



Outsider

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Keywords: Ready-to-wear, Functional clothing, Sustainability

Measurements: Chest: 40", Waist: 51", Hips: 52"

Mentor statement:

I have mentored this student since she took my CAD class and active sportswear design class. I also mentored her graphic design when she was a freshman and her textile design using computer graphic, as part of homework from my CAD class, won the first place award from Summer Magazine Cover Design Competition by International Textile Marketing Association in 2013. I am pleased to support this student's entry to ITAA design competition this year because the outfit reflects the student's excellent execution of her creative ideas. The outfit was created as part of final project at my active sportswear design class.

Student design statement:

I entitled this piece Outsider because its unique features and design set it apart from standard outwear. An outsider is known as someone or something that cannot be categorized into a particular group or that is isolated from society. This unisex oversized coat design takes on the true meaning of outsider by blurring the line between femininity and masculinity. The oversized construction of the coat cloaks the body and obscures any gender defining shapes of the human figure. With the deconstruction of gender identification, the wearer has complete control in choosing his or her identity without the constraints of gender norms. In addition to the concept behind the design, the coat also features functional aspects that aid the outsider in his or her isolation from society. This coat provides the wearer with the features they need to take on the natural elements of the world. The functional details including an extended hem, extended sleeves, masked hood, attached backpack, and water resistant materials make this coat essential for a true outsider.

When designing the coat, I first draped muslin on a dress form to achieve the basic pattern pieces. The pattern pieces then had to be cut and spread in order to achieve the coat's oversized shape. The final design is constructed from a chocolate brown and olive green water resistant waxed cotton duck, brown faux leather, and a burgundy spacer mesh neoprene. It features a detachable masked hood detail, an attached backpack feature, and extended sleeves. The hem was lengthened to fall below the mid-calf, while the sleeves were designed to extend past the fingertips for the purpose of concealing the body and protecting it from outside elements. The hood is also designed to aid in the body's concealment. The masked hood is attached to the coat's neckline by an opening zipper and can be worn or removed at the wearer's leisure. The back half of the hood is constructed from the water-resistant waxed cotton duck to protect the wearer from rain or snow. The semi-sheer, breathable mesh material is used for the hood's front mask detailing, so that the wearer can be concealed while still being aware of his surroundings. The hood also features a

bronze colored waterproof centered zipper that extends from the center back neckline to the center front neckline, so the wearer can choose to reveal themselves if desired. The attached backpack feature provides a storage space for the wearer on his or her travels. The backpack is based on a cargo pocket design and is attached to the center back of the coat. It includes interfacing and lining to provide sufficient support for the storage of various items. It also features an exposed, waterproof, coiled-zipper for the opening.

This coat design is the perfect combination of style and function. Its oversized drape allows for this piece to be worn by anyone without fear of being restrained by gender norms. Its unique features such as the masked hood and attached backpack add to the uniqueness of the piece. Together these elements come together in unfamiliar ways to create a coat fit for an outsider.



