

Research Proposal

Decoding Nature

Maya Lee

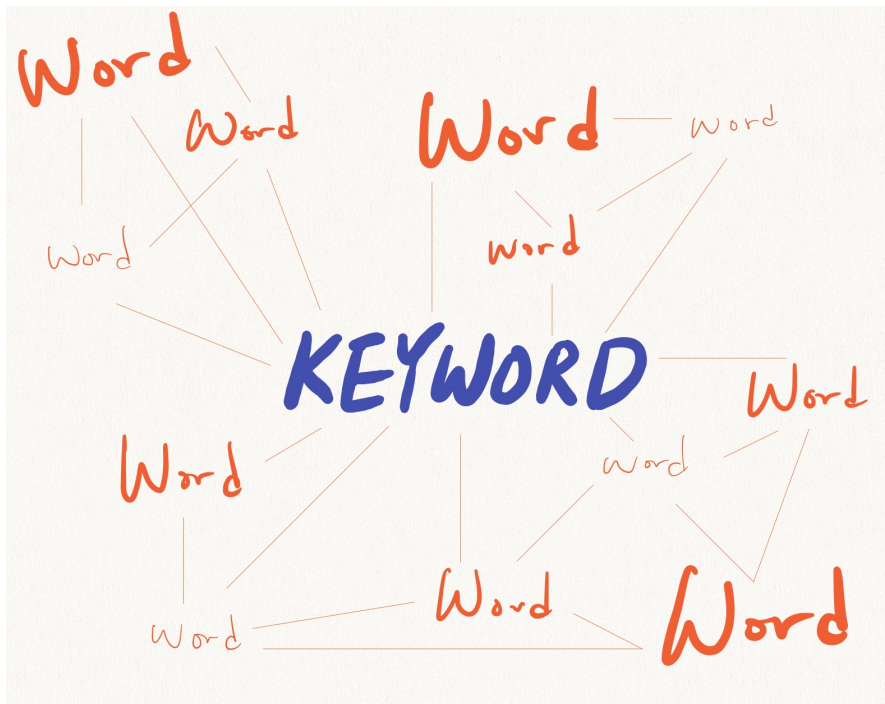
Background

It is a fact that New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) is a diverse community. We, our student body, have different interests, majors, and aspirations. We pay attention to different social issues, stand on different parts of the spectrum in the debate, and bring up different solutions. While every piece of opinion is important in that it can be the start of making a change, it is hard to keep track of all the discussions and ideas because of their activeness and liveliness- new talks are created every day and they last for a long time in our community.

So, in this project, we throw different key words around long lasting or rising social issues or and allow the NYUAD student body to input words and concepts that come to their mind. With this project, we will be able to draw a mind map of the whole population's thought, helping us realize and understand where we, as a whole, are standing.

Project Description

A display screen will show a mind map of different words, which will be portrayed by floating texts connected with lines. Please refer to the sketch below.



With the keyword displayed at the middle of the screen, the users will be able to input one word that comes to their mind related to the keyword. When the input word is given for the

first time, it will appear on the screen with a smaller font. With each repetition of the same input, meaning if an input word is mentioned again and again by other users, the size of the words will get bigger, making it more and more visible.

With this project, users of this project will be able to see how rest of the student body thinks about different topics.

Project Technology and Implementation

The main screen will display a keyword in the middle of the screen. Depending on whether the user is to first to give input or not, there will be other inputs floating around the keyword.

User will be able to give a single word that comes to their mind when they see the keyword in the middle of the screen. How this will be done is still under consideration. One way to do it is have users type in their words directly into the screen and the other way to do it is to have a QR code in the screen and allow users to input the words through a separate link.

These keywords will be refreshed every 3 minutes. After 3 minutes, the user will meet another keyword. There will be buttons or links to allow users to switch to another keyword if they wish to, even if it hasn't been 3 minutes.

Expected Challenges

As much as this project sounds interesting, there will be a lot of effort and time required. For each keyword, there will have to be either a switch function to turn off all other screens and show only one, or have one html link for each keywords and connect them through buttons.

Also, we will need to consider how to handle inputs when there are too many inputs or a lack of inputs. Will it generate on its own if we lack inputs? If we have overflowing amount of input, will it delete everything and restart? These will be questions to think about and tackle.