

## today is February 2 Week 5 agenda

- ♦ reminders
- ♦ information stories
- ♦ upcoming assignments
- ♦ last week: what stayed, questions
- ♦ books that made a difference
- ♦ the week to come

**Happy Groundhog Day!**

**reminder: office hours by appointment today 5-6 :30pm PT, open  
Thursday 10:30 - 12noon PT**

*Please for now have microphones muted  
Use the Chat feature (bottom of your screen) to type in questions or issues*

## Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow and predicts six more weeks of winter

By Laura Ly, CNN

Updated 8:44 AM ET, Tue February 2, 2021

CNN



CBC

## Google threatens to pull search engine in Australia

Google on Friday threatened to make its search engine unavailable in Australia if the government went ahead with plans to make tech giants pay for news content. Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison quickly hit back, saying: "We don't respond to threats."

"Australia makes our rules for things you can do in Australia," Morrison told reporters in Brisbane. "That's done in our Parliament. It's done by our government. And that's how things work here in Australia."

"If this version of the code were to become law, it would give us no real choice but to stop making Google search available in Australia," Silva told senators. "And that would be a bad outcome not only for us, but also for the Australian people, media diversity, and the small businesses who use our products every day."

The mandatory code of conduct proposed by the government aims to make Google and Facebook pay Australian media companies fairly for using news content they siphon from news sites.

REUTERS

## As Google eyes Australia exit, Microsoft talks Bing with PM

SYDNEY (Reuters) -Software giant Microsoft Corp is confident its search product Bing can fill the gap in Australia if Google pulls its search over required payments to media outlets, Prime Minister Scott Morrison said on Monday.

## Biden picks Jessica Rosenworcel as acting FCC chief

NEWS

During her tenure at the agency, she coined the term "the homework gap" in 2014 to describe the overlap between families that lack broadband access at home and students who need the internet to do their homework. She has championed better access to broadband in rural areas with high maternal mortality rates and poor internet access, to help women who live far from an obstetric center to receive care. And Rosenworcel used her platform as a commissioner at the FCC to elevate women in technology, launching the first podcast from any regulatory agency in the U.S., Broadband Conversations, where she only interviews women. Recently, that's included a panel of school superintendents from across the country discussing the challenges of moving school online during the pandemic.



## upcoming assignments

**User Research Report** (Group Project) due February 15

**Position Paper** due February 22

## last week's lectures what stayed

- The topic of information system stayed with me the most because I was surprised to find that it is actually present in our daily lives.
- Information systems and the the disparity between different people's ability or opportunity to leverage them.
- Information and information entities are powerful entities and entities of power.
- Information systems don't happen in a vacuum.
- Something as seemingly simple as a transcript is the product of the interaction between many different information systems.
- I find myself really into the user interface and design, especially taking into practice with the analysis and redesign paper. Looking forward to learn the tools and techniques used for designing.
- information can grant people power, but it is up to people to use it responsibly.
- (i think of this in the blackmailing sense. sometimes information about a people/things can be released without their consent).
- The importance of prioritizing user needs when designing a product/interface over our own preference, as we are directing our design to users, not ourselves.
- Information and information systems are powerful entities and entities of power. I wrote this in blue bold and underlined it. . The intent behind the use of an information system is what is most important. Information and information systems can help create and innovate ways for people to connect and innovate together. However, it also has the power to control and to manipulate and it seems that in a world revolving around capitalism that power can be dangerous, "Addiction code". I noted how scary that overlaid Venn diagram looked with social, political, legal, tech and other systems overlapping information systems almost obscuring the system itself.

## last week's lectures what stayed

- Every design has a meaning. Just looking at the webpage right now that I am wringing this answer down, every single buttons, fonts, colors, and icons that I see right now has a meaning and purpose as a user interfaces.
- The video about Brain Hacking was super fascinating and creepy. The thought that tech companies have so much power when it comes to luring us and making us addicted to their product is scary. However, there is a plus side in which some companies are using this to improve society, example would be the bad habit breaking app.
- I think the idea of information systems gaining power is a somewhat frustrating one. It's definitely true that certain systems are ingrained into our society. I don't like that. We're stuck using the same outdated patterns. Things like transcripts are an example, but systems are everywhere. Though this isn't really new, it's still true. Either way, this just stuck with me.
- Learning about what graphical user interface is was what stayed with me from the lectures this week, because computer system terms have always confused me as they are abstract. Now I know they are a system that allows users to interact with a computer visually by using items such as windows, icons, etc.
- Information system and power. I never really thought about information system of having power... It's an interesting concept that I wished I knew about it earlier. The thought of how "information systems inherit power and transmit power" to shape the society and people just blows my mind.

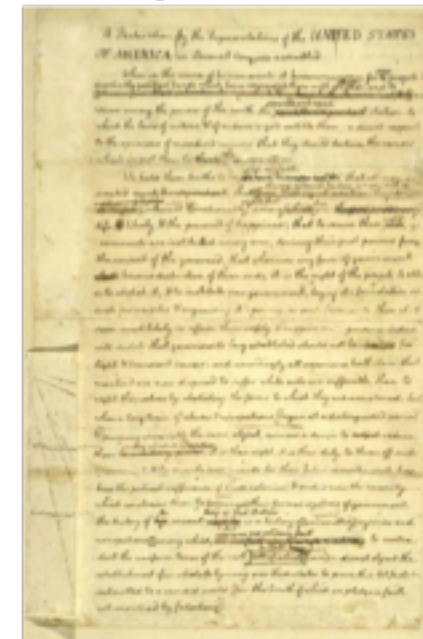
## last week's lectures questions

- I've got questions about user research, and how to go about studying behaviors for non-tech, subjective environments.
- Do we have an example of a bad information system?
- Why some products didn't change their outlook with the obvious design errors? Is it because it is in a capitalist society?
- what if an informative system helps me, but against me somehow.
- why do designers make unethical choices just to get people to use their product more? what kind of laws are there to prevent this? or is it easy for companies to find loopholes around ethical guidelines?
- How can we make information systems better?
- for user interface do we need to do user research?
- How could I utilize the power from information into something positive and beneficial?
- Can a beautiful interface hide a simple product?
- As there are so many factors to consider when designing UI, will these factors conflict? If so, do some of them have higher priority when leveraging?
- What's the best way to get started with product design if you're interested but feel like you're not that good at designing things?
- Apple or Microsoft: Which company was the leader in computers in the 80s and 90s?
- Not from the lecture, but can we hear the story about how Professor Janes almost sneezed on the Declaration of Independence?

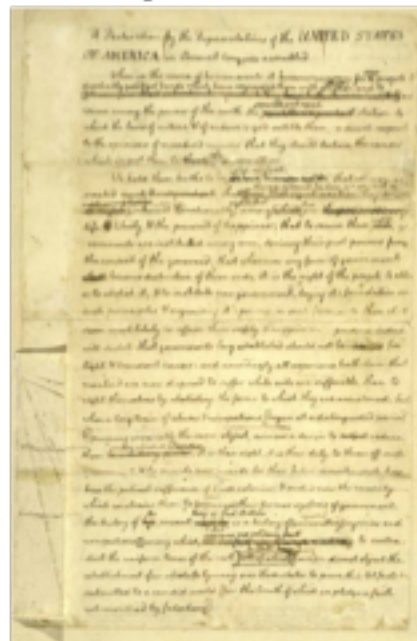
## "Dunlap Broadside" 1776



## Declaration of Independence 1776



## Declaration of Independence "original rough draft" 1776



### deleted passage ("He has waged cruel war...")

He has waged cruel war against human nature itself, violating its most sacred rights of life and liberty in the persons of a distant people who never offended him, captivating & carrying them into slavery in another hemisphere or to incur miserable death in their transportation thither. This piratical warfare, the opprobrium of infidel powers, is the warfare of the Christian King of Great Britain. Determined to keep open a market where Men should be bought & sold, he has prostituted his negative for suppressing every legislative attempt to prohibit or restrain this execrable commerce. And that this assemblage of horrors might want no fact of distinguished die, he is now exciting those very people to rise in arms among us, and to purchase that liberty of which he has deprived them, by murdering the people on whom he has obtruded them: thus paying off former crimes committed against the Liberties of one people, with crimes which he urges them to commit against the lives of another.

## books that made a difference

- *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell
- *Zen & the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* - Robert Pirsig
- *The Story of Seattle* - Roberts Frys Welt
- *Harry Potter*, without a doubt. It was the book series that made me fall in love with reading and realize just how powerful the world of words can be.
- *The Myth of Sisyphus* by Albert Camus
- *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck
- *D&D SE Player's Handbook*
- *The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F\*\*\** by Mark Manson
- *Existentialism is a Humanism* by Jean Paul Sartre
- *Daring Greatly* by Brené Brown
- *Big Little Lies*
- *Unbroken*
- Books about stoic and Buddhist philosophy have had a large influence on me
- *Harry Potter* was the first book I could not stop reading when I was in 4th grade. Also, I read "Thirteen reasons Why" when I was in high school before the Netflix show came out and I have never cried so much from a book. It also changed my perspective on how I treat my peers and how saying something harmful could be affecting them.
- Of all the books that I've read, the books from the *Percy Jackson* series have had the greatest influence on me. I grew to love reading (certain books) and use it as a method of relaxation.
- I like reading about people. Their lives and their realist and rawest moments. What did they learn from this moments and what impact did it have on them.
- Many rare history books no longer printed
- Last year I read Dostoevsky's *Demons*. It was the first really comprehensive and politically applicable novel I have read. It left a lasting impact because it opened my eyes to not only the impact a fictional novel can have, but how history repeats itself time and time again.
- *The Moment of Lift* by Melinda Gates
- *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter* by Erika L. Sanchez
- Currently reading *Data Feminism* in my INFO 201 class which is awesome but also *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho and *Siddhartha* by Herman Hesse are two books I could read over and over again just picking up all those little messages I missed the first time
- Fantasy and Sci-Fi books that allow me to imagine things we don't have in our world.
- I love to read but I think one that has had the most impact on me is one that I read recently called *The Four Agreements*. It has helped me grow tremendously as well as serve as a reminder to be kind.
- *Elon Musk: Tesla, SpaceX, and the Quest for a Fantastic Future*
- *Ishmael* by Daniel Quinn had to have had the greatest impact on me. It completely changed my perspective on society.
- As a Christian, the Bible has had the greatest influence on me in terms of how I live my life. Also, books such as "Freakonomics", which implements economic ideas into a more enjoyable reading (es. What do some wrestlers and school teachers have in common? Focuses on the topic of incentives), have been more informative to me than school textbooks that are just bland and very hard to read through.
- *Everybody, Always* by Bob Goff
- *The Old Man and the Sea*.
- A few books have had large impact on me, based on the time in my life. When I was really young, I loved educational books, particularly magic school bus. Another book I enjoyed was *A Wrinkle in Time*. These largely led to my interests in science in the future. This was reinforced by *The Innovations of Imagination*, which despite being fantasy, largely touch on scientific principles. I'd recommend that series. Either way, the books that had the greatest impact on me are the ones that gave me an interest in the sciences and helped me build a creative mindset.
- *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, *Mate*
- *The Crucible*
- *Fahrenheit 451*
- *Space Odyssey*

## the week to come

- ❖ lecture 10 on Accessible Systems, Figma
- ❖ lecture 11 on The Designed Object
- ❖ lab on Figma/prototyping
- ❖ questions to bear in mind for the week:

How does designing specifically for accessibility concerns help everyone?

What examples can you think of - of objects that have been designed and redesigned for a very long time?