



**FAB ACADEMY**

**STUDENTS  
BOOTCAMP**

**LEARN**  
HOW TO **MAKE**  
(ALMOST) **ANYTHING**



# Luciana Asinari

Fab Academy Global Coordinator and Dean  
Fab Lab Barcelona

# Pablo Nuñez

Lead Global Instructor  
Fab Lab León



# Student Bootcamp

A Friendly Guide for Your **Fab Academy** Journey

MONDAY

GENERAL  
TIPS

TUESDAY

CONTENT AND  
FINAL PROJECT

**YOU ARE ABOUT TO ENTER AN INCREDIBLE  
NETWORK**



**SPEAK "FRIEND" AND ENTER**





# FAB ACADEMY IN NUMBERS



16 EDITIONS  
1714 GRADUATES SINCE 2008  
65 NODES THIS YEAR

## FAB ACADEMY IN EMOTIONS



*I've seen things you people  
wouldn't believe.*



**FAB25**



**FAB25 CZECHIA**

**JULY 4-11, 2025 BRNO & PRAGUE**





# FAB X EVENTS

## Past events

### FAB 24 MÉXICO



The 2024 International Fab Lab Conference in Puebla, México under the theme Fabricating Equity.

### FAB 23 BHUTAN



The 2023 International Fab Lab Conference in Thimphu, Bhutan under the theme #Designing Resilient Futures.

### BALI FAB FEST



The 2022 International Fab Lab Conference in Bali (Indonesia) and Fab City Summit under the theme #Designing Emergent Realities.

### FAB16



The 2021 Online International Fab Lab Conference in Montréal (Canada) and the Fab City Summit online under the theme #Fabricating the Commons.

### FABXLIVE



The 2020 Online International Fab Lab Conference

### FAB15



The 2019 International Fab Lab Conference in El Gouna, Egypt. Theme: Collectively Independent.

### FAB14



### FAB13



The background image shows a large crowd of people at an outdoor event, likely a festival or fair. In the foreground, several people are seated in folding chairs, looking towards the right. In the background, many people are standing and looking up at a large, intricate string art installation that covers a significant portion of the upper half of the image. The string art consists of numerous thin, light-colored strings stretched between various points, creating a complex web of geometric shapes. The overall atmosphere is one of a busy, engaging public event.

# Foundations for Fab Futures

**SAVE THE DATE**

**JULY 27-31, 2026**

**26**

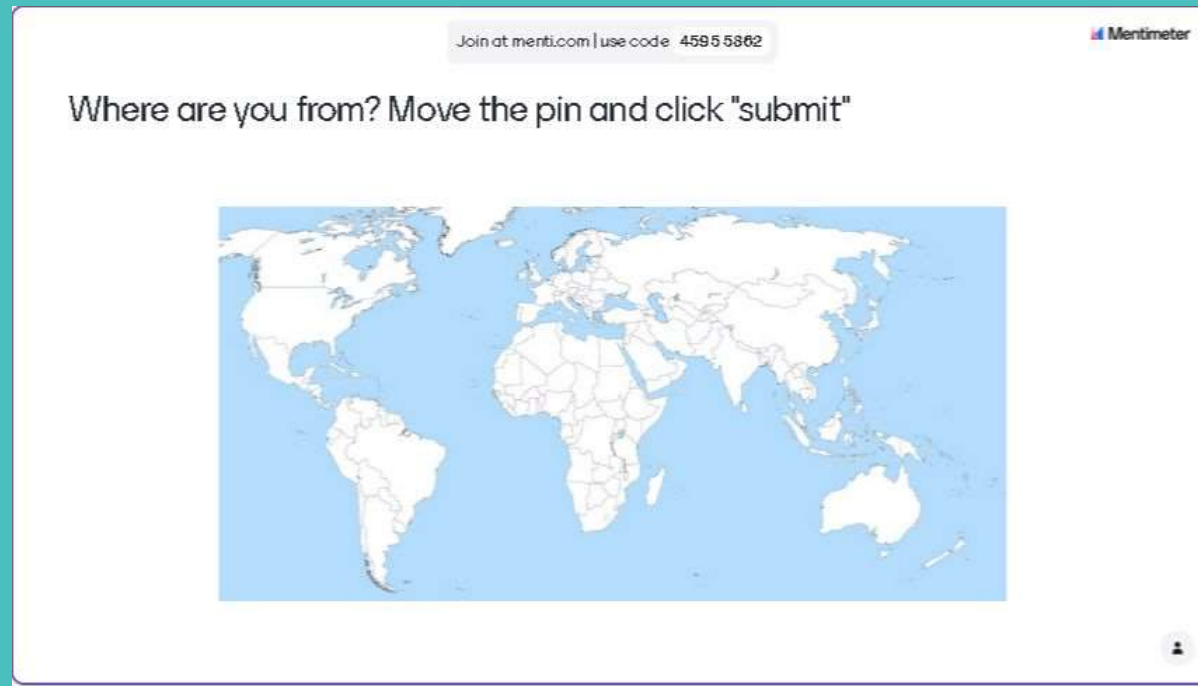
**FAB**  
Boston

# **FAB ACADEMY IN EMOTIONS**

BE PREPARE TO MEET  
AMAZING PEOPLE

A NETWORK OF RESTLESS MINDS  
READY TO HELP YOU IN  
YOUR JOURNEY

# ¿Where are you from?



<https://www.menti.com/alje7us8uk3n>





# Adrián Torres

Lead Global Instructor  
Fab Lab León

# Student Bootcamp

A Friendly Guide for Your **Fab Academy** Journey





# GENERAL TIPS

# IMPORTANT LINKS

- [Fab Academy 2026](#)
- [Schedule](#)
- [Inventory](#)
- [Assessment - Nueval](#)
- [Tutorials](#)
- [Fab Academy Student Agreement](#)
- [Projects](#)
- [Programmers](#)
- [Image compression](#)
- [Video compression](#)
- [Videos of Reviews, classes, recitations](#)



<https://fabacademy.org/2026/>



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# Schedule

Info of the class (links, tutorials...)

The Fab Academy  
2022 Schedule

Jan 10- [instructor boot camp](#)  
Jan 17- [student boot camp](#), project presentations  
Jan 26: [principles and practices \(video\)](#), [project management \(video\)](#)  
Jan 31 [recitation: version control \(video\)](#)  
Feb 02: [computer-aided design \(video\)](#)  
Feb 09: [computer-controlled cutting \(video\)](#)  
Feb 14 [recitation: parametric+ design](#)  
Feb 16: [electronics production \(video\)](#)  
Feb 23: [3D scanning and printing \(video\)](#)  
Feb 28 [recitation: debugging](#)  
Mar 02: [electronics design \(video\)](#)  
Mar 09: [computer-controlled machining \(video\)](#)  
Mar 14 [recitation: programming](#)  
Mar 16: [embedded programming \(video\)](#)  
Mar 23: [molding and casting \(video\)](#)  
Mar 28 [recitation: machine building](#)  
Mar 30: [output devices \(video\)](#)  
Apr 06: [mechanical design](#), [machine design \(video\)](#)  
Apr 13: break  
Apr 18 [recitation: fab ecosystem](#)  
Apr 20: [input devices \(video\)](#)  
Apr 27: [networking and communications \(video\)](#)  
May 02 [recitation: education](#)  
May 04: [interface and application programming \(video\)](#)  
May 11: [wildcard week \(video\)](#)  
May 16 [recitation: DEI+](#)  
May 18: [applications and implications \(video\)](#)  
May 25: [invention, intellectual property, and income \(video\)](#)  
May 30 [recitation: start-ups](#)  
Jun 01: [project development \(video\)](#)  
Jun 08- [project presentations](#) (08,10,13,15)  
July 25- FAB17

Video of the class

Recitations: 1 every 2 weeks

[Search your global time](#)

Global lectures happen on Wednesdays at 9:00 on the US East Coast (ranging from 6:00 on the West Coast to 23:00 in Japan). Recitations happen on Mondays at the same hour, and global lab sections and regional reviews are scheduled throughout the week.



# Class

## Computer-Aided Design

### 2D design

#### raster

[scan](#)  
[GIMP](#) [BIMP](#) [pixels](#)  
[Photoshop](#)  
[Pixlr](#)  
[MyPaint](#)  
[Krita](#)  
[ImageMagick](#) [GraphicsMagick](#) [Conversee](#) [encoding](#)  
[Geeqie](#) [gThumb](#)

#### vector

[Potrace](#) [mods](#)  
[Inkscape](#) [shapes](#) [Booleans](#) [clones](#)  
[Iodraw](#)  
[Illustrator](#)  
[Sketchpad](#)  
[CorelDRAW](#)  
[Scribus](#)  
[QCAD](#)  
[FreeCAD](#) [constraints](#)  
[Layout](#)

### 3D design

#### types

design past, present, future  
project complexity, collaboration  
volume (VRep), boundary (BRep), function (FRep) representations  
GUIs, scripting, hardware description languages  
imperative, declarative, generative, optimization, Multidisciplinary Design Optimization

#### programs

[SketchUp](#) [Tinkercad](#)  
[Shapemith](#) [Flood](#)  
[Blender](#) [Sverchok](#)  
[sculpting](#) [rendering](#) [animation](#)  
[ZBrush](#)  
[Rhino](#) [Grasshopper](#) [Kangaroo](#)

Links, tutorials, files...

Inventory

Fab Lab/Class Inventory (incomplete draft)  
[full inventory](#)

Computer-Aided Design, Project Management

quantity	item	description	list unit price	extended price
Amazon				
	videoconference			
3	C920x	Logitech HD Pro Webcam, Full HD 1080p/30fps	\$56.99	\$170.97
1	Speak 510	Jabra Wireless Bluetooth Speaker for Softphone and Mobile Phone	\$149.00	\$149.00
		total		\$319.97

total: \$319.97





# Assignments

## **assignment**

model (raster, vector, 2D, 3D, render, animate, simulate, ...) a possible final project,  
compress your images and videos,  
and post a description with your design files on your class page

## **assignment**

### *group assignment:*

- test the design rules for your 3D printer(s)

### *individual assignment:*

- design and 3D print an object (small, few cm<sup>3</sup>, limited by printer time)  
that could not be made subtractively
- 3D scan an object (and optionally print it)

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# Labs



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Aalto Fablab (Espoo, Finland)

AgriLab (Beauvais, France)

Al Jazri Lab (Sharjah, UAE)

Fab Lab Amsterdam - Waag (Amsterdam, Netherlands)

Fab Lab Bangalore (Bangalore, India)

Fab Lab Barcelona (Barcelona, Spain)

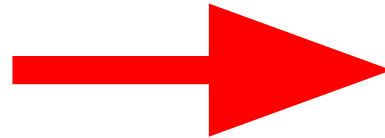
Fab Lab Benfica (Lisboa, Portugal)

Berytech Fab Lab (Beirut, Lebanon)

BOLD Lab Seoul (Seoul, Korea)

Fab Lab Bhutan (Thimpu, Bhutan)

C. Fabrication Laboratory (Shanghai, China)



Websites of the different Fab Labs:  
Student website, Group Assignments,  
Machine...



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# Students

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Aalto (Espoo, Finland)

- [Alexander Andrew McVicker](#)
- [Matti Niinimäki](#)

Website of the Fab Lab

AgriLab (Beauvais, France)

- [Aurore Kubica](#)
- [Christophe Chamot](#)
- [jules topart](#)

Website of the students

Amsterdam - Waag (Amsterdam, Netherlands)

- [Bas Pijls](#)
- [Benjamin Doerig](#)
- [Bente van Bourgondiën](#)
- [Joany Beer](#)
- [Jonathan Blok](#)
- [Paola Zanchetta Muñoz](#)
- [Saco Heijboer](#)
- [Sander Blom](#)

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# Documents

Assessment

Tutorials

Agreements: labs instructors students

```
**Fab Academy Student Agreement**

*The Fab Academy is responsible for:*

- Teaching principles and practices of digital fabrication
- Arranging lectures, recitations, meetings, and events for the class
- Evaluating and providing feedback on student work
- Offering clear standards for completing assignments
- Certifying and archiving student progress
- Supervising class preparation
- Reviewing prospective students, instructors, and labs
- Providing central staff and infrastructure for students, instructors, and labs
- Fund-raising for costs not covered by student tuition
- Managing and reporting on the program's finances, results, and impacts
- Publicizing the program
- Promoting a respectful environment free of harassment and discrimination

*I am a Fab Academy student, responsible for:*

- Attending class lectures and participating in reviews
- Developing and documenting projects assigned to introduce and demonstrate skills
- Allowing the Fab Academy to share my work (with attribution) in the class for purposes compatible with its mission
- Honestly reporting on my work, and appropriately attributing the work of others
- Working safely
- Leaving workspaces in the same (or better) condition than I found them
- Participating in the upkeep of my lab
- Ensuring that my tuition to cover local and central class costs is covered
- Following locally applicable health and safety guidance
- Promoting a respectful environment free of harassment and discrimination

Signed by committing this file in my repository,
(your name goes here)
```

- The assignments (what you'll do)
- What we want you to learn each week (why you're doing it)
- The base-line evidence/proof/things you need to show about what you've learnt each week (what you did and how you did it).

## CRITERIA FOR NUEVAL

Tutorials created by  
Fab Academy  
instructors/students

You should read it, and upload a copy signed to your repo.



# Assessment

Type to search

- Introduction
- General Essentials
- Commercial Board Policy
- Principles and Practices, project man...
- Computer-Aided Design
- Computer-Controlled Cutting
- Embedded Programming
- 3D Scanning and Printing
- Electronics Design
- Computer-Controlled Machining
- Electronics Production
- Output Devices
- Mechanical Design, Machine Design
- Midterm Review
- Input Devices
- Molding and Casting
- Networking and Communications
- Interface and Application Programming

## Fab Academy 2025 Assignments and Assessment

*Created by Anna Kaziunas France & Bas Withagen (2015)*  
*Maintained by Jani Ylioja, Steven Chew, Vaneza Caycho and Pablo Nuñez*

### What is this document

During Fab Academy, you will learn how to envision, prototype and document your ideas through many hours of hands-on experience with digital fabrication tools. **This document outlines:**

- The assignments (what you'll do)
- What we want you to learn each week (why you're doing it)
- The base-line evidence/proof/things you need to show about what you've learnt each week (what you did and how you did it).

### How to be evaluated

Advise your local instructor when you have completed assignments so they include your work in their weekly round of assessment. Your local instructor will advise of dates and times of assessments.

Not sure what code to use for your favorite smiley? Consult the [Emoji Cheatsheet](#).

### Feedback & questions

CRITERIA FOR  
YOUR  
EVALUATION:  
**NUEVAL**

You have a  
section for each  
assignment



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# Projects

pub

P

pub

Group ID: 1484

[Request Access](#)

🔔

▼

public, publication

Subgroups and projects

Shared projects

Archived projects

Search by name

Last updated ▼

> <div>P</div> <b>programmers</b> <div>🌐</div>	<div>📁 0</div> <div>🔖 8</div> <div>👤 3</div>
> <div>T</div> <b>Tools</b> <div>🌐</div> Various software tools to make ones Fab life easier.	<div>📁 0</div> <div>🔖 1</div> <div>👤 1</div>
> <div>I</div> <b>Inventory</b> <div>🌐</div> The Fab inventory	<div>📁 0</div> <div>🔖 1</div> <div>👤 1</div>
> <div>P</div> <b>projects</b> <div>🌐</div> Subgroup for shared public projects	<div>📁 2</div> <div>🔖 3</div> <div>👤 4</div>
> <div>L</div> <b>libraries</b> <div>🌐</div> Group for shared libraries	<div>📁 1</div> <div>🔖 1</div> <div>👤 1</div>
> <div>H</div> <b>hello world</b> <div>🌐</div> Group for hello-world projects and documentation	<div>📁 0</div> <div>🔖 2</div> <div>👤 1</div>
<div>🔖</div> <div>T</div> <b>Tutorials</b> <div>🌐</div> Tutorial repository to be updated continuously.	<div>★ 0</div> <div>1 week ago</div>
<div>📁</div> <div>P</div> <b>project index</b> <div>🌐</div> <div>Maintainer</div>	<div>👤 1</div> <div>1 week ago</div>

You will find the new  
programmers, libraries, hello  
world, Resources...





<https://fabacademy.org/2026/>



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# Prior Years

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## Prior Years

[2021](#)

[2020](#)

[2019](#)

[2018](#)

[2017](#)

[2016](#)

[2015](#)

[2014](#)

[2013](#)

[2012](#)

You can find other students from other years, projects... all the documentation from past years.



<https://fabacademy.org/2024/>



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Search:

**Search tool for any project, tool, machine,  
student... It's super powerful.**

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<https://pub.fabcloud.io/project/expert-network-map/>

## Expert Network Map

Seven generations of Fab Academy students intertwined

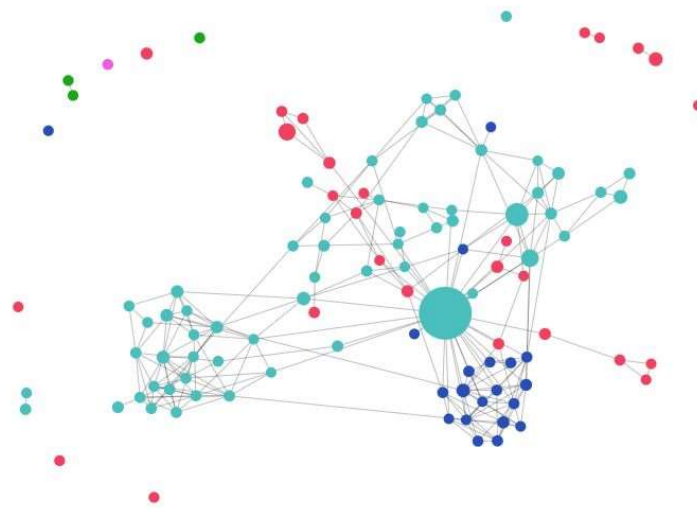
### Seek Out *Topic Experts*

The *Expert Network Map* allows users to visually identify *Topic Experts* in the Fab community. *Topic Experts* are Fab Academy students who are frequently referenced by peers. Fab Academy students often link each other's websites in their documentation, and mapping these connections creates a network intertwined across labs, years, and countries. The more times a student is referenced correlates with expertise level in specific subject areas. For current Fab Academy students, it can be extremely helpful to quickly identify *Topic Experts* to access their documentation for reference. Interacting with the Map can determine *Topic Experts* by year and specific labs. Once *Topic Experts* are found, clicking on their circle redirects the user to their Fab Academy Documentation Website.

The *Expert Network Map* allows users to navigate the massive web of interconnected students and highlights *Topic Experts* dating back to 2018. Each Fab Academy student is represented by a circle. Drag around different students to play with the data and gain insight into the interconnectedness of the Fab community.


The larger a student's circle, the more times they have been referenced. Hover over a circle to see the student's name, year, lab, and region, and click on it to open their documentation website. Click the tabs on the left to filter by topic area; click different years on the bottom left circle to highlight students from that year; use the dropdown on the top right to highlight students from certain Fab Labs; and use the dial on the bottom right to set a minimum number of references that a student must have, changing the *Expertise Threshold*.

All
Computer-Aided Design
Computer-Controlled Cutting
Embedded Programming
3D Scanning and Printing
Electronics Design
Computer-Controlled Machining
Electronics Production
Mechanical Design, Machine Design
Input Devices
Moulding and Casting
Output Devices
Embedded Networking and Communications
Interface and Application Programming
Wildcard Week
Applications and Implications
Invention, Intellectual Property and Business Models
Final Project



Student Adam Stone created a map where all students who mention other students' documentation are related.


# Vimeo: Videos



Why Vimeo? ▾Features ▾Resources ▾WatchPricing

Search videos, people, and more 🔍

Log inJoinNew video ▾



## Academy

📍 Boston, MA, USA

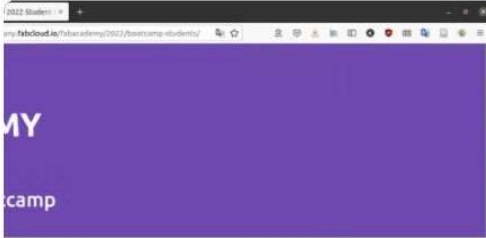
This channel shows the videos of the Fab Academy as recorded at Fablab Amsterdam and the course...[Read more](#)

Create a free Vimeo Basic account to view Academy's contact details

Join


### 637 videos

#### 2022- Students Bootcamp



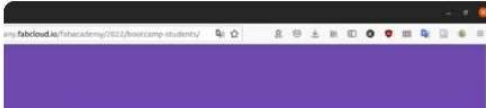
est topics for next year.

FA2022\_StudentBootcamp\_Day5.mp4




est topics for next year.

FA2022\_StudentBootcamp\_Day4.mp4




est topics for next year.



est topics for next year.

### Activity

Showcases 1



# Image compression

## GIMP

compress

resize

batch

## ImageMagick

list formats:

convert -list format

JPG: compressed

PNG: uncompressed

convert PNG to JPG:

convert input.png output.jpg

convert all PNGs to JPGs:

mogrify -format jpg \*.png

convert SVG to PNG at 1000 DPI:

convert -density 1000 -units PixelsPerInch input.svg output.png

compress JPG to quality 50% width 1000:

convert input.jpg -quality 50% -resize 1000 output.jpg

compress all JPGs to quality 50% width 1000:

mogrify -quality 50% -resize 1000 \*.jpg



# Video compression

HTML5 MP4 ffmpeg encoding

variable bit rate 1080p MP3:

```
ffmpeg -i input_video -vcodec libx264 -crf 25 -preset medium -vf scale=-2:1080 -acodec libmp3lame -q:a 4 -ar 48000 -ac 2 output_video.mp4
```

fixed bit rate 1080p MP2:

```
ffmpeg -i input_video -vcodec libx264 -b:v 1000k -vf scale=-2:1080 -acodec mp2 -b:a 256k -ar 48000 -ac 2 output_video.mp4
```

no audio:

```
ffmpeg -i input_video -vcodec libx264 -b:v 1000k -vf scale=-2:1080 -an output_video.mp4
```

crop size (width:height:xoffset:yoffset):

```
ffmpeg -i input_video -vf crop=1500:800:200:100 -vcodec libx264 -b:v 1000k -an output_video.mp4
```

trim time (-ss start time, -t duration):

```
ffmpeg -i input_video -vcodec libx264 -b:v 1000k -an -ss 00:00:10 -t 00:00:10 output_video.mp4
```

mix audio and video:

```
ffmpeg -i input_video -vcodec libx264 -b:v 1000k -vf crop=1120:876:0:100 -i input_audio -acodec mp2 -b:a 256k -ar 48000 -ac 2 -ss 00:00:20 -t 00:00:20 output_video.mp4
```

crop, pan, composite:

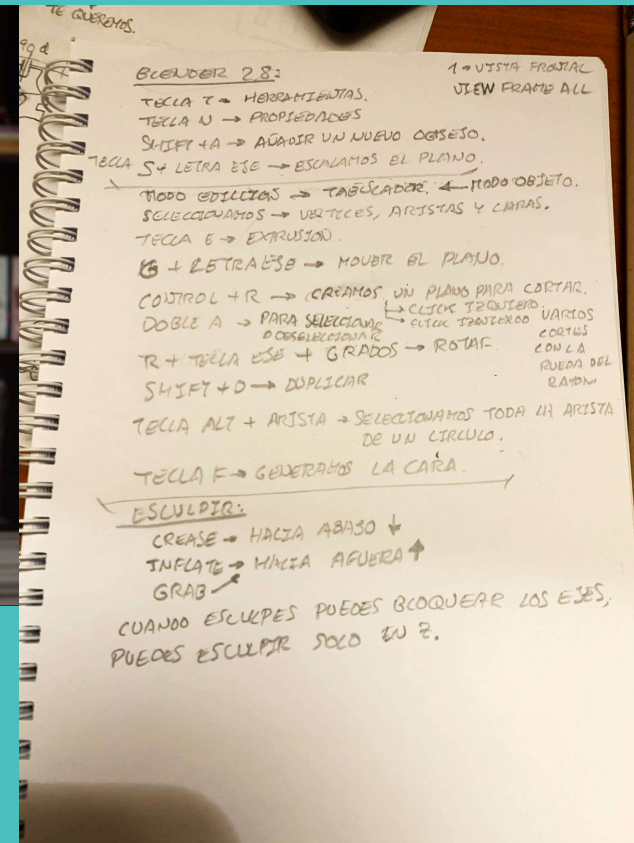
```
ffmpeg -i input_video_1 -i input_video_2 -filter_complex '[1:v]crop=175:95:930:860[cropout];[cropout]scale=350:190[scaleout];[0:v][scaleout]overlay=10:10[outv]' -map '[outv]' -vcodec libx264 -b:v 1000k -map 0:a
```

numbered images to video:

```
ffmpeg -r 30 -i %04d.jpg -vcodec libx264 -b:v 1000k -vf scale=-2:1080 -an output_video.mp4
```



# Keep and Write Notes In A Small **Notebook**

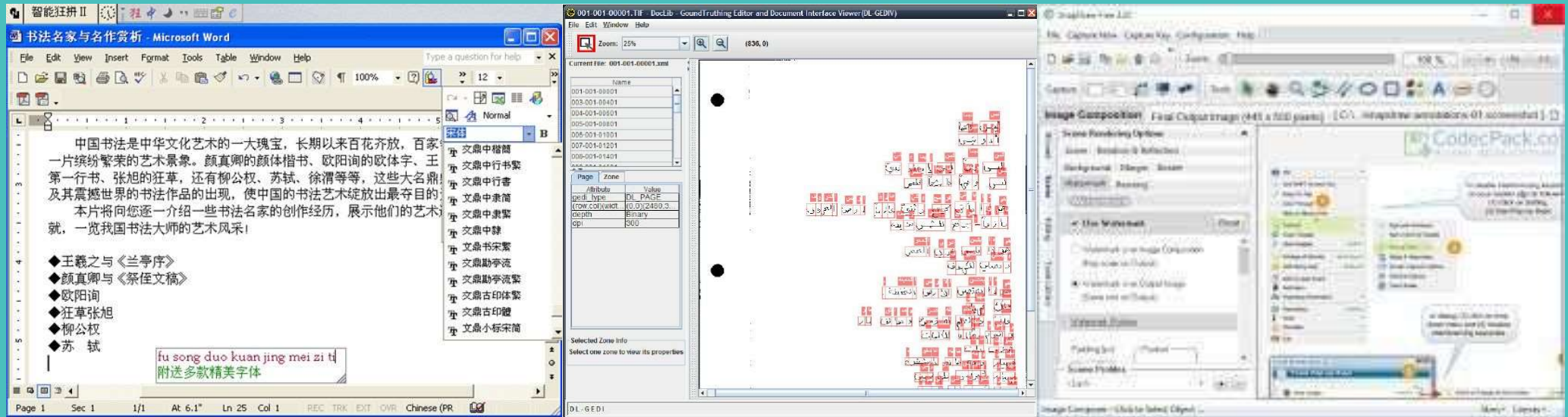


## Youtube: Surviving Fab Academy

- Fast. Convenient. Better for memory recall
- Supplement to digital documentation
- Document as you go
- Quick sketches



# English for Documentation...Please



**General Recommendation: Switch Software to English for documentation.**

If not possible, clarify images with detailed English explanations describing the procedural steps you made.

**English is the communication standard for Fab Academy...and required for Global Evaluation.**

# The Assessment Book



# ¿Whats is this document for?

## The Assessment Book

- The assignments (what you'll do)
- What we want you to learn each week (why you're doing it)
- The base-line evidence/proof/things you need to show about what you've learnt each week (what you did and how you did it).

<https://fabacademy.org/2026/nueval/>





**NUEVAL**  
**nueval.fabacademy.org**



# Communicate...to Make Progress

It's a tool for all the people involved in the Fab Academy learning environment: Student, Local instructor and Global Evaluator.  
The only way to keep tracking of the learning path.

- Give feedback to both your **local** evaluator as well as your **global** evaluator.
- Work with evaluators toward graduation success!

Fab Academy 2020

Home  
Final Projects  
Local Evaluation  
Global Evaluation

Local Assessment & Evaluation

Local evaluation	2020-01-01	Instructor: nunuromi
Principles and Practices	✓	
Project Management	✓	
Computer-Aided Design	✓	
Computer-controlled cutting	✓	
Electronics production	✓	
3D scanning and printing	✓	
Electronics design	✓	
Computer-controlled machining	✓	
Embedded Programming	✓	
Input Devices	✓	
Applications and Implications	✓	

Electronics production

OVERALL PROGRESS

Completed

Leave Feedback

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Task: Electronics Production

Group assignment:

- Characterize the design rules for your PCB pro

Week 04, Electronics Production is finished.  
adriantrains  
2020-03-30 07:07

Dear Nuria. Week 04, Electronics Production is finished, you can start correcting whenever you want

Electronics Production  
nunuromi  
2020-04-22 06:51

Hi Adrian,

Although you are the only student in your fablab, maybe its worth to create a separate page for the group assignments. It is not strictly mandatory because you documented the group assignment in your personal webpage, but recomendable

Lets take a look

FAB  
ACADEMY



How to make (almost) good

**PHOTOS**

&

**VIDEOS**

# Prepare you **camera**, **smartphone** and your **computer**

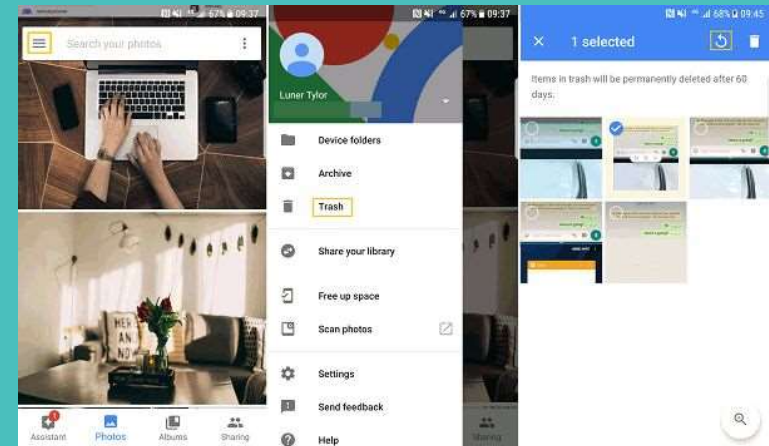
- **Smaller Image Size**

- Open the **Camera** app on your device
- Tap on the **Settings** icon which should look like gear as always
- Select **Picture Quality**
- Choose a reasonable image **File Size** > 1MB

- Compress **Photo** size -> **Image Magick**
- Compress **Video** size -> **FFMPEG**

- **Canva**

- Templates.
- Compress image
- Video editing



## One Good Photo is Worth 1000 Words



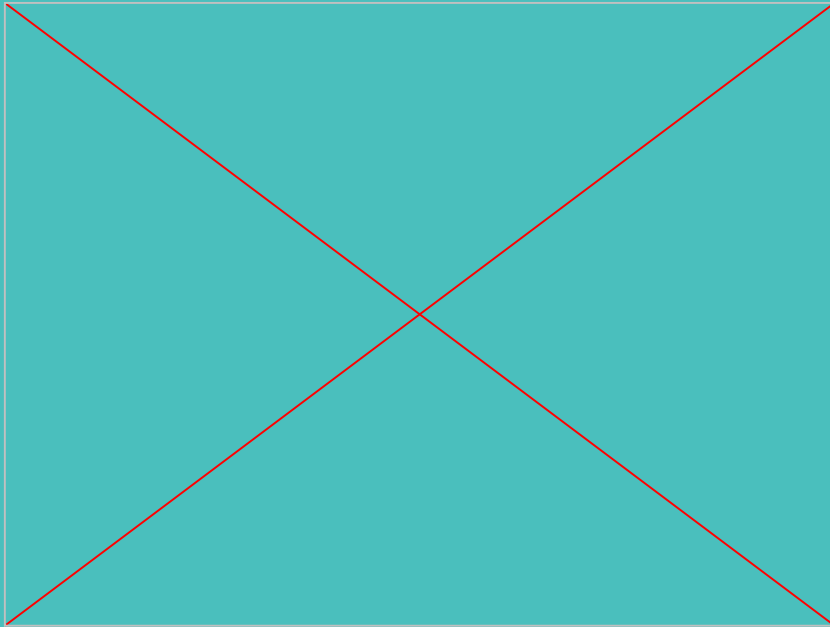
OK



HERO SHOT!

- Good light. Good focus. Horizontal.
- YOU making things

# Save Videos In the **Repository**



- Horizontal
- Short
- No watermark



Week 10: Input Devices

Search

**Assignments**

- Week 1: Project Management & Web Development
- Week 2: Computer-Aided Design
- Week 3: Computer Controlled Cutting
- Week 4: Electronics Production
- Week 5: 3D Printing & Scanning
- Week 6: Electronics Design
- Week 7: Computer-Controlled Machining
- Week 8: Embedded Programming
- Week 9: Mechanical Design & Machine Design
- Week 10: Input Devices
- Week 11: Molding and Casting
- Week 12: Output Devices
- Week 13: Networking and Communications
- Week 14: Interface and Application Programming
- Week 15: Wildcard Week
- Week 16: Applications and Implications
- Week 17: Invention, Intellectual Property, and Income

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0:00 / 0:07

The sketch worked, but not quite exactly as intended. When the magnet waved over the sensor, the light changed state, and stayed that state until the magnet was flipped back over and waved over the sensor again. For the sake of the pill case, I want the state to flip only when



# TIME MANAGEMENT



# Rico Kathatham

Lead Global Instructor  
Skylab Workshop Fab Lab





FAB  
ACADEMY



**Pablo** Nuñez

**Rico** Kanthatham

**Adrián** Torres

# GLOBAL OPEN TIME



You Are **Not** Alone.

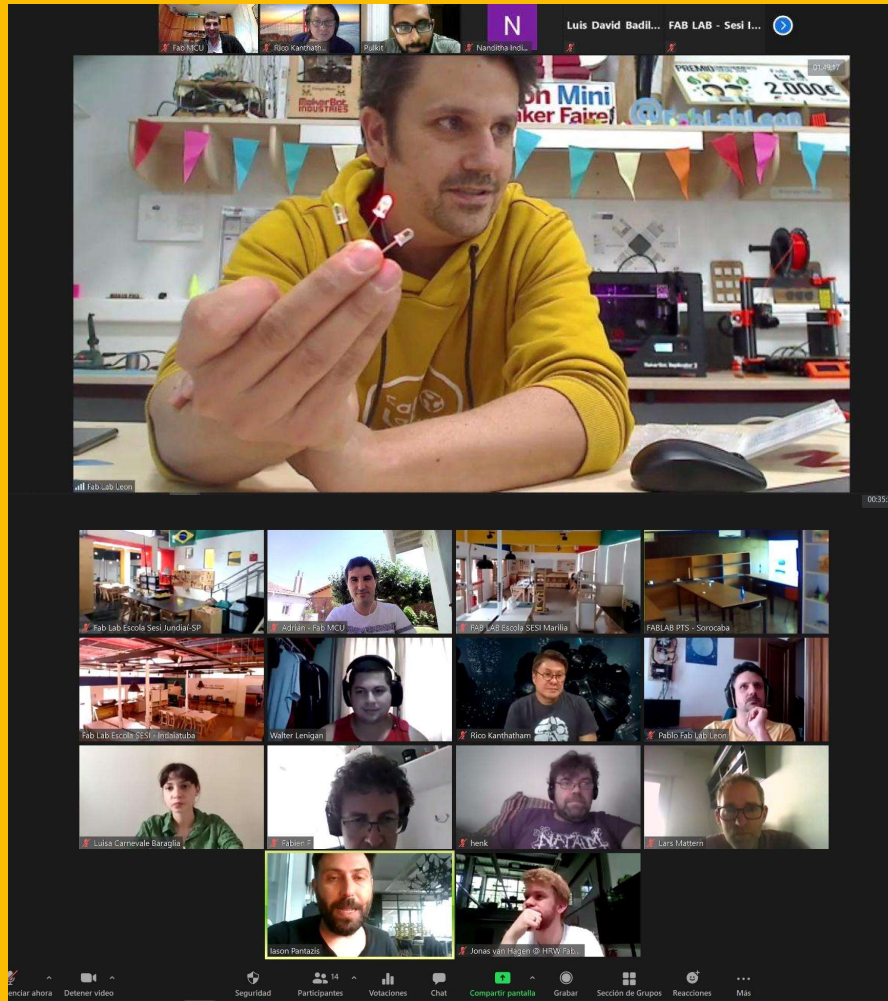


Where **everybody**  
knows your  
name...

and your face :)



# What is Global Open Time?



**10:00AM - 11:00AM EDT**  
**Saturday**  
**Zoom MCU Room**

- Get together with **friends**...in a **fun** place
- Discuss **questions** and **concerns**...find answers...most of the time :)
- Seek advice to **focus** and **redirect** assignments or Final Project

Why is Global Open Time?

**Enjoy** every moment of **your**  
**Fab Academy journey...**  
**We are here for you.**







# MATTERMOS

[chat.academany.org](https://chat.academany.org)

T

How to **CHAT** with **(almost)** anyone.

FIND HIS/HER USER NAME

@something

same as gitlab.fabcloud.org user

**chat.academany.org**

FAB  
ACADEMY



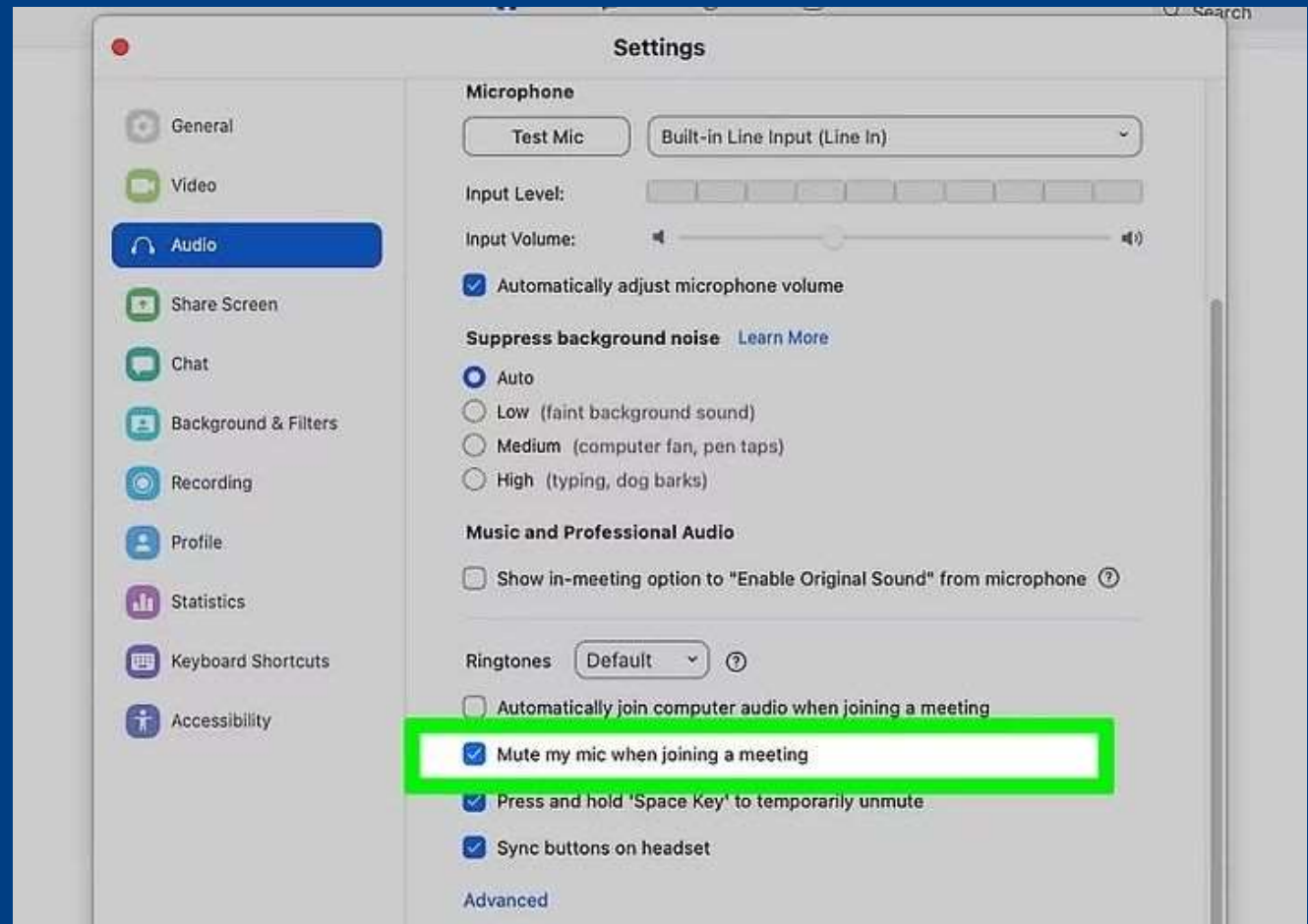
# HOW TO SURVIVE ALMOST ANY ZOO

M

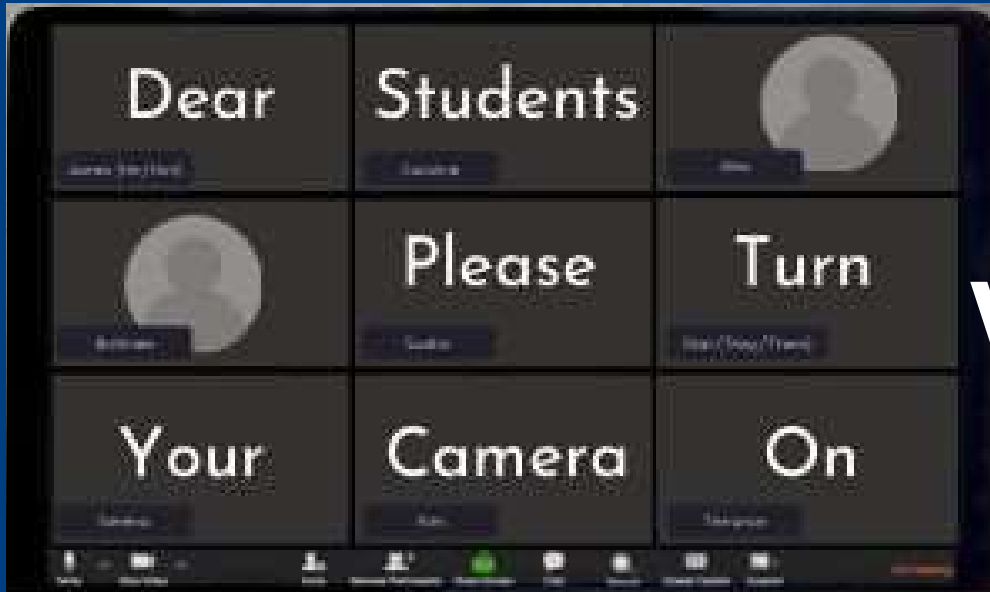
# 1 Enter **ALWAYS** muted.



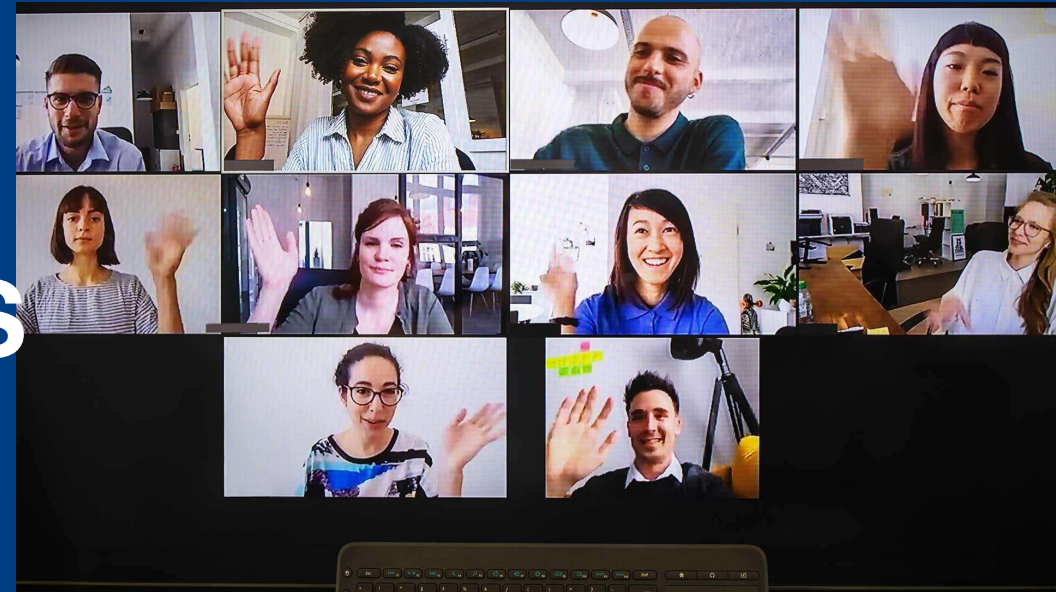
Check all your devices:  
computer, laptop,  
mobile...



# 2 TURN ON *your* camera.



vs



WE ARE A NETWORK OF PEOPLE

3 **SPEAK** slow and clear.



KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
PREPARE FOR  
PUBLIC SPEAKING

# 4 **SAVE** the chat.

