

MCAST foundation students' journey of the 'self' through the Community and Social Responsibility unit:

a micro-ethnographic approach

Degree of relevance
Research background
Research methodology
Research findings
Conclusion

Overview

Even though to date there are several studies which have dealt with the theme of self-awareness, only a fraction of them have investigated whether, and when students deem self-exploration related curriculum to be relevant.

Degree of relevance

Community Social Responsibility

Researcher background

Focus on self awareness theme

Theoretical framework

**Research
background**

Community Social Responsibility

This key skill presents the opportunity for **MQF level 2** learners to explore their **individual** self and their **social** environment whilst also reflecting about **future** goals. Learners will identify and understand different aspects of their personal self, whilst reflecting upon what composes their self-confidence.

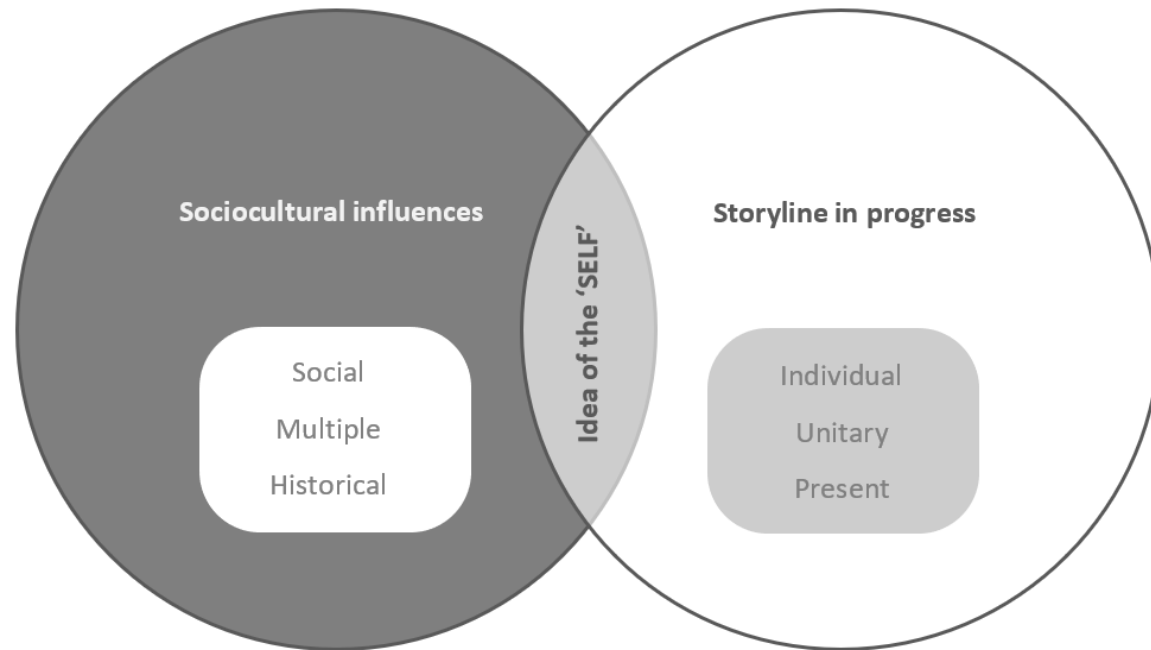
Researcher Background

- Full time MCAST employee for past 12 years
- Coordinated the unit over past 7 years
- At present still coordinates and delivers the unit

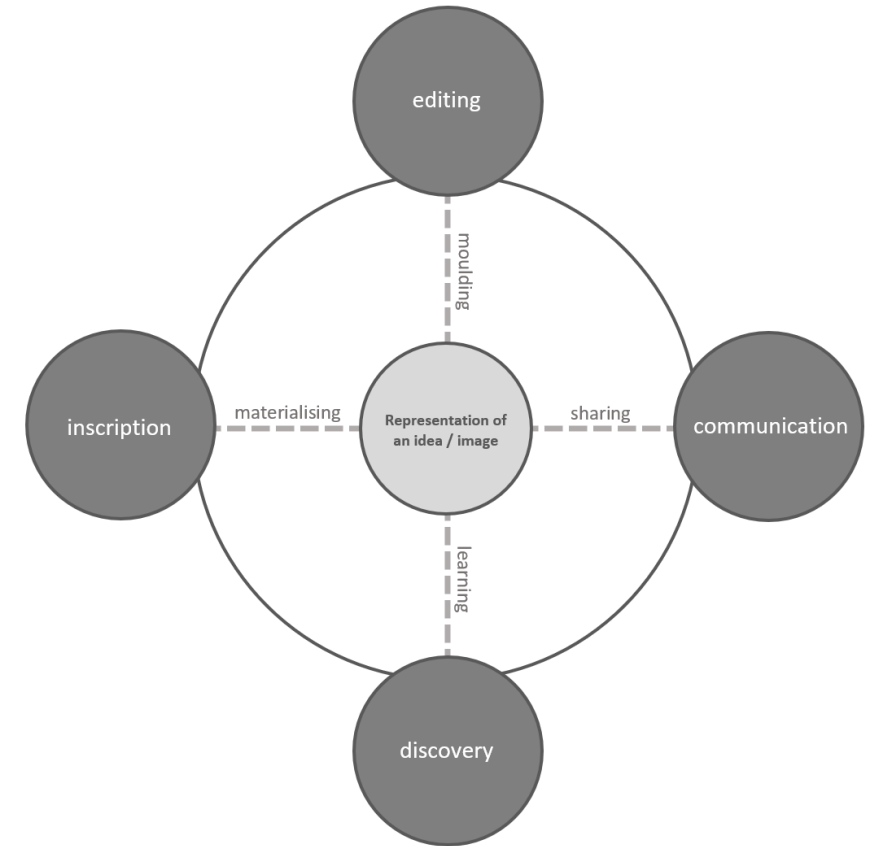
Focus on self awareness theme

- One of the major themes in CSR
- Direct link with the exploration of the 'self'
- Research timeline constraints

Theoretical Framework



The Three Dimensions of Self Awareness – Warin and Muldoon (2009)



The Process of Representation – Eisner (2002)

Micro-ethnography
Semi-structured interviews
Final focus group

Research
methodology

Micro-ethnography

- Convenience sampling
- Overt, active participative approach
- Mental notes
- Full field notes
- Analytic memos

Semi-structured interviews

- Sample obtained from group cohort being observed
- Questions formulated following thematic analysis
- Addressed specific instances (as per analytic memos)
- Questions served as guidelines - flexibility

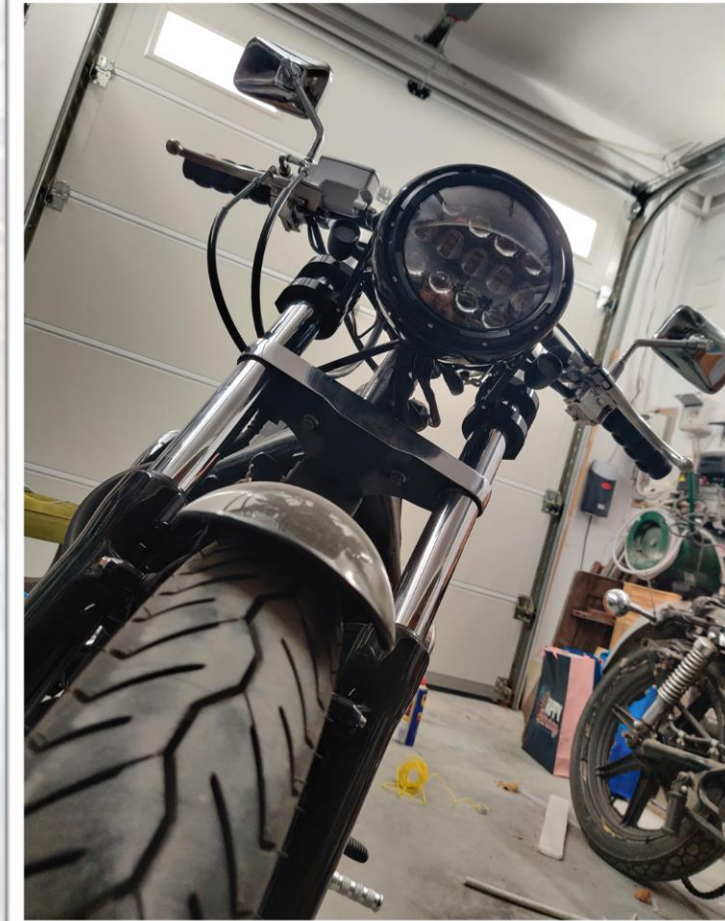
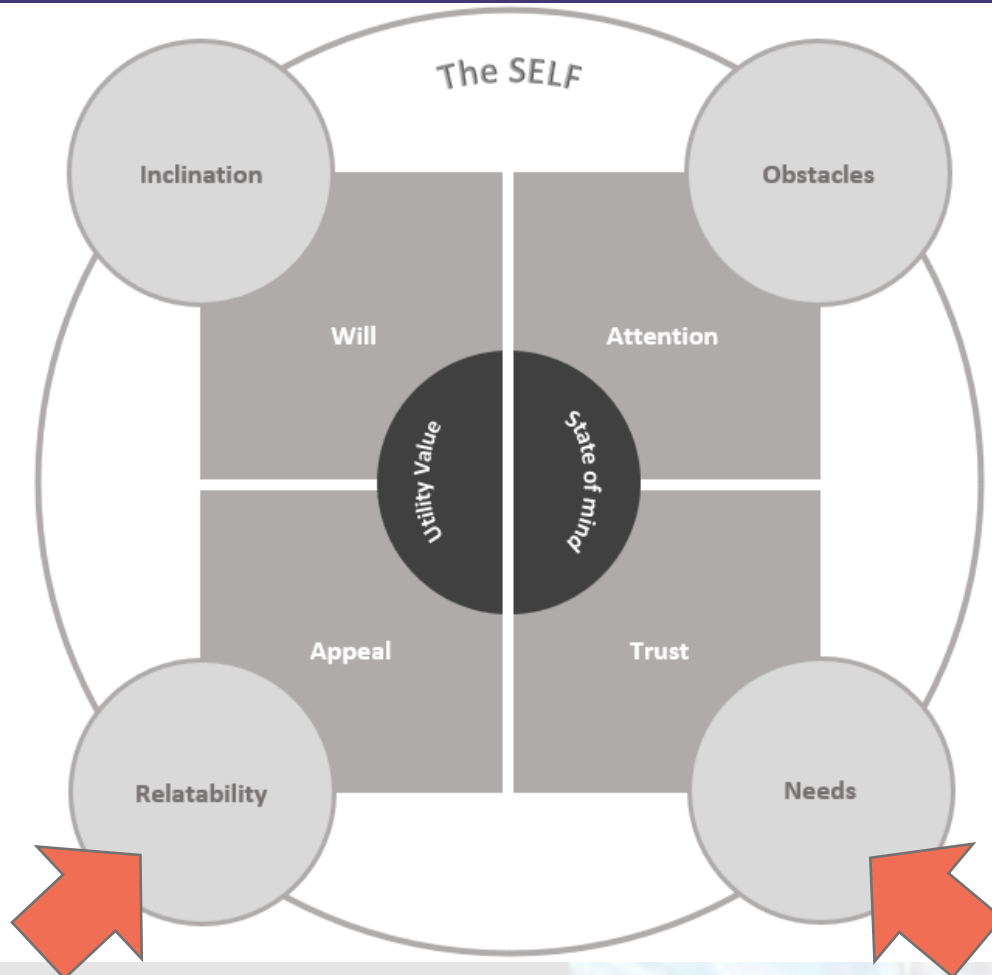
Final focus group

- Conducted on previous interview participants
- Open ended approach
- Questions were based on the elicited themes
- Verified whether results would synch with original conclusions

The results of this study were generated through the compilation and assimilation of primary data, which was attained through the conduction of two diverse and separate data gathering events – data was organised and made sense of, through thematic analysis.

Research findings

The Perception of Relevance Model



The basis for a strong foundation

Communication & Sharing

Eisner (2002)

Instilling Trust & Safety

Maslow (1943)

Supporting the Educators

What is the relevance and impact of self-
exploration related curriculum present
within the Community & Social
Responsibility (CSR) unit upon MCAST
foundation students?

Conclusion

Top references

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Questions