ENSE 471- Lab#1

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University of Manitoba Engineering Website

When originally looking at the homepage, I think the side bar menu is an appropriate size, not too cluttered or too little information to choose from to get started. There is also a search bar in the top right corner to help those that are lost get started also.

The overall structure and layout of the site seems to be very consistent, including the colours used. Layout is generally menu on the left side, main information in the middle, with either a photo or important contact information on the right hand side.

Somewhat difficult on the eyes. Fonts and colours are decent, however, font size could be bigger to make it easier to read.

Really like the overall layout of how the sidebar menu works. Menu is displayed in only one location, on the side, nothing like a header menu. The side menu expands when clicking on the appropriate section that a user is looking at.

One thing I am not personally a fan of myself is certain hyperlink sections bring the user to what seems to be a completely isolated or different section of the website. It still falls under engineering, however comes with an entire different menu and sometimes clicking "Home" brings the user back to the original engineering homepage. Bringing the user back to the original homepage can be shown when in "Co-op & IIP" and clicking "Home". Yet, at other times there is a homepage of its own when clicking "Home", such as in "IEEQ". Both of these sections falling under the "Departments & Programs" section.

I believe the utility of the perceived usefulness seems to be there. Everything should be able to be found relating to engineering at first glance. I think the usability is fairly high because it comes easy to me when navigating through the website. I feel like this website would take little to no time to learn and get the overall layout in your head. Desirability to use when searching for anything I believe is also fairly high. I believe students, parents, and staff will be able to complete whatever task they are trying to do so.

User Experience Comments (Parent- Mom)

Colour layout does not seem to originally catch the user's eye, however they are the university colours.

Menu on left side should make use of a bigger font/bolded differently and/or expand making use of all the space until footer is reached on page. Likes how links are a different colour and page is soft on the eyes.

Line main body of website up better with header and footer bars on all pages (consistency).

Consistency within the menu navigation (Home button)

When asked to find where an undergrad student would go to access a form to defer an exam, it did not take very long at all. She found it on the first try under quick links, which is one of three known methods to myself.

When asked to find where to sign up for the Iron Ring ceremony, she could not find anything indicating on the left bar menu, therefore searched in the top right search bar and managed to find it fairly quickly.

When asked to find specific contact information, it was done with ease.

User Experience (Parent – Dad)

Overall colours and layout are good, other than side bar menu could be bigger to ease readability. Perhaps expand hyperlink when hovering over.

Home button should bring user back to very first page.

Original side bar menu should still be shown even when accessing material not present on main engineering website.

Would be fairly easy to familiarize oneself with the site.

When asked where to search for deferred exam, used the search bar instantly. Would use search bar to find everything initially until familiarized more with the website no matter what type of question asked.