

COMP 3020: Human-Computer Interaction I

Project Milestone 1: User Research and Requirements

Due Date: October 17th at the start of class

Part (a): Identify your project idea

Succinctly describe the nature of the project, how you expect your system to be used, by whom, and the context under which you expect it to be used.

Project Ideas: You are welcome to choose from the list of project ideas on UMLearn (See Project and Assignment -> Overview). Most of these ideas will need some narrowing (i.e., focus) to make the idea tractable. If you are interesting in pursuing an idea not on this list, please consult with your instructor for input on its suitability.

Part (b): Identify stakeholders

Figure out who is impacted (in one way or another) by this system -- these are stakeholders. Create a list of these stakeholders, and describe them (particularly the primary and secondary users) in terms of: how much training/experience they might have, their background knowledge, age, any special attributes, etc.

Part (c): User research

Select three user research methods from the methods we covered in class (or are in the IDEO cards) that complement one another. Justify your choice of each of these research methods in terms of why they are appropriate for your context. Conduct the methods with potential users and/or stakeholders. Summarize your method, and your findings from each of these methods.

Since this is a class project, you will not necessarily have the time to apply these methods as broadly (e.g., number of users, environments, etc.) as would normally be recommended. Focus instead of selecting good techniques and learning something from their application. E.g., you can learn a lot by interviewing two people! ***If you are unsure about the extent to which to apply a particular method, come talk to your instructor (in person) well in advance of the deadline.***

Part (d): Requirements

As you collect your data, look at your data together with your group members, and compile a list of requirements for your system. . List your requirements under the headings described in class (Functional, Data, Environmental, User, and Usability). Within each heading, order them in terms of importance: what is absolutely important to have (must have), what should the system be able to do (should have), and what could be left for "version 2" (could have)? Provide a short justification for each requirement.

Part (e): Scenarios

Based on the requirements identified above, select two types of users identified in part (b) and produce one scenario for each (i.e. two scenarios total).

Deliverable

Get a project binder that is 1 1/2" thick. All of your project deliverables will be handed in to the TAs in this binder. This will enable you (and the TAs) to see the evolution of your project and work. You should have section separators for each project milestone, a cover sheet (with your names and your group number) on the outside cover, and names/contact information for all group members on the first page of the binder.

For this milestone, your deliverable is a written summary document. This report should include a section for each of parts (a) – (e) above. As a rough guideline, this assignment should result in a 4-6 page document. The maximum is 8 pages. Be detailed AND succinct - a hard combination to achieve. You should also provide an appendix of any materials used in your user research to serve as proof that you conducted the research methods. Note that these do not count against your page count, and do not need to be formatted nicely. Examples could include (but are not limited to): interview questions, raw notes from observations, photos from ethnography, survey questions, etc. Do not identify any of the users that you involve in your research in your submission by name.