## [Usability and Cosmetic Issues]:

- · Task List Color
  - Severity: 1 Cosmetic
  - *Heuristic(s):* Consistency
  - *Comments*: I can see exactly why Bobby mentioned this and I think it is a good point about the

different use of color. It does appear to be a cosmetic issue and was easily dealt

with by changing the background color in the HTML code.

- Bulleted List Consistency
  - Severity: 2 Minor
  - *Heuristic(s):* Consistency
  - *Comments*: This was an aspect that I had removed the bullets on, but then re-added them because I wasn't sure which was better for the interface. I think that Bobby is right that they

don't fit and should be removed. This was solved by changing the list-style attribute to

"none" in my HTML code.

- Logout Location
  - Severity: 3 Major
  - *Heuristic(s):* Clearly Marked Exits
  - o Comments: I had a feeling that this might be a usability issue, but it was a nice catch on Bobby's

part. I fixed this by relocating the "Logout" feature to the top navigation bar on all

screens that previously provided that functionality.

- Query Terminology/Instruction
  - o Severity: 2 Minor
  - *Heuristic(s):* User's Language
  - o Comments: Bobby expressed concern that he thought the query option would let him delete

multiple tasks at once. It is actually more of a "Filter" option that will let you look at certain tasks instead of a general view. I fixed this by renaming the tab to "Filter." Jeff also mentioned that he was unsure of what the Query tab provided in terms of

features, so I added a label to indicate what each field does for that tab.

- Alert Message vs Loading Page Errors, Message Consistency
  - o Not a Usability Problem
  - *Heuristic(s):* Consistency
  - o Hearistic(s). Consistency

• Comments: Personally, I think that the primary factor that distinguishes why these two are different is that there are different purposes for each task. In order to keep the login system that I developed secure, I cannot use JavaScript to have a pop-up message indicating an incorrect password from my PHP script. In the other cases where I have a pop-up error message, it is more appropriate to do so because redirecting to another page would cause confusion on the user's part and make the memory load higher. Luke mentioned that I should use JQuery dialogs instead of the alerts which I believe

will also help consistency.

- Login Difficulties
  - Not a Usability Problem
  - *Heuristic(s):* Feedback, System State
  - *Comments*: Jeff expressed concern that he ran into an issue with the login system indicating the

wrong username and/or password combination when he attempted to log in. I have attempted to replicate this issue multiple times now and have tested the login system myself (30+ times) and have not encountered this error. I looked at the PHP script and the only thing that I can figure is that perhaps there was an accidental slip in entering

the password.

- Update/Delete Icons
  - Severity: 2 Minor
  - *Heuristic(s):* User's Language
  - *Comments*: Jeff mentioned that he felt the affordances of the update and delete icons were not 100% visible by all users. I think that they are fairly universal icons, but adding

tooltips cannot hurt usability or the interface.

Courtney also mentioned that she felt these icons were too close together. After hearing this, I couldn't agree more. One of my intentions was to make this desktop version of the site also touchscreen compatible in case a user wanted to access it via a mobile device and the only way to do that would be to adding spacing in between these icons. This will be accomplished by setting the padding attribute for the images. Luke also mentioned that these seemed uncommon, so tooltips should fix that too.

- Completed Task Feedback
  - Not a Usability Problem
  - Heuristic(s): Feedback
  - Comments:

Jeff mentioned that he felt there was no feedback for completing a task. I believe from the other heuristic evaluations and user testing, that the checking of the checkbox is actually the feedback provided to the user. I think that adding a pop-up message indicating that the task is now completed would be too intrusive and would become annoying after a short period of time.

- Pop-up Window Closing Interface
  - Severity: 3 Major
  - *Heuristic(s):* User's Language
  - Comments:

Courtney expressed concern that she had accidentally closed the entire site when attempting to close a pop-up window. I went through the interface and tried to find which window she was talking about and found it after searching for a little while. The issue that she encountered was that the Statistics page loads in the same window/tab and thus when a user goes to close it, they instead need to click on the "Return to Tasks" option in the navigation bar. Since that was not clear, I made the page load in a new tab/window and changed the functionality so that the return functionality closes the new window/tab causing the browser to display the tasks page again. This was a great usability issue catch.

- Interface Tabs
  - o Not a Usability Issue
  - *Heuristic(s):* Simplicity
  - Comments:

Courtney posed a suggestion to convert it from tabs to having the functionality provided in the navigation bar. It is definitely possible, but I changed it to tabs from having that layout initially during my paper prototype because of the fact that if a user clicked away from the pop-up window for a specific feature, it would hide the window. When the user wanted to go back to it, they would likely click on the navigation bar entry again which would open a second window and the user would think that all of their previously entered data was lost. For this reason, I believe the tabs help the user keep track of their data without being intrusive during normal use.

- Due Date Consistency on Update
  - Severity: 3 Major
  - *Heuristic(s):* Consistency
  - Comments:

Courtney mentioned that she noticed how the due date field does not have a datepicker for updating the due date field. I did attempt to get this to work for the prototype, but was unable to due to JQuery execute before my PHP script returned the output from the database. I have been looking into this and plan on using JQuery to retrieve the PHP script output and then perform the date picker initialization. Luke also mentioned this as a usability issue since invalid dates could be entered.

- Multiple Categories in Query (Filter)
  - o Not a Usability Problem
  - *Heuristic(s):* User's Language
  - *Comments*: Based on my use cases and from my experience with managing homework

assignments, I generally want to look at everything that I still need to do, or the assignments that I need to complete for a particular class. I don't believe that the common user will need to filter by multiple categories, although this would be a nice additional feature to have. Instead, I think that it would be more useful to filter by a given due date, which I do not currently have implemented.

- Save Changes Icon on Update
  - Severity: 2 Minor
  - *Heuristic(s):* Consistency, User's Language
  - o *Comments*: Luke mentioned how when he updated the task, the checkmark icon was not a good

choice because he thought it might mark the task as completed. This is a good point that I had not thought of. I believe that changing the icon to a floppy disk which is a

common "Save" icon should fix this issue.

- Session Timeouts
  - Not a Usability Problem
  - *Heuristic(s):* Feedback, System State
  - o Comments: Luke mentioned that the interface needs to warn about session timeouts, but then goes

on to state later in his evaluation that the timeouts do provided error messages. I believe that maybe the Feedback's Negative field was meant more as a warning as I have tested this aspect and no session timeouts have gone without notifying the user

and prompting for them to log in again.