

## 3 “C” and 3 irreplaceable weeks

**Kexin Chen**

Group collaboration is the sparks from the collision of four minds. The ideas of four people merge together, creating a magical chemical reaction.



Our first presentation lacked clear division of labor, and our research was not deep enough. The tasks of making slides and presenting fell on one student, leading to a hasty and less than ideal conclusion. For the second presentation, we regrouped, and I volunteered to take on the slides. However, time was limited, and the slides did not receive careful review from each member, resulting in an oversight of one slide and a need for further adjustment in the order of the presentation.

The third presentation was our last chance. Initially, we were all at a loss, as the previous presentations had highlighted the gap between us and other groups: within the same time frame, what made our presentations pale in comparison? After acknowledging and facing our group's shortcomings, we sprang back into action with vigor and determination. The strictly academic path may not be our forte, and inspired by the presentations of other groups, we decided to take a different approach by innovating in the form of a skit that would connect our learned models together.

The process was bumpy, but the final group presentation was a pleasant surprise: everything went according to plan, and our group members were very open and interactive with the audience during the skit, creating a lively atmosphere. The Q&A session was also very active.

If given more time to prepare for our group presentations, I would have invested more effort in the first two presentations, with clear division of labor, more time spent on data analysis and visualization, and thorough review of the slides. However, the past cannot be changed, but the future can still be pursued.



If the first two presentations were rushed and uncertain, the last one should be considered as having exerted all our might, with no regrets. While performing the skit and presenting our group's analysis, I also enjoyed the experience on stage, admiring and being pleasantly surprised by the enthusiasm and confidence of our members.

Learning, absorbing, and disseminating knowledge, in the skit, each of us played different roles, placing ourselves in the position of stakeholders in Qingdao, which is also the best application of the participatory theory. In fact, during the course, the professor had us play different roles in debates and discussions to reach consensus. This process inspired us, making us realize that role-playing and discussions can clarify the interests of all parties, allow participants to express their demands, understand each other through communication, and seek compromise solutions to maximize common interests.

I would like to use three words starting with "C" to illustrate the most important things I learned from this group collaboration: being concentrated, creative, and critical.

The first "C" is to be concentrated. I believe the key to a successful group presentation lies in everyone's engagement, mutual adjustment, timely communication, and joint efforts. We racked our brains to write the script, worked tirelessly on the slides, and practiced until the clock struck two in the morning again. During the week of completing the group assignment, the study space downstairs at the social hub was where we spent most of our time.

The second one is to be creative. This is also what the entire course in IHS has brought me. In my domestic major or general education courses, I could hardly imagine myself writing scripts and performing skits to present a rigorous academic subject. Perhaps in an inclusive and open environment, with three compatible friends,

I would be more willing to try many new things, and I hope to continue this inclusive and open-minded attitude.

The third word is to be critical. This is also quite indispensable. The rigor of academia also requires us to reflect on the feasibility in the real world after the laughter and commotion of the skit. So we included the extra story in the presentation, as the real world is much more complex than our theoretical discussions. I also hope that in the future, I can be more rational, not fear the complexity of data, use more powerful data, learn more scientific methods, and continuously approach the reality of real life.

Finally, I would like to thank the teachers who have accompanied us all the way, for your listening, encouragement, and sincere advice. The three wonderful weeks in the Netherlands are related to you!

## **Others things I want to say about the resilience of city**

"All happy families resemble one another, each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way." It is the same with cities as families. Looking down from the space on earth at night, we could see that certain coastal cities are shining like bright stars. However, prosperous cities also face many problems and challenges. Most coastal cities have to contend with typhoons and floods, whereas the city our group has chosen is different.



Qingdao, a coastal city in northern China, embrace the fourth largest port around the globe, with mountains and seas in its back, like a pearl embedded in the Yellow Sea. But the lack of water has become the city's nightmare.

Under the circumstances of climate change, droughts are intensifying. From the perspective of 1818 Golden Eye News, our group leads all those who care about urban development into the "parched" land of Qingdao. Farmers cry out to heaven and earth in vain, brewery owners are so worried that their hair falls out in handfuls,

government workers are also frowning and at a loss, and experts are deeply engaged in research. Yet, reality is always full of contradictions with expectations. The drought issue has always been a chronic problem for Qingdao city.

But in fact, we can also make a difference. When we take the lead in bringing citizens, experts, and the government together around a round table, the demands and interests of all parties intersect, jointly drawing a concentric circle that maximizes social welfare and promoting strategic changes in the city.

From problem analysis, PESTLE analysis, SWOT analysis to FFA strategy, we move forward transformation resilience and sustainable development.

We still have some doubts though: when will the investment in economy and technology allow the blueprint we have drawn to become a reality?

And we also have the belief: the establishment of water-saving concepts among ordinary people, the improvement of cooperation and the participation of every stakeholder, coupled with the rationality and foresight of urban planning, a three-dimensional spatial layer model and nature-based solutions, the coastal town of Qingdao will get better and better in the foreseeable future.

## 中文版

小组合作，四个脑袋碰撞出的火花。四个人的主意融合在一起，发生一场神奇的化学反应。

第一场展示，我们没有太明确的分工，资料收集不够深入，PPT 和展示的任务都分别落在了一个同学身上，最后的展示草草收场，效果不甚理想。第二次展示，我们重整旗鼓，我自告奋勇揽下了 PPT 的活，然而时间有限，且 PPT 没有经每位成员仔细过目，最终发现漏做了一页，PPT 顺序也有待进一步调整。

第三次展示已然是最后一次展示机会。开始的我们都无所适从，前两次的展示不顺让我们意识到与其他组的差距：同样的时间里，究竟是什么让我们的展示相形见绌？在互相肯定并正视了我们组的不足之后，我们又精神抖擞、大刀阔斧地准备了起来。完全严谨的学术道路可能并不是我们四个人所擅长的，也是由于受到前两次其他组展示启发，我们便另辟蹊径，从形式上的创新入手——排一出情景剧，将所学的模型串联起来。

过程磕磕绊绊，最后一次小组展示却让人十分惊喜：一切都按照我们计划的那样顺利进行着，而且我们的小组成员都非常放得开，情景剧表演时与观众的互动很热烈，提问环节时气氛也十分活跃。

如果能有更多时间准备我们的小组展示，我应该会花更多精力在前两次展示上面，做好明确的分工，花更多时间进行数据分析和数据可视化，也做好 PPT 的审核。然而，往者不可谏，来者犹可追。

如果说前两次展示是着急忙慌心中没底，那么最后一次展示应当是已经使出了洪荒之力，没有什么遗憾可言了。在表演情景剧、展示我们小组的分析时，我也在享受着这次上台展示，为成员们的活跃自信感到佩服和惊喜。

学习知识、吸收知识、传播知识，在情景剧中，我们每位成员分别扮演不同的角色，将我们自己设身处地地放在青岛城市治理参与者的位置上，也算是我们对 participatory theory 最好的运用了——其实也是在课程中，教授让我们扮演不同的角色进行辩论、座谈，达成共识，这样的过程给我们以启发，让我们意识到角色代入、座谈讨论的形式能够明确各方利益，让各方参与者表达各自诉求，在沟通交流中互相理解，从而寻求妥协的方案，达到共同利益的最大化。

我想用三个 C 开头的单词来说明从这次小组合作中学习到的最重要的东西：Be concentrated, creative and critical.

专注、专心。我想，小组合作展示顺利的关键就在于每个人的投入：互相磨合，及时沟通，一起努力。绞尽脑汁写剧本，目不转睛做幻灯片，排练着排练着时针又一次指向凌晨两点。在完成小组作业的一个礼拜里，social hub 楼下的自习空间承包了我们四个人太多的时间。

创造、创意。这也是整个交流课程带给我的，在国内自己的专业或者通识课程中，我很难想象自己会如此放得开得写剧本、演情景剧来展示一个严谨的学术课题。或许在一个包容开放的环境中，和三位投缘的朋友一起，我会更愿意尝试很多新东西，而我也希望自己能将这包容开放、敢于尝试的心态延续下去。

批判精神。这也是不可或缺的。学术的严谨性也要求我们在情景剧笑过闹过之后反思现实世界中的可行性。所以我们将番外的故事也放入展示当中，其实现实世界远比我们纸上谈兵要复杂得多。我也希望未来自己能更加理性，不畏惧数据的繁杂，用更有力的数据、学会更科学的方法，不断接近现实生活的真实。

最后，还是要感谢陪伴我们一路走来的老师们，感谢你们的倾听、鼓励与诚挚的建议。在荷兰三周美好的时光与你们有关！

## 其他想说的：关于城市发展

“幸福的家庭都是相似的，不幸的家庭各有各的不幸。”对于家庭来说如此，对于城市来说也是一样。海边小城青岛，面临着的城市问题是，干旱。

气候变化的情形下，干旱加剧。我们小组从 1818 黄金眼新闻的视角，带领着所有关心城市发展的人们走进青岛那片“被烤干”的土地。农民叫天天不应、叫地地不灵，啤酒厂老板发愁得头发一把一把掉，政府工作人员也愁眉苦脸百思不得其解，专家埋头研究然而现实与期望总是充满了矛盾。干旱问题始终是青岛城市的痼疾。

但其实我们也做得到，当我们牵头让市民、专家、政府围着圆桌坐在一起，各方的诉求与利益交汇，共同描绘出一个社会福利最大化的同心圆，推动城市的策略变革。

尽管我们仍持怀疑：经济和技术的投入，在何年何月可以让我们所描绘的蓝图成为现实？

但是我们也始终相信：普通人节约用水观念的树立、配合度的提高，每一位利益相关者的参与，再加之城市规划的合理性、前瞻性，海边小城青岛会越来越好。