

1.If anything was possible, what would your dream job be, and why?

If given the ability to do anything, my dream job would be to work on advertising. As a person who uses the internet on a daily basis, I've always encountered ads everywhere. Social media, websites, and even games, and music platforms, ads are always there. The reason why I would like to work in advertising is that I love how the people who work in ads make it very entertaining for the intended audience. Even the general public who happens to stumble upon the ad can also enjoy a well-made ad. I usually skip ads, but there are instances that I find myself watching the ad in full because I want to support the author/creator of whatever it is I'm viewing and the ad that I got is very entertaining. From an amateur's perspective, I think that in making creative content, the only limitation is your imagination. So, if given the ability to work in the advertising field, I would gladly take the opportunity.

2. Have you ever experienced a stressful situation in your past workplace (college if fresh graduate), what was it and how did you overcome it?

I would say that my third year in college was the most stressful. It was when we were working on our thesis or what we call capstone project in the IT department. The first requirement had us make an individual proposal in which everyone has to pass the assessment of the panel. Only until then can we form groups and start on the actual capstone project. Our adviser arranged it this way so that everyone forming a group would be assured that each member has at least the ability to form a plan and contribute to the project. I was in a group of three and our project was a bit complicated because it dealt with machine learning and automated result generation. I did not mind this because we were given separate roles in the group and I was given the role of a branding lead. My tasks were to make graphical assets for the documentation and for our project which was a website. That includes logos, infographics, charts, interfaces, anything that can be classified as visual aids is what I did. I overcame the situation with the help of my teammates who were always there to assist me whether it's for the defense or presentation of updates in our project. Without our group leader constantly checking up on us and holding meetings, we would not have been as organized to pass the course.

3. In your previous position, what task did you find most challenging and why? What task did you enjoy most and why?

The part that I found the most challenging was the start. Idea and concept generation requires a very creative mind and also inspiration that would help me start with my deliverables for the project itself. I had to research stuff like color theory, modern design principles, standard sizes for stuff like font style, and spacing. This also applies to the interface design of our website. Spacing and font size is important so that user experience like comfortability reading text is accounted for. Spacing for elements so that you can be sure that browsing the site does not make the user claustrophobic or confused. All of these factors are discussed over team meetings and progress presentation to our advisor. Although I find it challenging, I enjoyed the role given to me and the tasks that went along with it. I would say that I enjoyed all of it. Discussing about every detail in the initial design with my groupmates and the decision making on what to change, update, or enhance was a very pleasant experience. It made me more open minded and receptive of feedback.

4. How would your previous managers/coworkers describe you?

During our capstone project, my groupmates would always tease me about being creative and comment on my work because being logical was valued more in our academic program than creative. The program is obviously littered with logical courses like programming, systems design, information management, and the likes. We had to be very keen and organized with our work because we were trained that once we join the industry, we would HAVE to work with other people and if your code was not composed according to the standards or at least apply common practices that is generally accepted in the field, it would be difficult to join in groupworks or projects. One of our minor courses was multimedia and I liked it more than anything. I enjoyed the evening classes and the lessons that were discussed in that field. This does not mean that I neglected or did not value the logical side of my course, it's just that I enjoyed the creative field more than the logical. I would still do programming, mostly on web-based projects but I would say that being called creative was a compliment that I would take any day.

5. What personal or professional accomplishments are you most proud of?

I'm proud of our capstone project and of course the completion of my on-site training. Those were the evidence of my hard work and determination to complete the program. Me and my groupmates spent a lot of time and effort developing our project and seeing come to fruition gave me a sense of fulfillment. As for my on-site training, it was also a lot of effort. Not only do I have to commute daily from Bacolod to Bago, it was my first exposure to the IT industry and it was nerve wracking. I was the lone IT student there; the rest of my batch mates were from the other academic program. Even though I was alone, the supervisor assigned to me did well in keeping track of my progress, giving me advice and leeway when doing my assigned projects. As I am still an amateur in terms of work experience, I think that these accomplishments already give me enough confidence to take on tasks or responsibilities wherever industry I will be placed in. Now as I am in training as a potential VA, I am proud of my accomplishments and hopefully apply at the very least, the principles that I have learned from those experiences.