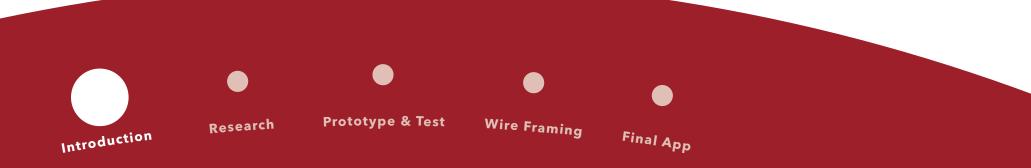
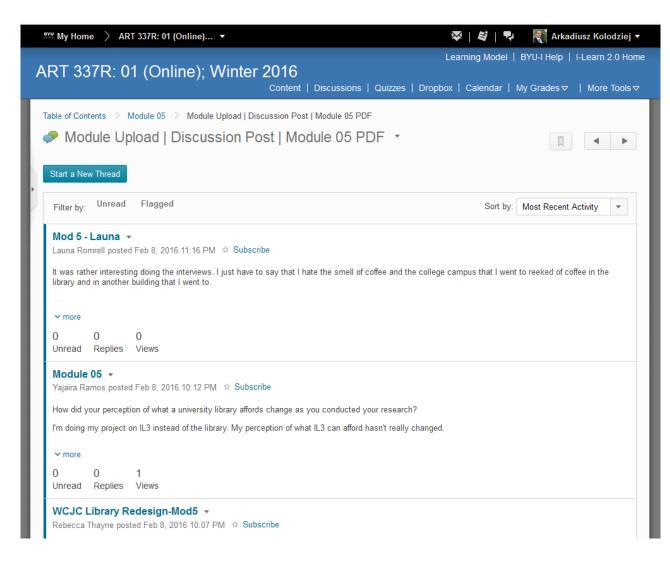
Web Page Project





Web Page | Introduction



Web Page Redesign Project.

Design the interface for a university library website.

Design the homepage, search results pages and three to five additional pages.

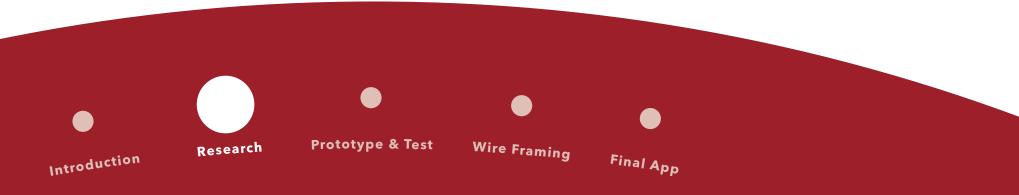
Develop desktop versions of these pages using responsive web principles.

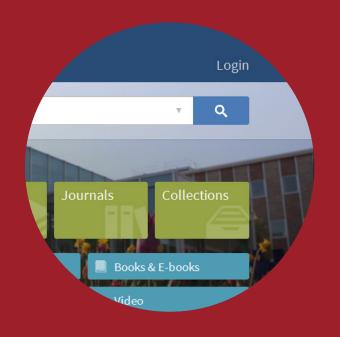
Design for desktop monitor screen size.

Focus specifically on the search function and search results.

Although those are the expectations for the library page project, I will have to adapt those a bit as I chose the I-Learn 3 redesign for this one.

Web Page Project





Web Page | Research

Universities Libraries

Academic libraries serve colleges and universities, their students, staff and faculty. Larger institutions may have several libraries on their campuses dedicated to serving particular schools such as law and science libraries. Many academic librarians become specialists in an area of knowledge and can have faculty status.

Academic libraries must determine a focus for collection development since comprehensive collections are not feasible. Librarians do this by identifying the needs of the faculty and student body, as well as the mission and academic programs of the specific college or university.

When there are particular areas of specialization in academic libraries these are often referred to as niche collections. These collections are often the basis of a special collection department and may include original papers, artwork, and artifacts written or created by a single author or about a specific subject.







Web Page | Research

Search Technology.

Research Guides by Subject: Subject guides are web resources designed by University of Chicago Librarians which provide an overview of resources in a subject area. They include staff contacts, print collections, electronic resources, as well as links to other relevant Web sites. Subject guides are a good place to start when you are beginning research on a specific topic. You can locate subject guides from our Database Finder page or go to our Web site and select Research Guides by Subject.

Google Search Console allows you to not only diagnose the problems on your site but also to report the actions you have taken to solve some of those problems directly to Google so there is a clearer understanding between you two.

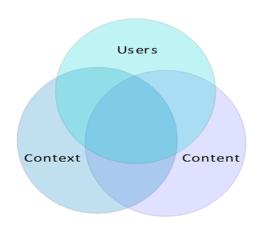
Google Analytics gives you some of the most useful data that you are ever going to get about your visitors and traffic sources. It lets you track the way users access your site, what pages they enter into, where they exit, and all of the sources that drive traffic to your website.

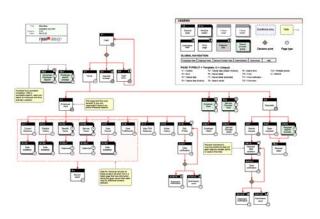
The Google AdWords Keyword Planner gives you related terms, search volume, search trends, and ad cost estimates for any keyword. You can use the Keyword Planner to search based on words or phrases, based on a URL, or based on categories of keywords.

Soovle is a free tool which allows you to type in a search query and displays related search terms in real time as you type. These keywords come from a variety of sources and are ordered by popularity.



Information Architecture | Research





Information architecture (IA) focuses on organizing, structuring, and labeling content in an effective and sustainable way. The goal is to help users find information and complete tasks.

Rosenfeld and Morville referred to this as the "information ecology"

- Context: business goals, funding, politics, culture, technology, resources, constraints
- Content: content objectives, document and data types, volume, existing structure, governance and ownership
- Users: audience, tasks, needs, information-seeking behavior, experience

The Principle of Objects

The idea behind this principle is to treat content as a living, breathing thing with a lifecycle, behaviors, and attributes.

The Principle of Choices

Each extra option means more cognitive effort is required to choose any one option. This principles says to keep choices to a minimum, particularly at the top level of the hierarchy. Wherever possible keep the choices users have to make as few as possible.

The Principle of Disclosures

Progressive disclosure tells us to prevent information overload by only presenting as much information as necessary to complete the given task. We can then present additional information in layers that can be displayed on request.

The Principle of Exemplars

The idea is to describe the contents of a category by showing examples of that content.be displayed on request. Human beings learn by example. Concrete details stick with us more than abstract concepts.

Search Functions | Research

By default the search engine tries to locate pages which have exact matches for all of the words entered in your search query. If that fails, it then tries to locate pages which contain any words in your search query. If that happens a short message is displayed at the top of the search results indicating this has been done. In addition, there are several ways to modify the default search behavior.

The search engine supports three types of phrase search.

- To match an exact phrase, use guotes around the phrase - Example: "free search engine"
- To match a near (within a couple of words) phrase, use square brackets [around the words] - Example: [free search engine]
- To match a far (within several words) phrase, use braces { around the words } -Example: {free search engine}

Other reasearch functions:

Wildcards

Boolean search

Check spelling

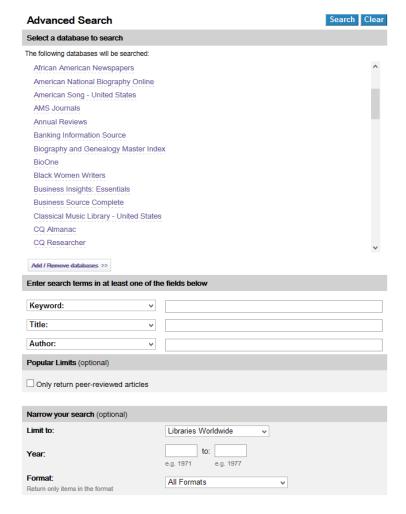
Use multiple words

Use similar words

Use appropriate capitalization

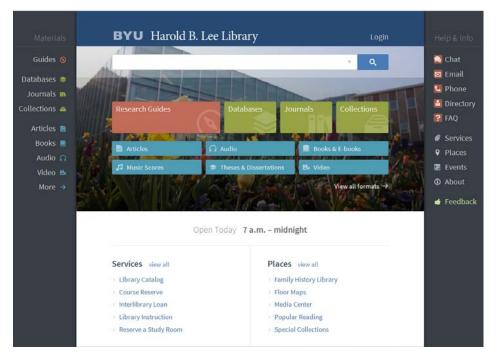
Use quotation marks

Use field searches



Interfaces | Research

I like the clean design of this search page.

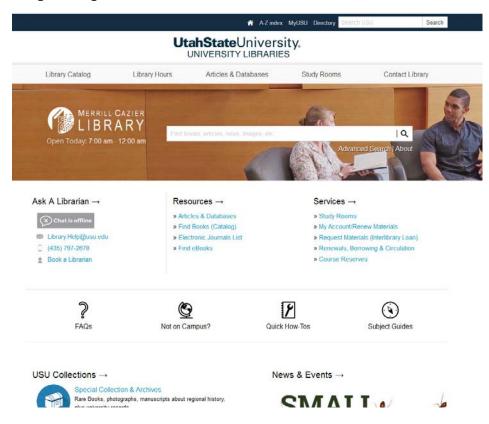


This one is quite busy and contain the information that students probably not even use.

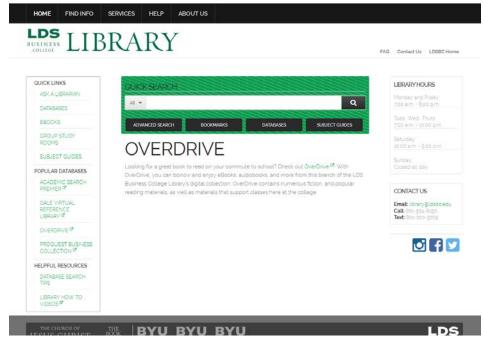


Interfaces | Research

I like the focus placed on the search bar by using the image background.



This one is pretty simple too and also focuses on the search bar.



Interviewee 1

What do you like about I-Learn 3?

I like the way quizzes are set up, minus the annoying false grading thing.

What is one thing that has been frustrating with I-Learn 3?

I have been frustrated with a lot of it but the main thing that frustrates me is how difficult it is to find assignments I need to complete and knowing which ones I have already completed.

What did you like in I-Learn 2 that is now different in I-Learn 3?

In I-Learn 2 all assignments were super easy to find. Everything was on one page and if you needed to complete and assignment you just have to click on the link and it will take straight to that assignment. When the Assignment is complete the item will go away.

What improvements would you suggest for I-Learn 3?

Less focus on the design and more on the user.

Have you used other Online learning environments? If yes, what did you like about those environments that you wish I-Learn 3 had?

no.

Any other comments?

Can we go back to I-learn 2

Interviewee 2

What do you like about I-Learn 3?

I like that you can move from one assignment to another using the arrows at the bottom of the page. This was confusing to me at first, but now I like that I have the option to move through them linearly without having to return back to the main page every time.

I like that the courses are organized in a way where all the instructions are in one location for a lesson, the submit locations are all group together. It makes it easy for me to locate where I need to submit my assignments.

I like that there is a class list. It is nice to be able to have access to email addresses and such for group projects.

I LOVE that it notifies me when someone responds to something I posted. That is one thing I Learn 3 got right with the discussion boards.

What is one thing that has been frustrating with I-Learn 3?

Quizzes have had issues in a few of my classes. Also, I never know where to find the news for my classes unless I click on it through the link provided in the notifications bar in the top right.

I'm not crazy about the discussion boards. While the interface for them looks better, I hate not knowing when someone has posted something unless I have subscribed to that feed. It is really frustrating. I missed some important information in the beginning of the semester because of this. The instructor would respond to a student's question, and I did not even know to look for an answer to the question.

What did you like in I-Learn 2 that is now different in I-Learn 3?

I liked that there was one location with all my upcoming assignments. Because I access I Learn 3 through the links from the I Learn student dashboard from I Learn 2, I never go to the home page in I Learn 3. I automatically go to the page for a specific class.

What improvements would you suggest?

I would change the discussion board format. It was much easier to just drop down the discussion rather than move into a new view.

Have you used other online learning environments? If yes, what did you like about those environments that you wish I-Learn 3 had?

No.

Any other comments?

Nope.

Interviewee 3

What do you like about I-Learn 3?

I like the progress bar that lets you see how much you have left to do for the class for the week. I like that the assignments drop off the calendar once you have submitted them. I know the progress bar kind of makes that need for that void, but I really like being able to look at the homepage and see what is due that day/week and then having it disappear once its done. It's like a to-do list, makes me feel accomplished when I knock something off the viewer.

What is one thing that has been frustrating with I-Learn 3?

Quiz issues;) not having things organized the same way. In 2.0 I can edit a post, I couldn't figure out how to do that just now? I wanted to edit, but I haven't used another online learning environment and I don't know how.

What did you like in I-Learn 2 that is now different in I-Learn 3?

I REALLY like being able to review tests and quizzes after the fact, even days later, to see questions missed and to use as a study tool. I also like the way the grades display the percentages and not just a letter grade, and that you can see instructor comments right there, you don't have to go into your grades and look for the assignment.

Discussion boards are still confusing to me. In 2.0 you can see everyone post and replies. And you can easily get to and from other content. In 3.0 I still haven't figured out how to comment on someone's post and then get back to seeing ALL the posts without completely exiting the discussion board.

What improvements would you suggest?

For sure change the discussion board format.

Have you used other online learning environments? If yes, what did you like about those environments that you wish I-Learn 3 had?

Nope.

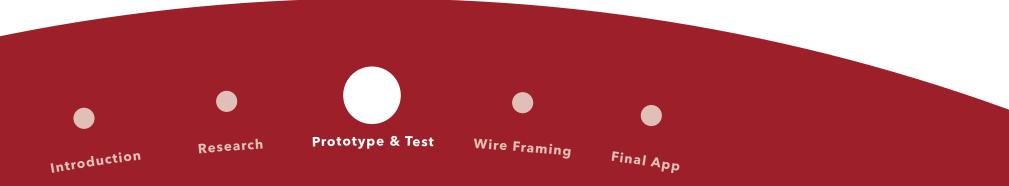
Any other comments?

Nope.

My notes about I-Learn 3

- Not possible to see the test's results after closing it. //it is not easy to find it
- Confusing discussion board
 - o Cannot quickly scan replays to posts like in I-Learn 2
 - It is possible to scan main post, but it takes a lot of time to take a look at the replays, plus the links to the topic are taking the user to the assignment/content page
- Final note forecast is kind of unclear I cannot tell whether improving is possible, and 'what if' calculator is missing (it was in I-Learn 2)
- Read/Take quiz/Instruction page is kind of hard to work with because contain instructions for all of the weeks, thus require a lot of scrolling to the right week. Could you imagine the instructions for the week close to the end of the semester?
- Can't edit uploaded directly to the post images, or cannot find the editing tools should they exist. That feature was very useful in I-Learn 2 to control appearance of the image in the post.

Web Project





Persona | Prototype & Test



Tom Brand.

24 years old, finishing his degree in IT.

Tom is at the beginning of the carrier in decent IT company. After several years of college, he accumulated significant amount of debt which he is determined to pay off now. He needs a way to control amounts and dates of payments. tom is also interested in an app that helps him to set the appropriate strategy to deal with his debt while he will provide for his basic needs.



Kim Kwon

20, Computer Science major.

Kim uses computer technology extensively. She knows a lot about, but this also brings high expectations from both, hardware and software she uses. She prefers minimalistic design and great user experience.



Martiza Coates

21, Public Administration major

Martiza has quite busy life. She has part time job, participate in volunteer program, and she is on the middle of her degree. With all this things, she relies a lot on mobile devices, regularly using her tablet to do the assignments.

Scenarios | Prototype & Test

Scenario 1

You need to log into your I-Learn3 to do this week's assignments. Find current semester (Winter 20016) end and ART337R class, then go to that page.

Scenario 2

In order to succeed with your studies you must check regularly the anouncments and keep up with your schedule.

You have to go to the class page and open the latest annoucement.

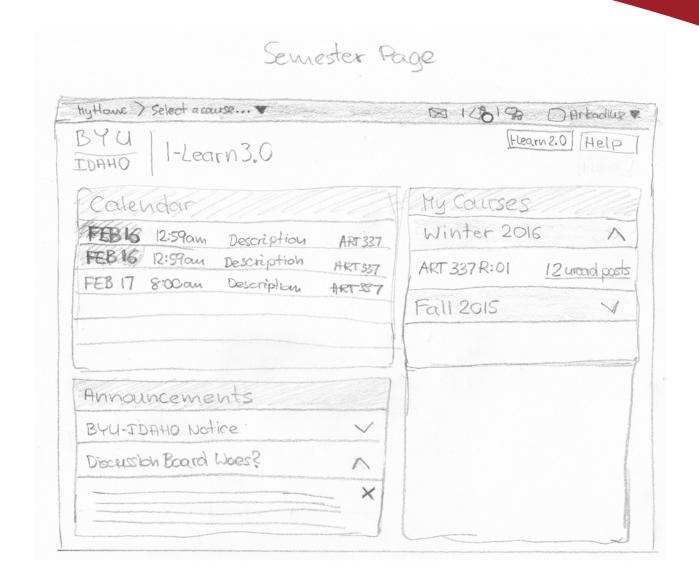
Scenario 3

Discussion boards are an important part of the online learning.

You have to go to the discussion board and respond to the post.

Tests

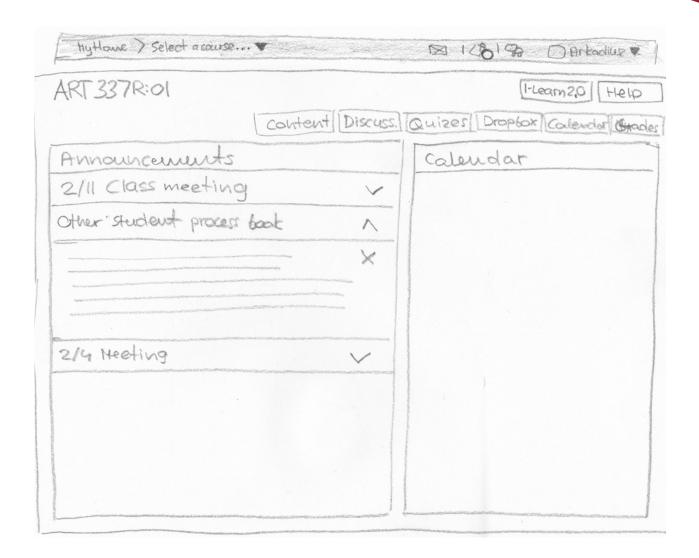
This page was pretty straight forward, but the task wasn't too complicated either. I had a couple of suggestions such as placing dates into the anouncment's headers and include grades window on this page.



Tests

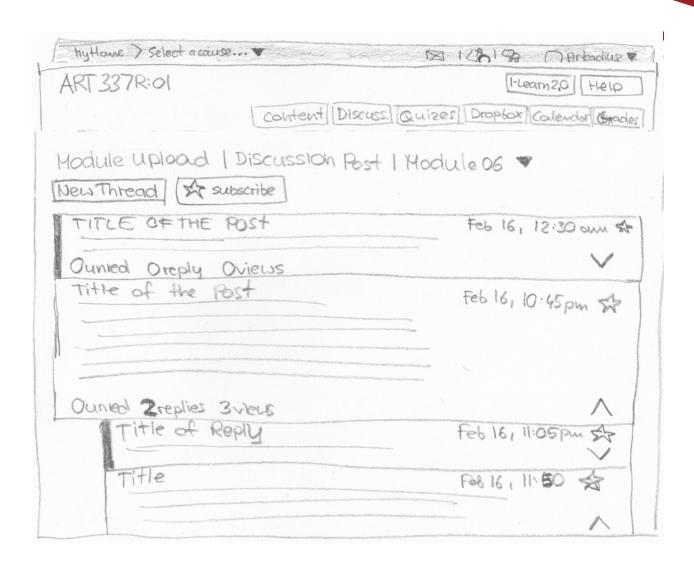
Again here there was no major problems, but there was no date to confirm which post was the latest. This will be something to add when I get to the digital sketches.

I was thinking to add the grades table for this specific class here.



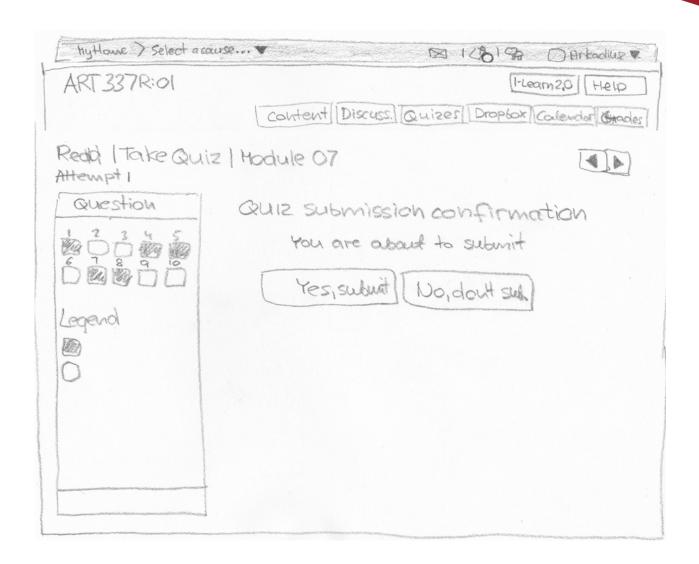
Tests

The major problem here was lack of the button to reply to the post. There is a button to add one, but I overlooked the one for replies. Moreover, the control buttons are spred all over the window, so the suggestion was to group them somehow.



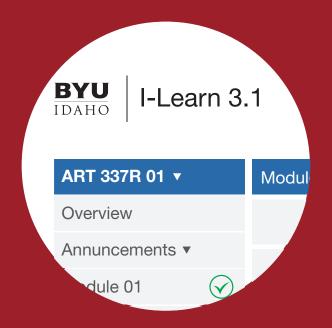
Tests

I wasn't fully ready to test this page, but I wanted to improve the way how the quizzes are submitted. The main problem was that there is a lot of confirmation before the assignment is actually submitted. I believe that most of the steps could be skipped without affecting the process.



Web Project

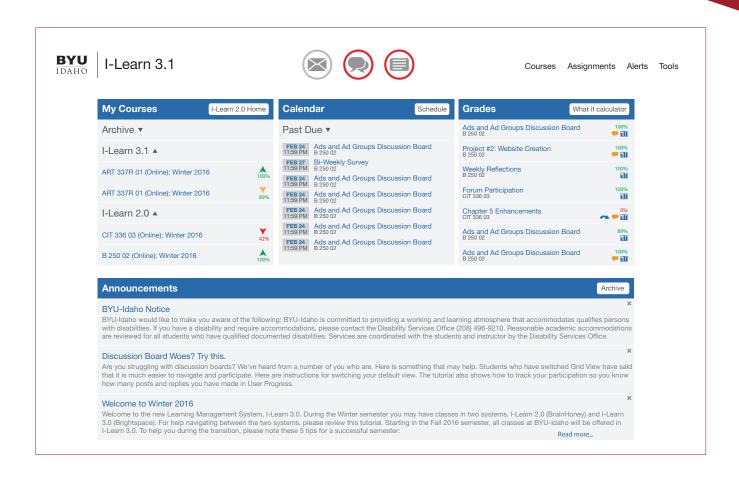




Digital Sketches | Prototype & Test

Tests of the Main Page

Testers easily navigated to the desired destinations. I had some observations that the icons have no additional explanations and the user might not know what they are for at first. After thinking about the issue, I decided that they are not so many to be impossible to memorize their use.

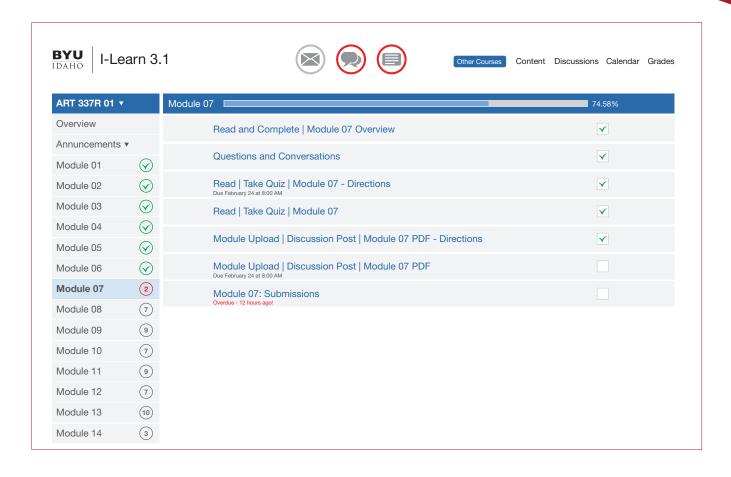


Digital Sketches | Prototype & Test

Tests of the Course Page

Content page was clear to understand as well. I had questions about some functionalities that where available in both I-learns, but are not here. I explained that this is limited functionality prototype, but it still have all the necessary features.

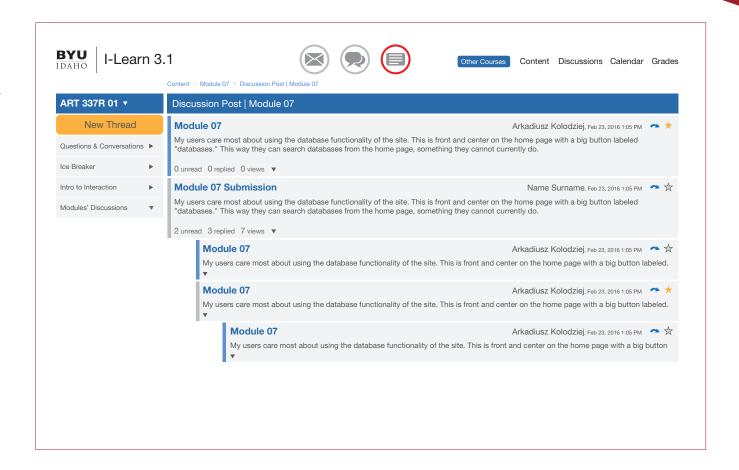
Another observation was to not be able to scan other weeks' folders without going out of the page.



Digital Sketches | Prototype & Test

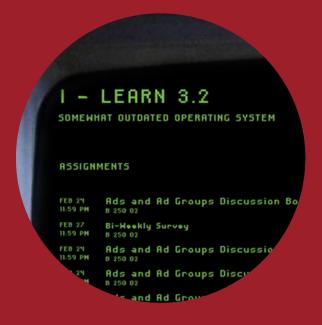
Tests of Discussion Board

Tests showed that it is clear and very understandable interface. Questions that I had were about edit and delete posts, but I will have to design another page to dispaly those.



Web Project





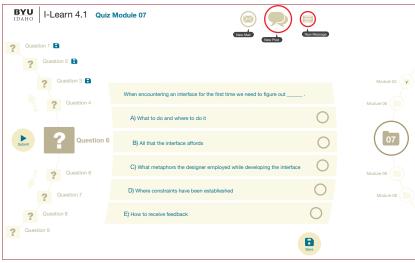
Inspirations

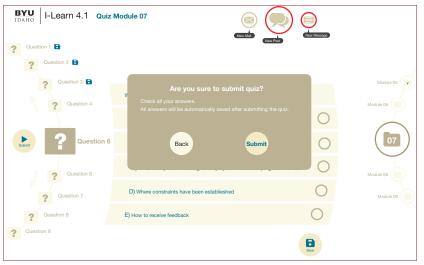
While I was researching and looking for inspirations, I remembered the first screens I ever saw in my life. I reflected on developement of the technology in the last couple of decades. I thought it would be a good idea to remind that.











Final Design

I decided to go over the project and create something completely new.

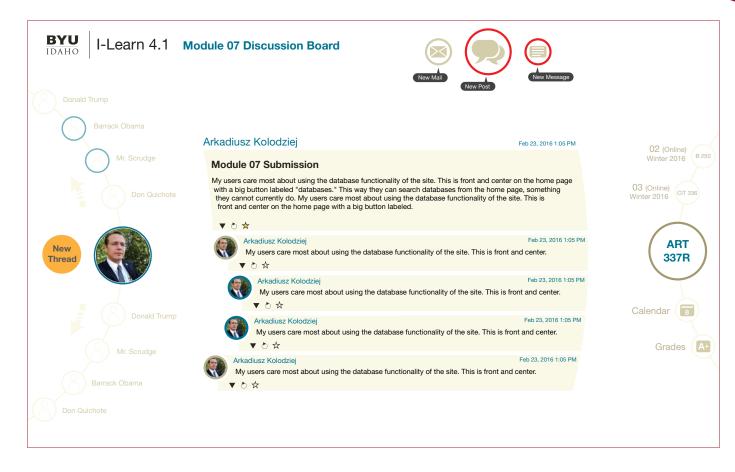
Although it's not totally new design, as some element might look famliar, I tried to create better navigation and layout that focus on the most important task at hand.

Affects of User Testing

I didn't have to much time to test the new version enough to polish all of the details, but it was done.

As a result, I found out that the new navigation system is something that will take some time to get to used to. Problems derived from mistakenly placed pieces of navigation (like in this screen, right navigation should be level down), but this is something easy to correct.

Moreover, user testing reveald that the design could benefit with additional features like edit button for discussion board. All of those details could be adjusted in the next iteration phase.



Final Design

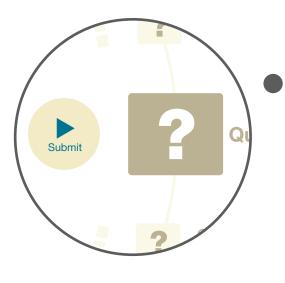
The icons have their description showing up while hovered.

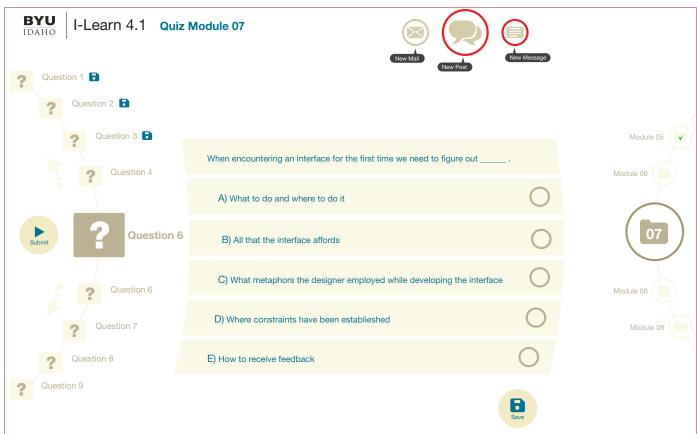




Final Design

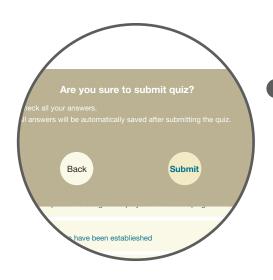
The most important part of the navigation is always emphasize and in the same place on the pages.

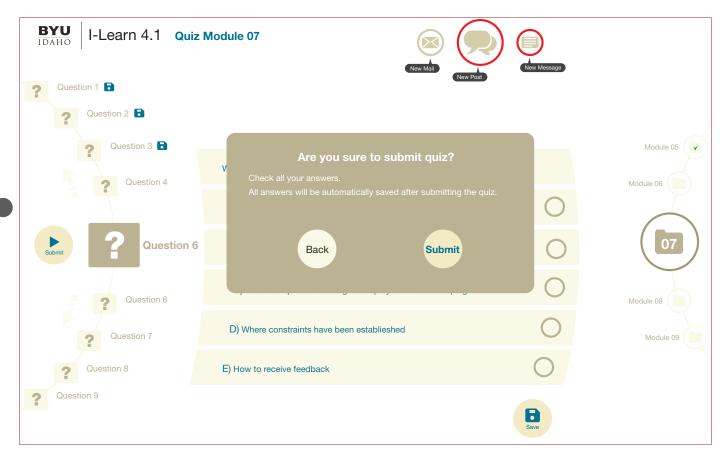




Final Design

I simplified the submission proces to couple of clicks, giving the user warning to check the work.





Final Design

I designed circular navigation and placed one with greater detail on the left side and another more general on the right side.





Final Design

This is a part of detailed navigation.



