

ACY GROUP MEMBERS

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BACKGROUND OF THE PROBLEM.

After interviewing the students and trainers at AkiraChix, we realised there was a problem with the classwork management system. Due to having one platform used for communicating, posting events, assignments and assessments, the students and the trainers had to deal with poor organisation of different content. Their inability to have a better organised system led to miscommunication and affecting their overall productivity.

To overcome this issue, the ACY group thought of coming up with an online system that allows for different events to be placed and sorted separately in different categories in order to allow students to access their classwork for example assessments and announcements from trainers without having to deal with lack of a reference point or misinformation.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

How might we improve the classwork management system to ensure maximum execution of class tasks.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1. To find out why it is hard to keep track of class work (assignments, assessments and also student progress).
2. To find out the existing methods used to solve our identified problem.

3.To confirm our hypothesis that is simply to find out if the problem is really there.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1.Observations

By using observations we want to know how trainers and students are interacting with the different platforms used to send assignments/assessments.With observation we are also looking to find out the attitudes and behaviours of our subjects while interacting with the current solutions.

Observation as a research method will enable us to also collect quantitative data-number of people who seem happy while interacting with the current solutions,number of people struggling with the present methods of solving our identified problem.

2.Interviews.

Carrying out interviews with research subjects will enable us get qualitative data that will highlight how they feel about their current classwork system and with this data we shall be able to know if our proposed solution will meet their needs

RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

- After studying our problem scope,we decided to have students and trainers as our desired research subjects because they will be the users of our solution.
- We shall do random selection whereby we take a list of students and trainers at AkiraChix and pick a number from the list to act as our research subjects.
- We shall carry out the interviews and observations with at least 10 students and 3 trainers.
- We shall carry out our research within AkiraChix campus specifically in a classroom setting because it will give us a full understanding of how the classroom system works in their normal environment setting.

LOGISTICS

Our research will be based at AkiraChix,where we will interact with the students and the trainers.We chose this location because the students are more conversant with it as they spend most of their time in this particular setting.

We will also have a silent area set out to carry

out the conversations effectively.

For the equipment needed, we will have a notetaker, to take down key notes during or after the interview that can be used for reference later on as the interviewer's focus is maintained on the interviewee.

Arranging the appointment through useful tools for instance google calendar and simply setting a reminder on the phone to ensure we are punctual enough for the interview.

By using video recorders and built-in recorders, we will be able to capture data from the user as accurately as possible because it will give us a chance to go back and re-listen to the data received.

SCRIPT

Introduction-We will let our interviewees know who we are and what we do. We will also let them know how the process is about, how it will go and for how long it will take. We will also appreciate them for taking part in the research.

-Allow the users to feel as comfortable as possible before conducting any tests by giving them warm-up questions and fun activities to do beforehand or share career experiences in order to break the ice as much as possible.

Background questions-Getting their background information will better inform us why their experiences went the way they did.

Also getting their experience with products similar to ours will give us a better approach to every individual and trainer.

Clearly reassure the students and trainers that we are testing the software and not them so as to avoid the feeling that they are being judged for their abilities.

Scripting the usability tasks-We will stick to a maximum of 5 questions in order to get as much insight as possible about our product.

Instead of telling them how to use the product, we will give them a certain goal for them to reach in order to test their understanding of the product.

Our objective should be realistic. For instance, allowing the student to send their assignment and make an announcement in another section of the software.

Clear guidelines-by giving them clear guidelines, we will be able to receive better results from both the trainers and students. For instance: please think out loud when navigating through the programme so we can hear your thoughts and be as honest as possible.

Wrap up-we will inform both the trainers and students that we are done recording them and ask them how they felt when interacting with the software. Lastly, we will thank them for their participation.

TIMELINE

Week1-We will conduct a research plan where we will set out to have logical and concise ideas

The project where we will also involve potential collaborators and make several iterations on the plan before marking it as complete.

Week 2-We will recruit participants who will participate in our research(a group of students and trainers) and create a prototype of our software

Week3-At this point we will conduct generative research to find opportunities for solutions in the AkiraChix classwork system.We will also conduct a usability test on the students and trainers in order to identify usability issues and improve on the software where necessary.

week4-Synthesis and analysis which will ultimately help us discover measurable improvements on our software for instance by observing the trainers and student interactions through number of clicks,navigation and general use.

Week 4-Report and presentation-We will have a report on the data we have collected in order to have it accurately documented.It will involve our problem,supporting data and recommended solutions from the problem related to the search objectives.

ANALYSIS AND SYNTHESIS

From this,we will be able to turn the data into insights.This will be accomplished through setting up a system to organize the many files we will have collected including sketches and audios.

We will then gather useful findings through the users quotations,rephrased work or facts.

Next we will sort the data to create meaningful output from the data required and reframe it.This can be done through open sorting and closed sorting.

After organising the data,we will be able to note certain patterns and identify the important data easily.From here we will be able to discuss each pattern,articulate it in one statement,incubate the insights and socialise the insights by showing them to other people who were not involved in the research or analysis process.