



Quotes from students for use with workshop designed by Alison Shreeve and Ray Batchelor.

Respect/professionalism

I think there is a lot of respect because they do their own work on the side, one of our tutors is well known in his own right there is a lot of respect, and if he helps you in your work, its Wow, I've spent an hour doing that and he can do it in 5 minutes.

He is a brilliant man in terms of intellect he is brilliant but the way he teaches you can be demeaning.

you know I said I visualise things 3D, he was explaining things very flat, he was drawing them flat and I can't process things flat and he said this was basic and I should be able to understand and it made me feel very bad about myself and I didn't meet his expectations and it made me feel guilty.

He can be a very hard man to work with. A lot of students will go anywhere else but if he is the last resort they will go to him. He is very difficult to work with, some students get on well with him, one or two students love working with him, I would prefer to work with a beetle...

They need to know that student reps and students in general we are not kids, if someone is being disrespectful to a tutor but if a student is doing something that they think is right, they shouldn't be disrespectful to them and make them feel bad about themselves... I couldn't get my say in **I didn't feel confident enough to say.**

It was the same with college, my teachers knew the one to one works better because you're doing art for a reason, you do get academic art people but a lot of art people think in a different way and you then have someone to talk to, to bounce ideas off, which is very important.

sometimes people in my class have felt like they're being mocked because they don't understand or they haven't read or haven't gone out and seen certain exhibitions

And that's the thing they do have their portfolio of their work and you can see they know what they are on about whereas with teachers you have to assume that this is what they know but may never have experienced the industry in the way your tutors have. Your tutors have that industry experience that you wouldn't have got otherwise.

They are experienced and talk to you like adults and will debate with you but it's also like with a learning curve you can talk to your tutors and can have a debate as long as it's in a polite manner and you're not being rude or anything, it is that sort of growing up that you personally have to do in order to understand your tutors properly so it's definitely a two way thing, you have to do some growing up before you can understand them but I think they

have got it right and talk to you in the way you expect to be talked to and they talk to you with respect

...they come like work colleagues in a way, they're someone you can ask questions with and someone you work with because you are both working to the same thing, they are working to you coming out with the best degree you can. Interesting.

Parent/child

I think they have to know that respect goes both ways, we respect them because they are tutors, but a lot of tutors have a superiority complex, I'm a tutor you're a student therefore you're a child, I'm big you're small kind of thing. We are all adults and we are paying to be here

It's a difficult situation because we spoke to our tutor about it as we felt it was unfair that they were getting help at one point but he was like I can't treat them any differently because they're not turning up but I can't treat them like children because they are at University and its their choice, its not the same discipline as school, can't give them detention because they didn't turn up to a tutorial.

He is so far beyond our experience but he still respects us as if we are level pegging, he treats us like an adult, whereas the tutors by nature a lot treat you like a child.

now I've got to 3rd year I totally understand exactly what he was saying and how right he was about needing the model making skills and it was the fact that he was very strict and was you have to do this and you can't not do this otherwise you will fail basically so just in the long term, yes. I suppose it's the thing with your parents, they say something and you don't want them to be right and then it turns out they are, it kind of had that sort of feeling but now I'm grateful that he did make sure we did them correctly and stuff.

some people hold grudges and won't let things go. Certain people in my class do that, they don't like that tutor because on time they told me I was wrong, and they will hold a grudge against them and when they're talking they just won't take in the information the tutor is trying to give and that's just a dumb way go about things when you know the tutor didn't mean any harm they just saying you should have looked at this by now or you are kind of expected to be here.

Yes if you're confident to do it yes but obviously you don't want to have an argument but it's not school, they're not going to tell you off, it's not like the have a select pattern you have to do.

Friends

I think you are more friendly towards the tutors in the workshop because you spend more time with them and you end up having a general chat and they will join in with conversations about things mentioned on the radio they will join in with that and then they feel like a friend and then they teach you and you forget they are a teacher...

Do you think its OK to feel friendly like that?

I think so, I can't see any way round that because they are in there all the time with you they are not going to want to separate themselves, I think its better if you are comfortable with them as you are more likely to ask questions and for help because they are not intimidating in the same way as some of them can be.

You can have work place banter but he goes more to the extreme friends banter when you're not, sometimes he can be inappropriate... He can just be very obnoxious.

I think it's a good one, I don't think you ever expect relationships to be perfect because you want a good balance and good criticism and all that so it's not like being a friend, but it is in a way but there is always that little bit of distance because they are there to assess you and give you constructive criticism but I feel I have good relationships with them all.

Absolutely they've been patient with everyone and been fantastic and I never expected coming into a university environment that people would be that patient. I don't know, just friendly patient, you expect people to be on a level somewhere, but they're not they're normal people and down to earth. I just had this picture of people not being approachable but they've been very approachable and fantastic.

I don't know, I guess you accept they are tutors and we are students and they're the boss. It's like with any adults, like when you're at school you've got to be nice to the teachers and it's the same, it's just the way it is they're the boss and you're not and you just have to shut up as you're not going to win an argument or you're going to get too opinionated and if you're having a joke it has to stop somewhere as at the end of the day they're not your friend they are a tutor but I think it's a pretty good atmosphere between tutors and students.

I think how they behave already, you have your professional practice, they are your teacher, so there's that kind of relationship but because it is a studio, not sure how to explain it, we make our tutor tea and we sit around and talk about the latest thing on TV so it's a comfortable relationship you respect them and they respect you but he is your tutor and kind of what he says goes. However you have the ability to question it. **It's authoritative but friendly.**

It's quite a friendly atmosphere you've just got to get over being afraid of the tutor which I had a lot, in the 1st year I was scared of the tutors and found them quite intimidating the fact that they know everything and then my viewpoint changed and I could use it to my advantage, I could ask them anything and it's kind of because they are so well in the know if you say something stupid you think they are going to go oh god you idiot, they just don't they might say you should definitely know this, they don't mean I can't believe you don't know this.

Family?

I think there is but they are just as willing to help someone on my course, it doesn't matter as at the end of the day everyone is there to learn and help each other. And because my tutor and technician went to Uni here they have more of a loyalty towards people I think to get the best grade out of people as possible. My technician's husband works here as well and she is happy to help his students in the same way he is happy to help hers.

Made me feel like part of a very dysfunctional family but basically a family.

Why dysfunctional.

There are a lot of positives but it is a working environment people get stressed annoyed, their work isn't going right and there's a lot of noise and they'll get annoyed and everyone can't always get along but that's a family for you, a distant family because not everyone gets along and holds hands and chatting but overall it's a very respectful environment.

Empathy

I had three projects on at one time, the end of one, the body of one and the start of another one, they never give us enough time to do everything and it all ends up on top of each other and he came up to me and said you need to get on with it, and I thought what do you think I'm doing but as he is a tutor you can't tell him to go away in a rude way, but it can be quite irritating sometimes and then you're in a bad mood and you have to say you're too tired and go home.

...at the time it was just do what the brief says kind of a bit of. I could understand why they were saying it because it was an outside brief but I think it could have been said in a different way. If you don't understand something being told something in the same way again and again isn't going to make you understand it.

Yes, generally I get on really well and have a good understanding but think it was that one project I couldn't get my head round it and wasn't having it explained in any different way and I think it was just a clash of my understanding and his explaining which didn't go together and I couldn't get my head around it.

on the whole they do know what's best as they've been doing it a long time but sometimes it's just like you get to the point it's my work and I want to do it my way and if it turns out wrong and fair enough you were right but I like to find out that it's wrong on my own rather than being told it's not going to work straight away.

sometimes they overload you with information or don't give you enough and it's hard to get that balance between telling you too much and then not enough.

Crits

(peers) ask you nice questions, they feel your pain. The teachers tend to ask hard ones you can't answer and you have to say I don't know please help me.

He actually said to one girl that her design was terrible and then the next person that presented he said yours is quite similar to hers but hers is better. He was very direct and didn't have a filter on directness.

And everyone can improve and we all know that but when you're all keyed up for an assessment or tutorial it can be off putting to have the negative first.

In a crit at the end a tutor can make a comment and you can literally see someone's heart breaking right in front of you and you go oh no!.

I think sometimes tutors because they are anxious can put things in a more negative way than they need to and just turning it around a little bit instead of putting the negative bit first, trouble is I've been a teacher myself so know the tricks and putting the praise bit first can be a better way of doing it

Liking/disliking

I was having the conversation with my tutor yesterday and he said I would expect this but another tutor would expect this and he said just do what feels right for you so if you think what I've said is right then go by that but if you think the other tutor was right go with that. They're very much encouraging you to be brave and not do what one tutor wants but what you want to complete your project. (student 3rd year BA)

Pressures on relations

Third year is very single direction and you need a tutor and you need them then, you don't have time to sit there for two hours, I can't do anything until I have seen a tutor, as soon as I've spoken to them for 30 second I can go ahead and do the work.... if we get 40% we pass and its only a third and we go into work with we can't risk that everyone wants a 2-1 first if they can get it and the only way to do is to get what you want when you want it, hanging around for 2 hours every time you want to talk to a tutor for 30 seconds, it's just not feasible.

One to one is very important, the whole thing is the journey but we have that safety net behind you, its like if you're walking on a pier you have the safety net of the life guard but if the life guard is busy and you fall in you can't wait 2 hours while you're drowning.

I had three projects on at one time, the end of one, the body of one and the start of another one, they never give us enough time to do everything and it all ends up on top of each other and he came up to me and said you need to get on with it, and I thought what do you think I'm doing but as he is a tutor you can't tell him to go away in a rude away, but it can be quite irritating sometimes and then you're in a bad mood and you have to say you're too tired and go home. ... The worst thing you can do is focus on how someone else is doing, you need to focus on yourself and that's when his comments can really get, if he says it to someone else it doesn't bother you, but when it's to you it's kind of like it gets to you and it's a voice nagging at you and you don't need it.

Favouritism

basically there is one who is a golden boy who is (x's) favourite and he gets mentioned all the time over everyone else.

...they do sometimes sugar coat things for the weaker students. I guess it's a valid teaching method like the weaker students you have to give encouragement to so they don't fall off the face of the earth and the stronger students you have to be harsher with...

Presence/accessibility

so it is the best bit of having lecturers in the studio, they're always there and if not someone knows where they are.

sometimes you might have had a tutorial on the Tuesday and then something has happened on the Thursday and you think I need to quickly say it, if you know he is around and you can grab him for 5 minutes then you can get that talked over and put to rest and go on with the next bit and get a bit of feedback. Just to know you can grab him for 5 minutes and then keep going instead of having to wait for my time next week and coming to a standstill.

The tutor isn't always best!

Peer learning

In the workshop you're watching what the 3rd years are doing which is way beyond anything you can do but its Wow that's what I'll be doing in 2 years year and the 3rd years are helping the 1st years with the 1st years asking the 3rd years questions. If you ask the tutors on a similar project they suggest asking the 3rd years and what they did about it. I think that's something you don't get in classroom lectures because you don't meet 2nd and 3rd years in the same way which is a shame because we learn so much from them even just by having a chat lunchtime and you know who they are so you make a bigger group of friends cos you know who they are so...

When I was in my 1st year I remember one day everything was going wrong and I stormed down the workshop I was in a foul mood and one of the 3rd years, like an unofficial mentor, he was really helpful and had taken a liking to me and stopped me and asked what's wrong and I said I'm quitting the course everything is going wrong and he walked me back and looked at the joints and just advised me where to go but because I had to walk through the 3rd year area he saw that and he was really nice. Like another one I started by sheer chance an hour long debate by 6 3rd years, I said I have this much money what's the best set of chisels, I started off with 2 of them, then it was 4 and then 6, and it was just like, I was just listening and they were talking about steels and things and I had no idea, but that's the best thing, the tutors they teach the way teachers teach but 3rd years teach you from experience and from being such recent students. It was only 2 years before they were a 1st year, I still remember being a 1st year and the worries you have. It's a great environment.

there's been a lot of grumblings not sure if its from the 1st and 2nd years but definitely from the 3rd years point of view for the fact that anyone can walk through your space. 1st and 2nd year we wouldn't have dreamt of walking through a 3rd years space because of the noise and its just you realise that once you get to 3rd year you've got to step up your game and its like we're going to be there one day. We didn't want to have people walking through our space so we didn't walk through their space but now that's what we've got. Kick in the teeth.

I wouldn't want to be anywhere else. It's nice seeing all three years, I have friends on courses that don't know what a 1st or 2nd year looks like whereas I know all the 2nd years and we've got the first years coming in by Christmas and we'll all know each other as we see each other every day and we all have a tight timetable.