

First group meeting worksheet: Research Your Ideas and Motivations as a Group

Proposed Group research topics:

- Time and Feedback
- Informational Media, Experiences
- Comparative Visualizations
- Textual Mashups and Visualization
- Emotions/Wellness & Informational Websites).

As a group research your chosen group topic and get feedback on these fundamental questions below in the following manner.

- Introduce yourselves and the project you proposed. Talk about your background and what you want to do in the project.
- Develop a plan for managing time and resources to complete the research project on time
- Each person should have a role for the duration of this class meeting.
- At the end of next class, I expect a repository with your group work.

Group members should combine research to answer the following questions:

- What are other projects like the media project you've proposed? Describe your project in written form, with at least one paragraph describing it. Document any links or images you may have relating to your idea.
- Has your proposal been done before? If so, document it with a url, images, anything you can find. Find at least 3 relevant references to projects that deal with the same topic.
- For each reference you find, share the work with the group. Discuss what is interesting to you about the reference. How does each reference differ from the proposed project?
- Ask your group makes the reference interesting about the reference that you may not have brought up.
- What are some facts or statistics or relationships associated with the topic you are interested in? Do you have an example of the data you will use? If not, create or seek out a small sample of data as a starting point.
- What effect or thought would you like a person to have if they see your project? Ask your group mates if what other thoughts they have when they heard your project idea.
- Anticipate some challenges to implementing your project. Write down three different technical things that might be a stumbling block.
- Identify what is known and unknown about each project presented by your peers. What is your theory or hunch about why your project will work?

At the beginning of the meeting, each person should pick or be assigned a role:

Leader -

A group member who proposes ideas and suggestions, provides direction for the group, and gets the group started (a task role)

Assign people to perform independent tasks and plan a time for the group to work together.
Communicate what the key deliverables are, and when each person should share their work

Information seeker

A group member who asks for needed information, requests explanations and clarifications, and makes the group aware of information gaps (a task role). What is unclear about the project? Search for information and bring back findings.

Consensus Seeker/ Documenter A group member who keeps and provides accurate written records of a group's major ideas, suggestions and decisions (a task role). What was discussed, suggested, and what was decided?

Elaborator (makes sure everyone has gotten their point across)

A group member who helps explain ideas and suggestions by providing examples or summaries or by describing the consequences of a decision or action (a task role). Ensure that everyone got to speak equally, and that groups were able to have any questions answered. What points were raised and not addressed?

Summarizer (Documenter) A group member who summarizes what has been said and what has occurred and raises questions about the direction the discussion is taking in relation to the group agenda and goals (a task role). Which points are the most discussed and could they be summarized so the group can move on.

For homework on Wednesday:

Pick a person or people to give a 5 minute description of where your repository is, and share insights you gained from the research exercise.