

Software Development for Mobile Devices

Formative Assignment - 07 (Graded as Pass / Fail, Individual Work)

Due: Week 11 (Submit Start of lab)



Objectives

This assignment task has the following objectives,

1. Demonstrate your ability at running a short usability test.

Extension Task (for Credit or Higher Grades)

Attempt the following task only if you are aiming for a Credit or higher grade. Students need to attempt all extension tasks in order to be eligible for a Credit or higher grades.

Task 1 - Usability Testing of Prototype

You must perform a usability test on the prototype of the Suntime app that you created in Assignment 5.

The usability test must be undertaken **with at least 3 people** (that are not enrolled in this unit).

The usability test method (read all steps carefully):

1. Provide each tester information about the application: Idea, Motivation, Key Features and Scenarios (see details provided in previous assignments). The tester should read all of the information first.
2. Ask each tester to perform all of the scenarios as described using the prototype and ask for feedback
3. While they are undertaking the test ask them to say out loud what they are thinking (or) if they are currently not clear how they should proceed -- record these comments. While they are undertaking the test, you are not allowed to offer clarifications around the UI even if they are stuck/confused. You are however allowed to act as the phone's sensor and provide them with information such as GPS location.
4. If they are unable to complete a scenario, record that as such (including additional information on why the tester was stuck).

At the end of the test, ask users to rate the following aspects on a 5-point scale [where, 1 is poor and 5 is excellent] as well as a brief comment for each item:

- Clarity of the UI in communicating how to complete the scenario (i.e. tester is able to use the correct set of features to complete the task without any assistance).
- The visual clarity of the sketch/prototype (specifically, readability)
- The effectiveness of the overall layout of components and functionality
- General difficulty in using the application.
- Effectiveness of the prototype with respect to communicating the intent of the application.

Short Report on Usability:

A short report aims to capture your understanding of a topic area. It should include at least 1 or 2 references to support the points you are making. The report is expected to be between 500 - 1000 words.

Once the usability test is complete, summarise the findings in a Short Report.

Your usability short report must contain the following sections:

1. Introduction (What does this report contain? Describe the task briefly, why you undertook it and key findings)
2. Usability Test Method (Describe the method -- rephrase above method and adjust if you changed it slightly)
3. Findings
 - a. General comments from the users (while performing scenarios)
 - b. Survey results (conducted at the end of the test)
4. Discussion on Usability test (What was surprising/interesting/unexpected? What areas need attention? What did you learn by doing the usability test? What would you change in your design?)
5. Summary (Key findings from usability test, A short summary of your reflection)
6. References
7. Appendix (Survey forms and results + notes should be placed here)

What should you do if run out of space (given the 1000 word hard limit)?

Shorten the usability test method section by citing the description in this handout.

Note: Tables and Images are counted as 200 words each (independent of their size).

Grading and Extension Tasks

- Students aiming for a Pass grade need to attempt all core tasks. This assignment has no core tasks.
- Students aiming for a Credit grade, or Distinction need to attempt all extension tasks. This assignment has one extension task.

Submission

You are required to submit a printed report:

- The header (or) footer of the document must contain your name, student id, and unit code.
- The document must have a title (e.g. Submission for Assignment 06)
- Evidence that shows you completed each task must be presented in a separate section.
- The document does NOT need a table of contents (or) a cover page.

The report is assessed and returned to you in the lab with feedback. You are expected to incorporate the feedback (esp. if changes are required) and submit the changed reports as part of the final portfolio.

Note: You must attempt and complete all tasks in this assignment in order to be eligible to pass this unit.

Demonstration

You may be asked to demonstrate your assignment in the lab. You should be able to do this and explain your code when asked in the lab session.

Cross Reference for Assignment 7

The following checklist will help you check that you have covered key points required in order to pass this formative assessment.

- Usability test conducted as per specification
- Usability test reported using the format suggested.
- Survey information presented in Appendix