



Homesick

Designer: Tara Efobi, Iowa State University

Mentor: Ellen McKinney, Iowa State University

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Design Mentor Statement

This ensemble was completed as part of a class project in a senior level creative design class that I taught. The goal of the project was for students to explore methods of fabric manipulation and combine two or more methods into a creative ensemble. Each student completed a sample notebook of at least ten different fabric manipulation techniques. Each student also engaged in a fashion research process, documented through a 20-page sketchbook, and culminating in a mood board. Students made patterns, first samples, and final garments. Students were mentored through multiple one-on-one check-ins and informal class presentations throughout the process. This particular student's work was very high quality. She engaged deeply in the fashion research process, exploring, juxtaposing, and combining a wide variety of sources around her selected theme. She also explored a wide variety of fabric manipulation techniques, even going so far as to trial two different quilting patterns in the sample of her jacket. Her thorough and high-quality work throughout the design process are evident in the dynamic and cohesive final design. It features high-quality fabrics, sewing, and finishes throughout. The ensemble clearly communicates the intended feelings.

Design Statement

This design, Homesick, was born from the emotions I experienced entering my final year of university. The majority of my time at school was spent experiencing concern and even guilt for opting to spend time at home rather than go out and socialize on many occasions. I especially struggled with this my first year at school as I transitioned into young adulthood. As a self-proclaimed homebody, my intention for this design was to evoke that nostalgic sort of feeling one gets when they miss home. The look was inspired by kantha quilts, messy sheets, and staying in bed all day.

This ensemble is made up of a hand dyed bra and panty set, pleated dress, and hand quilted jacket. The dress and jacket were flat patterned and samples were constructed out of chiffon and muslin, respectively. The bra and panty set were draped out of a four-way stretch knit. Dye samples were made to test the colors for the ribbed collar of the jacket, the bra, and the panties. The final garments were then constructed. The jacket's shell is made from a subtle novelty woven wool fabric, lined with a woven polyester fabric, and hand quilted with cotton embroidery floss. The cotton ribbed knit for the cuffs and collar were dyed to match the lining fabric. The jacket features matching bias tape to finish the edges, and it has five silver snap closures. The polyester chiffon dress is constructed with French seams and has several pleats sporadically

placed from the waist to the upper thigh. It has eight clear buttons down its center placket. The bra and panty set were hand dyed a reddish-brown color. Both have contrasting polyester mesh fabric and polyester rayon blend fabric to create the intended style lines. Both also have elastic bands around the ribcage, waist, and thighs which were folded over and zig-zag stitched into place. The bra closes with a hook in the front.

Homesick is the embodiment of my experience coming to terms with who I am as a person as I have gone through university. Each piece in this ensemble may be styled in various ways for multiple occasions – everything from the runway, to running around town, to lounging in bed.

