Fs: Facts, Feelings, Finding and Future

Term II

Week 01

Learning outcomes:

- Facts: During the morning the amazing team of the FabLab helped us debugging our issues on what they call "Principles and Practices" (git, html, documentation, ssgs), in my case my website was running and I wanted to adjust some minor aesthetic details so Santi helped me with that. During the afternoon we had the first Global class with the network and Neil's lecture.
- Feelings: The debugging session with Santi was of great help since he let me know that it was not bad not having all these issues clear, and explain that it was more about understanding them and asking for help. In the afternoon the global session was more distant, there were many of us, both in person and online and it was difficult to keep up with Neil (even more so when it was online), in that moment I noticed that all the previous work in the code club was very important for somehow grasping these concepts in mind.
- Findings: How to commit all the changes I'm doing to my website through atom and not the terminal.
- Future: 1. Make the changes desired in each section. 2. Save them. "(command + s)" 3. Click "Git (O)" 4. Click "stage all" 5. Write down the changes made. 6. Click "commit to master" 7. Click "push" 8. Access to my gitlab account. 9. Check the status of the pipelines (rocket image). Once completed (green) > check my website if the changes are done.

Josefina's documentation really helped me to understand, if I follow a pattern with key points through all of my documentation it will create a very well defined learning path at the end, and make the progress visible easier.

The second one I choose it was Clément's:

Term 1 Term 2 Term 3 FabAcademy Project About

Challenge 4

Jana, Roger and i teamed up to build an [online exhibition](#). See it live in action [here](#).

I enjoyed the process of working with Roger and Jana, and the opportunity to contribute to their fascinating project. This project felt particularly empowering, as i started off with zero experience in JavaScript and ended the week with a solid basic literacy, thanks to Pietro's pedagogy and stackoverflow's collective intelligence. This fab challenge was about bridging the physical world with the virtual: something that is becoming increasingly seamless with the advent of 3D scanning and WebGL rendering in the browser.



Key points:

- One page with all the content of Fab Academy

- Challenges are the top contents, below the progress by the weekly reflections

- Very clear statements, aligned reflections with the projects

I have been reflecting on how to align my FacAcademy projects with my MDEF project on participatory design for sustainable mobility.

Computer-Aided Design

We learnt about Computer-Aided Design (CAD), both NURBS (e.g. Rhino3D, Autodesk Fusion360) and MESH (e.g. Blender). We also explored the potential of parametric design with Grasshopper.

This week was a throwback to my years in engineering school, designing mechanisms such as a car wheel and suspension system with CAD.

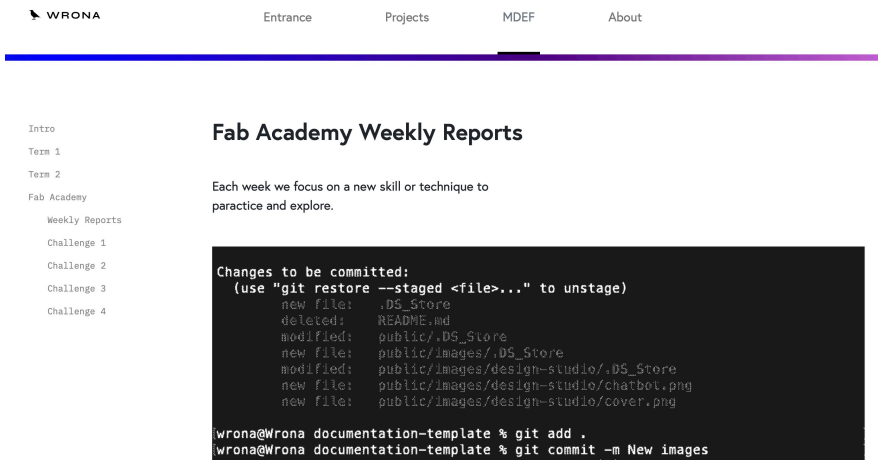
Victor Barberan's class on Blender was fascinating, on a philosophical rather than purely technical level. He made us question why we're using particular tools? How

Clément's documentation showed me an example of clear statements in the most minimalistic way. I tend to "over-structure" my designs or just documentations, it may come from my services designer background, which has to fight with too much raw data and sometimes not enables very aligned structures. I will focus on trying to use Clément's linear way of documenting.

The third one I choose it was :

Key points:

- Weekly reports are on one page as the previous ones
- Challenges are more showcased, by having their own pages
- Various ways of reflecting and documenting, many current info is related from the weeks



Week 1: Web and Git

In the first week of Fab Academy I dedicated a serious amount of hours to finally complete my website and push it to my gitlab repository. Even though git initially seemed intimidating, interfacing through the command line, I ended up finding it pretty simple after getting acquainted with it and having a reference for the available commands. Git is fun because it makes me feel like a hacker. It was getting the actual site designed and working locally that proved to take the most time.

After spending a day or two designing the layout and styles for the site in Sketch, I got some help converting my visual mock-up to an HTML/CSS template. This helped a lot, but I took over fairly early on so that I could practice using mark-up and styling myself. The template was integrated with Bootstrap and I referenced documentation to use a 12-column grid and reference certain styles and functions like mobile break points and a navigation that automatically collapses to a menu for smaller screen sizes.



Kristof's documentation is the closest to my current way of documentation methods, as I know from his page, he is also coming from a service design background. His way of documentation includes many feelings about the project, about the collaborations and info about his state of mind during that task.

This task helped me to get a boost for starting my own Fab Academy project on my website and to define what would be the most helpful way for documentation in the present for the future - where I can learn about the past.