PROJECT DESCRIPTION

AcademiX is an all-in-one student platform designed to tackle the critical challenges of online learning. Developed by Team FLUX, AcademiX aims to streamline the educational experience by offering a comprehensive suite of tools to help students stay organized, reduce stress, and enhance productivity. Our platform integrates essential features to ensure students can effectively manage their academic responsibilities while fostering a collaborative and supportive online community.

REQUIREMENTS SUMMARY

System Requirements

- **Operating System (OS):**
  Minimum: Android Pie (Android 9.0) or later, iOS 12 or later
  Recommended: Android 11 or later, iOS 14 or later
  To ensure compatibility and access to the latest features and security updates, we support Android Pie (9.0) and iOS 12 as the minimum versions. However, for an optimal experience, we recommend using Android 11 or later, and iOS 14 or later.
- **Memory (RAM):**
  Minimum: 2GB RAM
  Recommended: 4GB RAM
  A minimum of 2GB RAM is necessary for basic app functionality and responsiveness. For an enhanced and smooth user experience, especially with multitasking and resource-intensive features, we strongly recommend 4GB RAM.
- **Storage Space:**
  Minimum: 300MB of free storage
  Recommended: 600MB of free storage
  AcademiX needs at least 300MB of free storage space for installation and basic operations, including saving notes and downloading course materials. For optimal performance and to comfortably accommodate future updates and additional resources, 600MB of free storage is recommended.
- **Bandwidth:**
  Minimum: 300 kbps
  Recommended: 500 kbps or higher
  To ensure smooth loading of content and uninterrupted connectivity for features like video calls and real-time collaboration, a minimum internet speed of 300 kbps is required. For a more seamless experience, especially during high-demand tasks such

as streaming video lectures or uploading assignments, a speed of 500 kbps or higher is recommended.

- **Screen Resolution:**
  Minimum: 720 x 1280 pixels
  Recommended: 1080 x 1920 pixels
  To ensure that all interface elements are clearly visible and easy to interact with, a minimum screen resolution of 720 x 1280 pixels is necessary. For a more comfortable and visually appealing experience, particularly when reading text and viewing detailed content, a resolution of 1080 x 1920 pixels is recommended.
- **Processor:**
  Minimum: Dual-core processor
  Recommended: Quad-core processor or better
  A dual-core processor is sufficient to handle basic functionalities of AcademiX, such as navigating the interface, accessing course materials, and using the calendar. For better performance, particularly when engaging in more resource-intensive activities like group video calls or interactive simulations, a quad-core processor or better is recommended.
- **Additional Requirements:**
  Camera: Front-facing camera with a minimum of 5 MP for video conferencing and collaborative features.
  Microphone and Speakers: Integrated or external microphone and speakers for clear audio during video calls and collaborative sessions.
  Battery Life: Minimum battery capacity of 3000 mAh to ensure adequate usage time without frequent recharging.

Prototype Description

This Figma prototype showcases AcademiX, a new student platform designed by Team FLUX. AcademiX tackles challenges faced in online learning by offering a suite of tools to help students stay organized, manage workload, and connect with classmates. Explore the prototype to see how AcademiX can enhance your online learning experience.

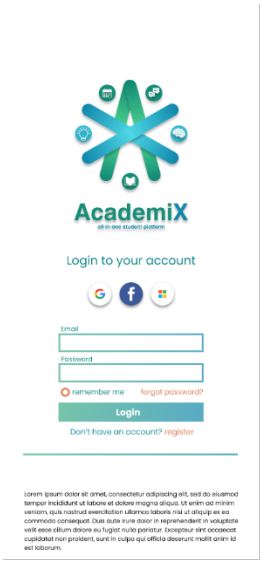
AcademiX Figma Link: Page 1 - AcademiX (figma.com)

User Scenario

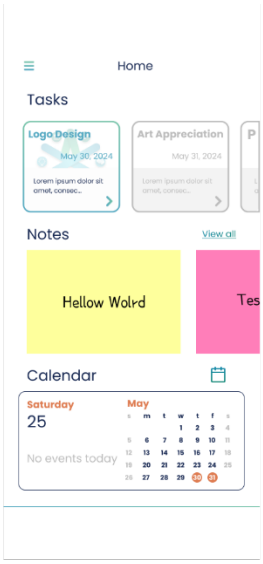
Zach and Ken have been struggling with keeping track of their assignments and managing group projects. This disorganization has started to impact their grades and increase their stress levels. They often miss deadlines because they forget to check multiple platforms for updates and notifications.

One afternoon, Zach's friend, Kat mentioned an app called AcademiX that she uses to stay organized. Intrigued, Zach downloaded the app and started exploring its features. Zach quickly realized that AcademiX integrated all their course notifications, task management, and collaboration tools in one place, making it easier to stay on top of their academic responsibilities. Excited by this discovery, Jamie shared the app with Ken, who also found it immensely helpful.

AcademiX Mock-up/Prototype

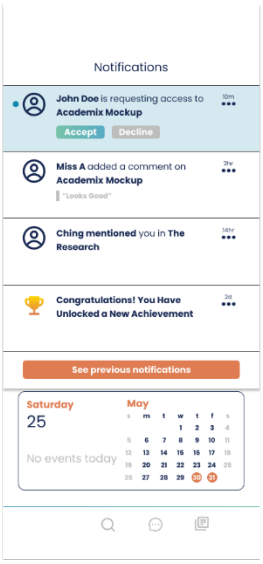


Login



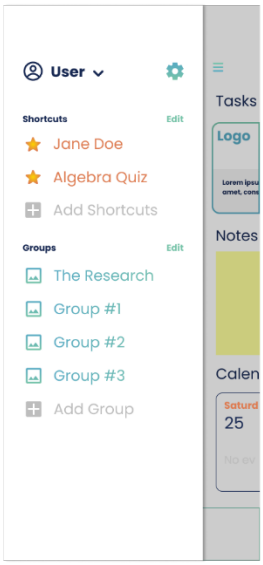
Home

Tasks

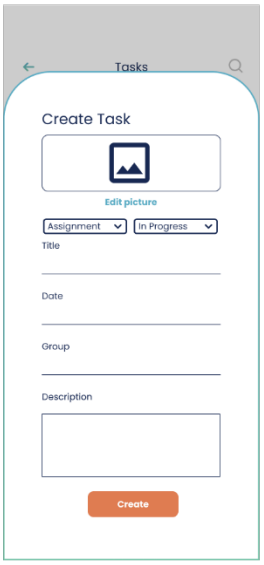


Notifications Preview

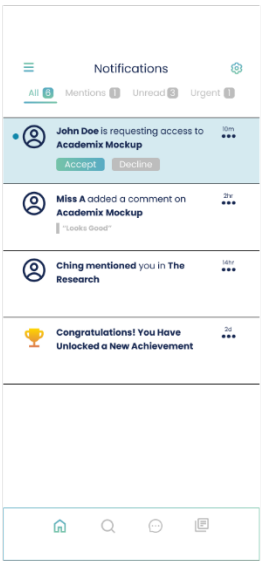
Tutorial



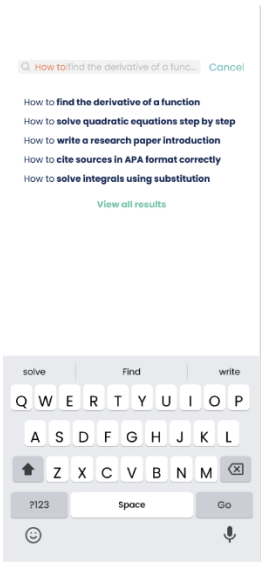
Sidebar



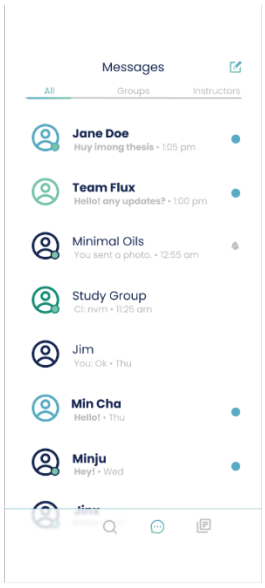
Add task



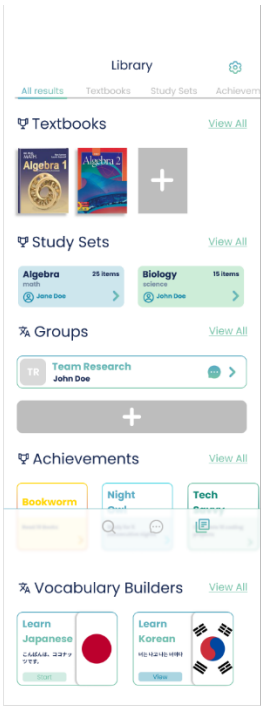
Notifications



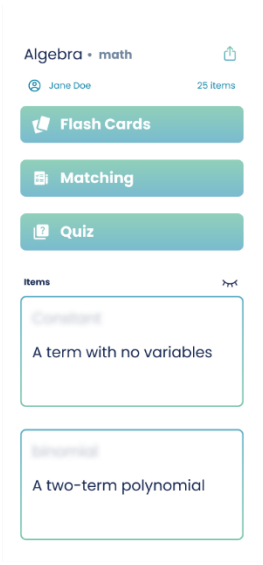
Search



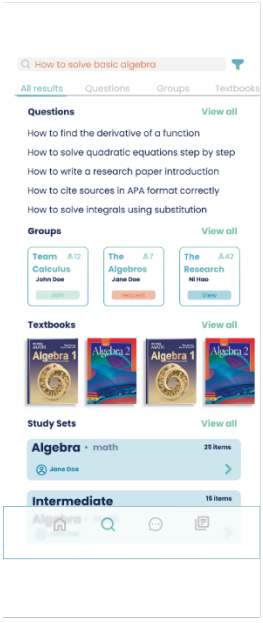
Messages



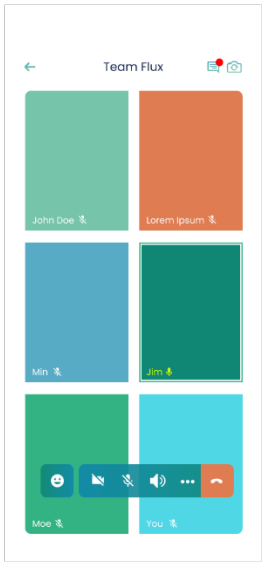
Library



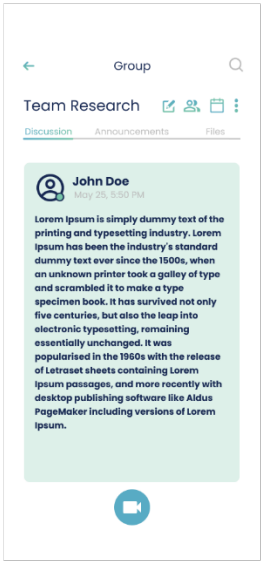
Study Set



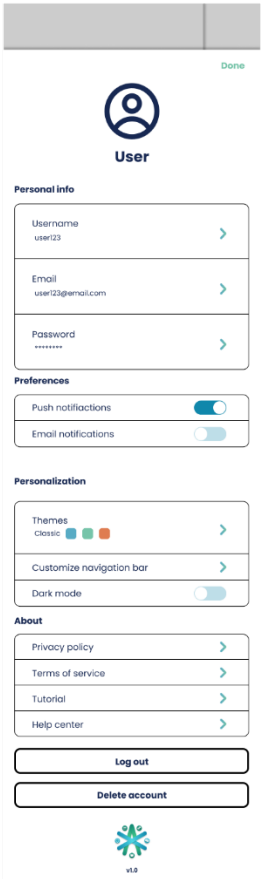
Search All Results



Call



Group



Settings

INITIAL EVALUATION PLAN

Given the nature of AcademiX as an educational platform designed to enhance online learning, our evaluation plan is structured to ensure comprehensive assessment of its usability and effectiveness. The evaluation will employ structured surveys, heuristic evaluation, and task analysis to gather insights and feedback from users.

Usability Specifications:

AcademiX will be evaluated based on the following usability metrics:

Effectiveness: Measure how well users can accomplish tasks such as accessing course materials, managing assignments, and collaborating with peers.

Efficiency: Evaluate the ease and speed with which users navigate the platform, perform tasks, and find information.

Utility: Assess the platform's ability to support diverse educational functions and meet user needs effectively.

Learnability: Determine how easily new users can understand and start using AcademiX without extensive training.

Memorability: Evaluate how well users can remember how to use the platform after initial training or periods of non-use.

Population:

We will engage a diverse group of 20 students from various academic disciplines and familiarity levels with online learning platforms. This cohort represents the intended user base of AcademiX and will provide insights into its usability across different user profiles.

Task Analysis

Task analysis of AcademiX involved a detailed deconstruction of its functionalities into specific tasks to evaluate their usability, complexity, and user interaction dynamics. Each task was systematically analyzed to identify potential usability barriers and areas for improvement, ensuring a user-centric design approach.

Login Process:

Complexity: The login process involves entering credentials and navigating any authentication protocols. It was found to be straightforward but could benefit from streamlined password recovery options to reduce user frustration.

Frequency: Users engage in the login process multiple times daily, emphasizing the need for efficiency and ease of use.

Usability Barriers: Occasional issues with forgotten passwords highlighted the importance of intuitive password reset mechanisms.

Accessing Resources:

Complexity: Users navigate through course materials, requiring efficient search and retrieval functionalities.

Frequency: Accessing resources is a frequent task for users across various academic contexts.

Usability Barriers: Some users desired improved search capabilities for quicker access to specific materials, suggesting enhancements in information retrieval mechanisms.

Task Management:

Complexity: Creating and managing tasks involves functionalities such as task creation, editing, and tracking.

Frequency: Task management is a daily activity for users to organize their academic responsibilities.

Usability Barriers: Integration of calendar sync functionality was suggested to enhance task tracking and management efficiency.

Collaboration:

Complexity: Collaborative features include group interactions, communication tools, and shared document editing.

Frequency: Collaborative activities occur regularly as part of group projects and discussions.

Usability Barriers: Users appreciated the seamless interactions but desired additional features like a quick emoticon bar for easier reactions during discussions.

Reviewing Feedback:

Complexity: Feedback review involves accessing and responding to feedback provided by instructors and peers.

Frequency: Users frequently review feedback to improve their understanding and performance.

Usability Barriers: Enhancements in feedback visibility within the platform interface were suggested for quicker access and actionable insights.

The task analysis of AcademiX underscored the importance of enhancing specific functionalities to improve overall usability and user experience. By addressing identified usability barriers and integrating user feedback, AcademiX can optimize its design to better support the educational needs of its users. This granular analysis provided valuable insights into the user journey, guiding iterative improvements and ensuring AcademiX remains a user-friendly and effective educational platform.

Heuristic Evaluation:

AcademiX will undergo heuristic evaluation based on established usability principles:

1. **Visibility of System Status:** Ensure users are consistently informed of their current activities and system status.
2. **Match Between System and Real World:** Use terminology and navigation that aligns with users' expectations and mental models.
3. **User Control and Freedom:** Provide clear paths to undo actions and exit states to enhance user control.

4. **Consistency and Standards:** Maintain uniformity in design and interactions to reduce cognitive load and user confusion.
5. **Error Prevention:** Implement proactive error messages and validation checks to prevent user mistakes.
6. **Recognition Over Recall:** Display relevant information contextually to reduce the need for users to recall information from memory.
7. **Flexibility and Efficiency of Use:** Customize user interactions to accommodate both novice and experienced users.
8. **Aesthetic and Minimalist Design:** Present information in a visually clear and uncluttered manner to maintain user focus.
9. **Help Users Recognize, Diagnose, and Recover from Errors:** Provide clear error messages and resolutions to guide users in error recovery.
10. **Help and Documentation:** Ensure easy access to help resources and documentation to assist users in navigating the platform effectively.

Participant Survey and Feedback:

Following prototype interaction, data will be gathered using structured surveys designed to capture quantitative and qualitative feedback from users. The survey will include specific questions to assess user satisfaction, feature effectiveness, and overall usability of AcademiX.

Ease of Use:

Quantitative: Participants will rate the ease of navigating AcademiX on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 indicating highly user-friendly.

Qualitative: Open-ended questions will inquire about specific challenges encountered during navigation and suggestions for improvement.

Performance in Task Management:

Quantitative: Participants will evaluate the efficiency of task creation, editing, and tracking using a structured scale.

Qualitative: Feedback will explore instances where participants found the task management features intuitive or cumbersome.

Collaboration Tools:

Quantitative: Users will rate the effectiveness of collaboration tools such as messaging, document sharing, and group discussion functionalities.

Qualitative: Insights will be sought on how these tools contribute to effective teamwork and areas where enhancements are desired.

Responsiveness:

Quantitative: Survey questions will gauge users' perceptions of platform responsiveness, including page load times and responsiveness of interactive elements.

Qualitative: Participants will provide qualitative feedback on instances where they experienced delays or responsiveness issues.

Recommendation:

Quantitative: Participants will indicate their likelihood to recommend AcademiX to peers based on their overall experience.

Qualitative: Reasons for recommendations or reservations will be explored to understand the underlying factors influencing user advocacy.

Data Analysis:

Data collected from heuristic evaluations, task analyses, and participant surveys will be analyzed to identify strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement in AcademiX. Findings will inform iterative enhancements aimed at optimizing user experience and

ensuring AcademiX meets the educational needs of its diverse user base effectively. We have also attached the link of google form: https://forms.gle/5kj7vnRrp7woRSDX6

By systematically evaluating AcademiX across these dimensions, we aim to validate its usability, address user requirements, and refine the platform to deliver an intuitive and effective educational tool. This evaluation plan will guide the development and enhancement process, ensuring AcademiX supports students and educators in achieving their academic goals seamlessly.