

POC Project Assignment #2

This assignment is to be completed and submitted individually (i.e., every student submits his/her own unique assignment.) However, please note that the assignment does require you to recruit an additional person to complete a GenderMag walkthrough. This additional person can be a fellow student in the course if you choose. The assignment is due on OLAT by **2.12.2019 at 23:59**. Please submit it in under Assignment #2, NOT in the Dropbox.

ASSIGNMENT TASKS

For this assignment, you are asked to analyze an interface scenario using a simplified version of GenderMag walkthrough method and subsequently reflect upon your findings.

Be sure to download the editable GenderMag walkthrough forms and the customizable ABBY persona sheet from OLAT.

Create a Scenario and Script

- First, select a task or scenario involving an interactive system used for **text editing or document creation**. An example scenario might be “Combine three PDFs of class notes together to create a single PDF using Adobe Acrobat Pro”
- The create a script by breaking down your task into sub-goals
 - e.g., “Subgoal 1: Select the ‘Combine Files into a Single PDF...’ menu item”, “Subgoal 2: Add the first file to the ‘Combine Files’ dialog box”, etc.
- Complete your script by breaking each of your subgoals into individual actions
 - e.g., “Action #1: Click on ‘File’ in the top menu bar”, “Action #2: Scroll down to the ‘Create’ menu option from the File drop down menu”, “Action #3: Scroll down to the ‘Combine Files into a Single PDF...’ item in the sub-menu”, “Action #4: Click to select the ‘Combine Files in to a Single PDF...’ item”
- Edit the ABBY persona (blue text only) as you find appropriate or necessary for your walkthrough
- Prepare the materials for your GenderMag walkthrough by editing the GenderMag Subgoal and Action forms (one form for each subgoal and one form for each action associated with the subgoal). You should fill in the subgoal/action names and numbers, as well as the description of the scenario. Print two sets of the forms.

Complete the GenderMag Walkthrough

- Using the ABBY persona and the forms you have prepared, complete a GenderMag walkthrough by stepping through the script yourself.
- Using the Abby persona and the forms you have prepared, recruit an additional person to complete a GenderMag walkthrough of the same scenario

Report your Findings

- Analyze the results of the two GenderMag walkthroughs and present them in a well-organized report. Your analysis should consider several aspects including (but not limited to):
 - Which subgoals and individual actions that are potentially problematic
 - The relationship between problematic aspects of the interaction and the facets
 - Problematic and/or successful features or aspects of the system's design
 - Other problematic aspects of the interaction or design that are not related to the facets
 - Your overall assessment of the interaction/technology in relation to gender and computing and general usability

DELIVERABLES FOR THE PROJECT

- A brief description of the interface/system and chosen scenario, the Abby persona sheet you used (if you modified it) and description and reasons for any changes you made, brief information about who you recruited to complete the second GenderMag walkthrough
- The two completed GenderMag walkthroughs (preferably copies/scans of the actual completed forms, otherwise the complete responses in a table)
- Report of your analysis of the GenderMag walkthrough (maximum 2000 words)

IMPORTANT TIPS

- You may find it valuable to ask a fellow POC student to complete your second GenderMag walkthrough as they will have familiarity with the facets and will be able to think about them in the course of the walkthrough
- If you do work with another POC student, you are welcome to “swap” – you do a GenderMag walkthrough for their assignment, and they do one for yours. However, you should be sure that the scenarios/interfaces in each of your projects are different, i.e., you should not complete a GenderMag walkthrough for someone else that is the same as or very similar to your own
- Allow your recruited evaluator to do the walkthrough without influencing them. Do not discuss what Abby would do while they are engaging in the walkthrough
- Your script should be clear and explicit enough that there is no question what the evaluator is supposed to do or see – if the evaluator is confused about what to do, you should clarify what the step is
- Your script should be clear and explicit enough that at any given point, there is only one action that the evaluator can take, e.g., the script should specify whether to use “ctrl-S” to save or the “Save” item in a drop down menu; if the script requires someone to enter a search term, you should specify

exactly what search term to enter and how to type it into the search box, rather than writing something vague like, “search for books about rodents”

- **Keep in mind, the point of the walkthrough is not to test whether the evaluator can figure out the correct interaction; the point is to tell the evaluator exactly what to do via the script, and for the evaluator to then assess whether and how ABBY would engage in the scenario**
- It is recommended that you select a scenario that is sufficiently complex that you could discover something interesting but is still coherent and tractable. We recommend you select a scenario with a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 6 subgoals, depending on the complexity of your subgoals (i.e., how many actions the subgoals entail.)
- Although the focus of your analysis should be on the five GenderMag facets and gender inclusivity, you are welcome to incorporate other concepts from class in your analysis as well