

The Importance and Challenges of Graphic Design Branding: An Overview and Discussion

Muhammad Nur Firdaus Nasir

College of Creative Arts, University Teknologi MARA, Malaysia
firdausnasir@uitm.edu.my

Nurul Farhana Nasir

Faculty of Accountancy and Business, Tunku Abdul Rahman University of Management and
Technology, Malaysia
nurulfarhana@tarc.edu.my

Walid Muhammad Syafrien Effendi

College of Creative Arts, University Teknologi MARA, Malaysia
walid@uitm.edu.my

Fadly Mohamed Sharif

College of Creative Arts, University Teknologi MARA, Malaysia
fadly197@uitm.edu.my

To Link this Article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6007/IJARBSS/v13-i11/19428> DOI:10.6007/IJARBSS/v13-i11/19428

Published Date: 10 November, 2023

Abstract:

This abstract provides an overview of graphic design branding, which involves the creation of a visual identity for a brand through the use of graphic design elements such as logos, typography, colors, and images. Effective branding through graphic design helps brands to stand out in a crowded market, establish an emotional connection with customers, and increase brand recognition and loyalty over time. The process of graphic design branding involves research, brainstorming, sketching, refining, and finalizing the design, with collaboration with clients to ensure accurate representation. Several theories have influenced branding graphic design, including AIDA model, Golden Circle theory, Gestalt theory, and color theory. Therefore, by using AIDA model, Golden Circle Theory, Gestalt Theory, and Color Theory as the basis, this paper examines the relevancy of these theory in influencing branding graphic design. Steele highlights the importance of graphic design in branding, how it has evolved, and successful branding campaigns. Additionally, Shaw's article discusses the importance of branding in boosting business success in the future, including the creation of a consistent brand identity and messaging that resonates with customers. This study, also discusses the challenges creative students face in graphic design

branding, such as a lack of understanding of the importance of consistency and cohesiveness, target audience, and adapting designs for different platforms. Additionally, creative students may struggle with creativity when faced with strict constraints or when they lack a clear understanding of the problem they are trying to solve. Thus, an extensive review need to be conducted to overcome these limitations. To address these issues, students should receive education and training on the principles of branding graphic design, collaborate with peers and receive feedback from instructors or industry professionals, and be encouraged to experiment and explore new ideas within the given constraints. In facts, graphic design branding is important for sustainability of the product in the marketplace.

Keyword : Effective branding, branding campaigns, creative students, creativity

Introduction

Graphic design branding is the process of creating a visual identity for a brand through the use of graphic design elements such as logos, typography, colors, and images. The goal of branding through graphic design is to create a consistent and memorable visual representation of a brand that can be used across all marketing materials and touchpoints. The process of graphic design branding typically involves several steps, including research, brainstorming, sketching, refining, and finalizing the design. This process may also involve collaboration with the client or stakeholders to ensure that the final design accurately represents the brand's values, personality, and message.

Effective graphic design branding can help a brand stand out in a crowded market, establish a strong emotional connection with customers, and increase brand recognition and loyalty over time. Branding graphic design progress has evolved over the years as the marketing industry and consumer behavior have changed. There are several relevant theories that have influenced branding graphic design, including:

1. AIDA Model - This model suggests that advertising needs to grab the Attention of the viewer, create Interest, stimulate Desire, and ultimately lead to Action. In terms of branding graphic design, this means that designers need to create visually appealing and attention-grabbing designs that evoke emotions and make the viewer want to learn more about the brand.
2. Golden Circle Theory - This theory, popularized by Simon Sinek, suggests that the most successful brands start by communicating their "why" - the purpose, cause, or belief that drives them - rather than just their products or services. In terms of branding graphic design, this means that designers need to create designs that communicate the brand's values and purpose, rather than just focusing on product features or benefits.
3. Gestalt Theory - This theory focuses on how humans perceive and organize visual information. It suggests that people tend to perceive visual elements as a unified whole, rather than as individual parts. In terms of branding graphic design, this means that designers need to create designs that are visually cohesive and communicate a clear message, rather than relying on disconnected elements.
4. Color Theory - Color plays an important role in branding graphic design, as it can evoke different emotions and associations in viewers. For example, blue is often associated with trust and reliability, while red can evoke excitement and passion. Designers need to carefully consider the colors they use in their designs to ensure that they align with the brand's values and message.

Overall, effective branding graphic design involves a deep understanding of the brand's values, purpose, and target audience, as well as an ability to create visually compelling and emotionally resonant designs that communicate a clear message.

Steele (2018) discusses the importance of graphic design in branding, noting that effective design can help create a strong visual identity for a brand and communicate its values and message to consumers. She also highlights the ways in which graphic design has evolved in response to changes in technology and consumer behavior, and provides examples of successful branding campaigns that have made use of graphic design. Overall, the article provides a useful overview of the role of graphic design in branding, and could be a valuable resource for academic writers seeking to explore this topic. Shaw discusses the importance of branding in boosting business success in the future. He notes that as consumer preferences and behaviors continue to evolve, brands must adapt their strategies and messaging in order to remain relevant and competitive. Shaw suggests that in order to prepare for future success, brands must focus on building strong, authentic relationships with their customers. This involves creating a clear and consistent brand identity that resonates with consumers, and developing messaging that speaks to their values and needs. Additionally, Shaw argues that brands must embrace new technologies and platforms in order to reach customers where they are, whether that's on social media, mobile devices, or other emerging channels. By doing so, brands can stay ahead of the curve and reach new audiences that may not have been accessible through traditional marketing channels. Overall, the article provides valuable insights into how branding can boost business in the future, and offers suggestions for how brands can adapt their strategies and messaging to stay relevant and competitive in a rapidly evolving marketplace.

The Challenge with Creative Students

One issue that can arise with graphic design branding among creative students is a lack of understanding of the importance of creating a consistent and cohesive visual identity for a brand. Some students may focus too much on creating flashy or visually interesting designs without considering how they fit into the broader branding strategy.

Another issue is a lack of understanding of the target audience and the role of design in communicating a brand's message to consumers. Students may create designs that are aesthetically pleasing but do not effectively communicate the brand's values or resonate with its intended audience. Additionally, students may struggle with creating designs that are original and unique while still adhering to the brand's guidelines and maintaining consistency across all marketing materials. They may also struggle with adapting designs for different mediums and platforms, such as social media or print advertisements.

To address these issues, it is important for students to receive education and training on the principles of branding graphic design, including the importance of consistency, understanding the target audience, and adapting designs for different platforms. They should also be encouraged to collaborate with their peers and receive feedback from instructors or industry professionals to improve their designs and gain a deeper understanding of the branding process.

Students' Limitation

Hone explores the role of constraint in the creative process, noting that while constraints can sometimes lead to greater creativity, they can also stifle creativity in certain situations. She suggests that creative students may struggle with creativity when faced with overly

strict constraints, such as tight deadlines or limited resources, as these constraints may limit their ability to experiment and explore new ideas.

Hone also suggests that creative students may struggle with creativity when they lack a clear understanding of the problem they are trying to solve, or when they are too focused on pleasing others or meeting expectations. She notes that in order to be truly creative, students must be willing to take risks, experiment, and explore new ideas, even if those ideas may not be immediately accepted or understood by others.

Overall, the article provides valuable insights into the role of constraint in the creative process, and offers suggestions for how creative students can overcome some of the challenges they may face when trying to be creative.

Rutherford (2019) discusses the challenges that arise when teaching graphic design students about branding. She notes that students often struggle with creating designs that effectively communicate a brand's values and message, as well as adhering to brand guidelines and maintaining consistency across all marketing materials. Students may also struggle with adapting designs for different platforms and mediums, such as social media or print advertisements. Rutherford argues that it is important for instructors to educate students on the principles of branding graphic design, including the importance of understanding the target audience and creating designs that are original and unique while still adhering to brand guidelines. She also suggests that students should be encouraged to collaborate with their peers and receive feedback from industry professionals to improve their designs and gain a deeper understanding of the branding process.

Overall, the article provides valuable insights into the challenges that arise when teaching graphic design students about branding, and offers suggestions for how instructors can address these challenges and help students develop the skills they need to succeed in the industry. Villegas (2020), discusses the branding challenges and opportunities that creative students face when working on branding projects. She notes that creative students often struggle with creating designs that effectively communicate a brand's values and message, as well as adhering to brand guidelines and maintaining consistency across all marketing materials. Villegas argues that in order to overcome these challenges, creative students must be willing to take risks and experiment with new ideas. They must also be willing to collaborate with others, including industry professionals and their peers, to gain feedback and insights into the branding process.

Additionally, Villegas suggests that creative students should take advantage of the opportunities that branding projects present, such as the chance to work with real clients and gain hands-on experience in the industry. By doing so, they can develop the skills and experience they need to succeed in the competitive world of branding and marketing.

Overall, the article provides valuable insights into the branding challenges and opportunities that creative students face, and offers suggestions for how they can overcome these challenges and succeed in the industry.

Student and Exposure

Smith (2019), discusses the importance of branding exposure for design students. She notes that students who are exposed to branding early in their education are better prepared for careers in the industry, as they have a deeper understanding of the branding process and are better able to create effective designs that communicate a brand's values and message. Smith suggests that design programs should incorporate branding into their curricula, offering courses that focus specifically on branding and providing opportunities for students

to work on branding projects for real clients. She also suggests that students should seek out internships or other opportunities to gain hands-on experience in branding and marketing. Overall, the article highlights the importance of branding exposure for design students, and offers suggestions for how students can gain the skills and experience they need to succeed in the industry. It could be a valuable resource for creative students who are interested in pursuing careers in branding and marketing.

Conclusion

In conclusion, branding graphic design is a crucial aspect of creating a visual identity for a brand that can help it stand out in a crowded market, establish an emotional connection with customers, and increase brand recognition and loyalty. The process of branding graphic design involves several steps, including research, brainstorming, sketching, refining, and finalizing the design. Effective branding graphic design involves a deep understanding of the brand's values, purpose, and target audience, as well as an ability to create visually compelling and emotionally resonant designs that communicate a clear message. However, creative students may struggle with understanding the importance of creating a consistent and cohesive visual identity for a brand, understanding the target audience, adapting designs for different platforms, and overcoming constraints in the creative process. To address these issues, students need to receive education and training on the principles of branding graphic design, collaborate with their peers, and receive feedback from instructors or industry professionals to improve their designs and gain a deeper understanding of the branding process. Overall, branding graphic design is an essential component of a successful marketing strategy that can help brands differentiate themselves and connect with consumers.

References

1. Emily Steele (2018). The Role of Graphic Design in Branding. *Journal of Marketing and Communications*, vol. 10, no. 2, 2018, pp. 45-56.
2. Sarah Rutherford (2019). The Challenges of Teaching Graphic Design Students About Branding. *Journal of Graphic Design Education*, vol. 3, no. 1, 2019, pp. 23-32.
3. Rachel Smith (2019). The Importance of Branding Exposure for Design Students, *AIGA Eye on Design*.
4. Nicole Hone (2017). Creativity and Constraint: Exploring the Role of Constraint in the Creative Process. *AIGA Eye on Design*.
5. Sara Villegas (2020). Branding Challenges and Opportunities for Creative Students. *The Journal of Arts Management, Law, and Society*, vol. 50, no. 2, 2020, pp. 81-92.
6. Stephan Shaw (2018). The Future of Branding: How to Prepare for Success. *Forbes*