Throughout this course, you and your peers will create a community where you can ask each other questions, share ideas, and build your skills together. In your initial post for this discussion, introduce yourself to your peers and explain your goals for this course. Then, describe one of your favorite mobile applications. Address the following in your initial post:

* What app did you select?
* What needs does the app address?
* What features does the app have?
* How intuitive is it for the user to move from one screen to another?
* Would you recommend any changes for the app? How would those changes improve the user experience?

In response to your peers, consider the following:

* Do you also use the apps they selected? Why or why not?
* Are there similar design elements between the app you chose and the apps your peers discussed?
* When reviewing your peers' recommendations for changes, are there any additional ways the app could be updated to make the experience better for a user?

My name is Jamar Sampson, returning to school nearly a decade later to earn my bachelor’s in computer science with a concentration in software engineering. I started my learning majoring in computer engineering but found it more to my liking & availability with the online curriculum to switch to computer science. I’m a pretty big gamer, or maybe I just enjoy using electronics without all the rhyme or reason. I just recently managed to secure a 5090 through a raffle and will be learning to use Blender for animations.

The app I chose to use is one that many people have or had access to is Discord. I’ve started using it nearly daily now. It’s allowed me to connect with others who share a common interest and talk freely at times. Helped lead me to getting a shot at the raffle too, some networking for computer science opportunities, and just finding people that just share knowledge. The app has different severs that can be set up with channels to designed text discussions, voice calls & groups that promote communication. It could be used for coordinating projects, socializing, & share information in real time.

Having it function among many platforms is also a plus. I have it on windows, mac, & android, keeping me connected and available at the drop of a hat. Settings like Microsoft teams allows you to set a status, screen sharing, and streaming of content. Moderation bots can be set up to enable a safe place for expected content, moderate discussions at security levels, & offer music streaming, or event reminders.

Some challenges might arise from getting used to the app, as it presents you with a multitude of options right out the gate, a navigation bar at the bottom, & nearly endless customization options. Channel roles, notifications, permissions, & timeout settings take a while to get used to. Some better tutorial options when using the app, or access tutorial area would be great. Global priority or singular focus options would help control how many notifications are received. Mayne some personal user message functionality would help readability in large groups, as text can fly quickly. Still, I find Discord an app I’ll be using a bunch in the future.

Afternoon Anthony,  
  
 I’ve got a friend who uses YouTube music, screen off and all. I personally don’t think the YouTube music is high enough quality, but I’m a bit picky when I fine tune. Less now than I was as a kid.

While I don’t use YouTube Music myself, I’m a regular Tidal user, and both apps share some common ground, like clean interfaces, personalized recommendations, and strong search functionality. However, they cater to different audiences—YouTube Music shines with its YouTube integration, offering live performances and video content, while Tidal focuses on high-quality audio and exclusive releases for audiophiles. Your suggestions for improving YouTube Music, like smoother offline transitions and genre-specific playlists, are spot on and would definitely enhance the user experience. It will probably come as it gains a few more years under its belt in comparison to some longer standing apps.

I’ve chosen Tidal as my streaming app of choices, which seems ok for what it is. I’m not too much into the live concerts, of video playback, some songs take longer to be added to the library than other platforms, and items are more likely to be deleted or paused from playlists on copyright. YouTube music doesn’t seem to have that as the music is essentially screen off video files, and they can don’t take down as often. Your ideas, such as better cross-device syncing and adding social features, could make YouTube Music even more competitive. It’s exciting to see how apps evolve to meet user needs, and your insights reflect a keen understanding of what makes a great app. Best of luck finishing your degree by August, your analytical mindset will surely take you far in software engineering!

Morning Brice, hope you had a great night’s rest!

Ok, no more puns. I’ve never heard of the SLEEP app before. I’ve used white noise on the music app Tidal to assist with sleep just because I drift off easier. I’ve started using the new Samsung watch, which has sleep tracking built in, along with a bunch of other health features that work decently in an ecosystem. Since I’ve started using it and incorporating the feedback, it’s helped my daily life greatly.

I’m assuming that the app Sleep is more tailored towards its primary function rather than being all around. Which it probably specializes better. I have an sleep suggestion on times I should sleep and stay sleep, but I think it would be much better if I could have a dedicated sleep timer that informs me when to sleep. Also, there is no sleep integration in the Samsung Health app, or with Tidal. So, there is always a downside. Would love to learn more about it.