Domains

1. People who study in MAGNET
   1. Interest
      1. we’re all MAGNET students
      2. The people that study here seem to be more connected to their work (The people that study here have a strong connection to the outcomes of their work)
      3. Diverse group of students
   2. accessibility
      1. we’re all MAGNET student
      2. Diverse group of students
   3. feasibility
      1. we’re all MAGNET student
      2. MAGNET is a space designed for the kind(s) of work students like us are doing
      3. We have a better sense of what to look for and the kinds of questions to ask by default of being MAGNET students
2. Student study in Dibner
   1. Interest
      1. We thought it was the default location to observe
      2. We all think there is a more interesting alternative to this domain
      3. It’s more diverse there in terms of fields of study and
      4. Less diverse in terms of gender and ethnicity
   2. Accessibility
      1. Easily accessible because we are all NYU Poly students
      2. Default studying location, especially in a university setting
      3. We probably won’t encounter many MAGNET students there
   3. Feasibility
      1. Harder to identify what people are doing; everyone is focused on their own work on their own laptops
      2. It seems like everyone is doing regimented work
3. People study in non-traditional places (i.e. NYU brownstones, independent work spaces such as Goethe Institut, museums, etc. )
   1. Interest
      1. People there may be different from the people study in the normal places such as library and coffee shop.
      2. Not a default location
      3. Diversity of works (people there may do things other than (school) assignments)
   2. Accessibility
      1. Multiple locations (anywhere that isn’t a traditional/default space to study)
      2. Not that easy to access, since some of them are private
      3. People probably don’t want to be bothered
   3. Feasibility
      1. People probably don’t want to be bothered
      2. Too general
      3. Will most probably be independent work for the most part; not a lot of collaborative or group project work
4. People study in coffee shop
   1. Interest
      1. Multiple locations
      2. Relationship between the people, study/work there and the style of the coffee shop
   2. Accessibility
      1. Unrestricted access
      2. Many locations to choose from
   3. Feasibility
      1. Would be difficult to differentiate between students studying and regular people working
      2. People probably won’t like being bothered

Observations

* put both Dibner and MAGNET observation since we’ve pivoted.
* Reasons of pivot  
   \* NOTE: Our initial domain was students who study at Dibner Library because it seemed like a default choice for studying. After conducting our observations, however, we decided we were not interested in pursuing that because it lacked a diversity in students and work being done. We also felt that turning our focus to the students in MAGNET would be a more feasible choice since we ourselves fall into that category, more diverse work is being done there, and we have a greater interest in studying students there.

Interview (5-10 people)

* Questions and Notes

Assumptions

* Grad students, in particular, want a decent paying job after graduating and think this will give them the skill-set(s) needed to do so. (interview)
  + Basically this is the goal of everyone we interviewed.
* Students who have outside financial support do not study as hard as students who are paying their own tuition because those students want to get the most bang for their buck (interview)
  + Financial support does not have as significant a relationship with studying as we thought it did
* Students get easily disappointed when they don’t understand challenging material and see it as a reflection of their own inabilities. They may be discouraged from trying again (interview)
  + We had one case confirming this assumption, but it was not a widespread confirmation or disproving
* Students are enthusiastic in what they are studying/working in MAGNET (interview)
  + Based on our observation and interview, we can deduce that this is the case. Nobody we interviewed was jaded or unenthusiastic about coming to study at MAGNET. The majority of our interviewees were excited to describe why they studied here and the perks of doing so.
* Students will study better in traditional study spaces than at home/non-traditional ones (interview)
  + Students may prefer to study at home, but there’s too many distractions there for it to be an efficient way to do so.
* Students prefer to study in MAGNET than at Dibner (interview)
  + Students preferred MAGNET’s environment to Dibner. The environment is unconventional and more conducive to creativity.

Role-play (reenact some behaviors)

* We drew from our personal experiences for this as we ourselves are students.
* Many of us would like to study at home and have done so. I study in bed because my room is so cold, and I either fall asleep or get sucked into the rabbit hole of the internet more easily than when I am studying at MAGNET. (Sriya)

Organize Notes

Ah-Ha Moments

* Computer and the internet are the must tools for everyone while studying, however, this is also where people get distracted.

Insights