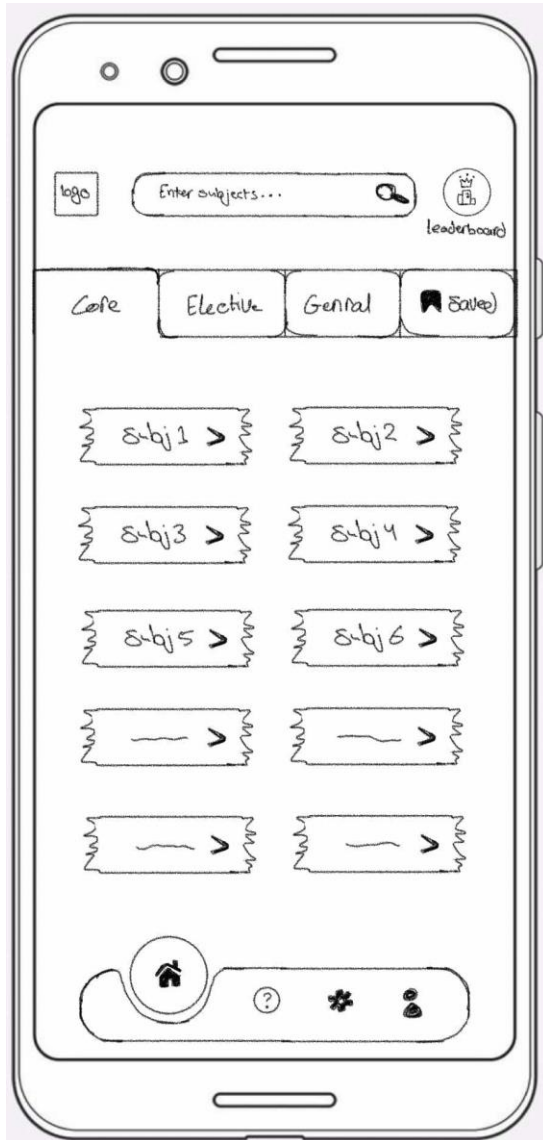


# **From Research to Design: Hand-Drawn Sketches for a University Note-Sharing Platform**

## 1. Home / Subject List Screen



### What is this design about?

The homepage allows students to browse and search for subjects, categorized into **Core**, **Elective**, **General**, and **Saved**.

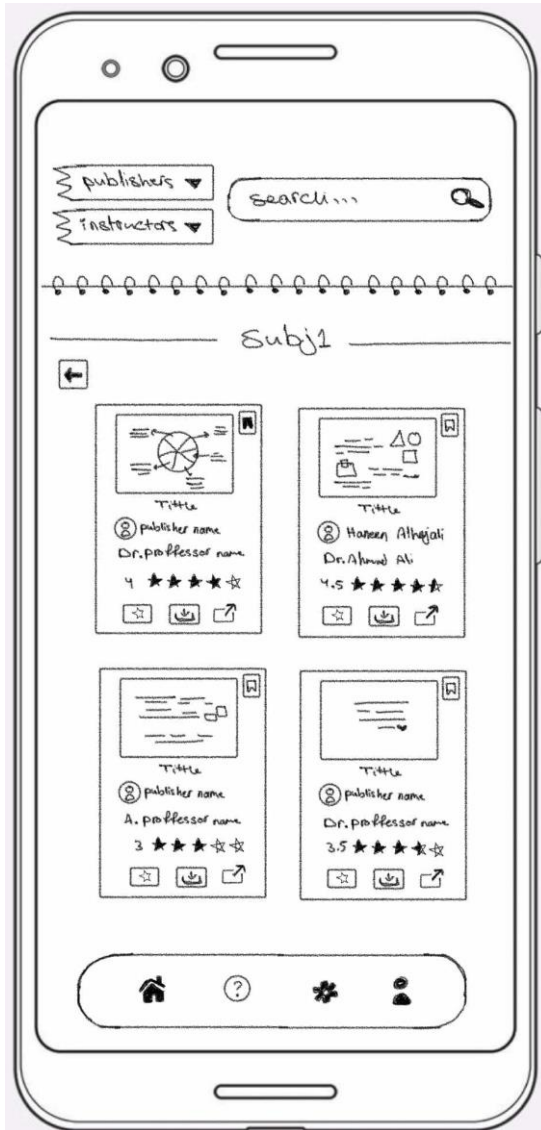
### Key actions users can take:

- Search for subjects.
- Filter by category.
- Select a subject to view notes.

### Design Rationale:

- **Design Principles:**
  - **Reduce Cognitive Load:** The search bar and category buttons simplify navigation, helping users quickly find subjects.
  - **Peripheral Vision:** The leaderboard icon is placed in the top-right corner, a familiar location for notifications, making it easy to notice.
  - **Gestalt Principles:** Category buttons are grouped horizontally, and the subject list uses consistent styling (torn-paper rectangles, arrows) to indicate clickable items.
- **Research Findings:**
  - **Finding #1:** Centralized access to subjects addresses the issue of scattered notes.
  - **Finding #6:** The leaderboard icon (gamification) motivates students to share high-quality notes.

## 2. Notes List Screen for a Selected Subject



### What is this design about?

This screen displays a list of notes for a selected subject. Users can filter notes by publisher or instructor, search for specific notes, and preview/download notes.

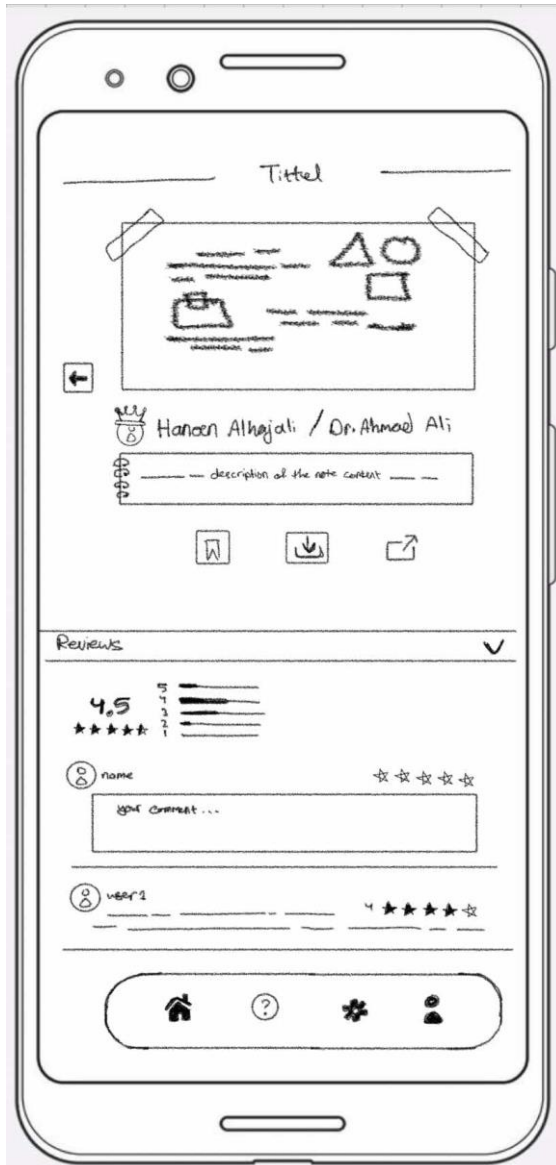
### Key actions users can take:

- Filter notes by publisher or instructor.
- Search for specific notes.
- Preview, download, or bookmark notes.

### Design Rationale:

- **Design Principles:**
  - **Reduce Cognitive Load:** Filters and a grid layout organize notes in a scannable format, reducing the effort needed to browse.
  - **Emotional Design:** Star ratings (e.g., ★ ★ ★ ★ ★) provide a quick visual cue about note quality, creating a positive emotional response.
  - **Gestalt Principles:** Filters and the search bar are grouped together, and note cards use consistent styling (preview image, title, publisher, rating, action icons) for easy scanning.
- **Research Findings:**
  - **Finding #2:** Filters for publishers and instructors, along with ratings, help students find trusted notes.

### 3. Note Details Screen



#### What is this design about?

This screen provides detailed information about a specific note, including its title, author, description, ratings, and reviews. Users can bookmark, download, or open the note.

#### Key actions users can take:

- Preview the note's content.
- Read reviews and ratings.
- Bookmark, download, or open the note.
- Leave a review or rating.

#### Design Rationale:

- **Design Principles:**
  - **Emotional Design:** The crown icon and badge on the author's avatar create trust and recognition.
  - **Gestalt Principles:** The author's name, description, and action buttons are grouped together, showing they are related to the note. Reviews use consistent styling (user's name, star rating, written review) for easy scanning.
- **Research Findings:**
  - **Finding #2:** The author's name and badge/crown icon build trust in the note's quality.
  - **Finding #3:** Reviews and badges encourage students to share notes without fear of judgment.