

The Process of UX Design

CMPT 363

“Perfection (in design) is achieved not when there is nothing more to add, but rather when there is nothing more to take away.”

—Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

*What does a holistic user
experience design process look
like?*

Topics to Explore

1. Software Development Processes
2. User Experience Design Processes
3. Our Design Process (aka Toolkit)

What does a holistic user experience design process look like?

Software Development Processes

Requirements

Product requirements document

Design

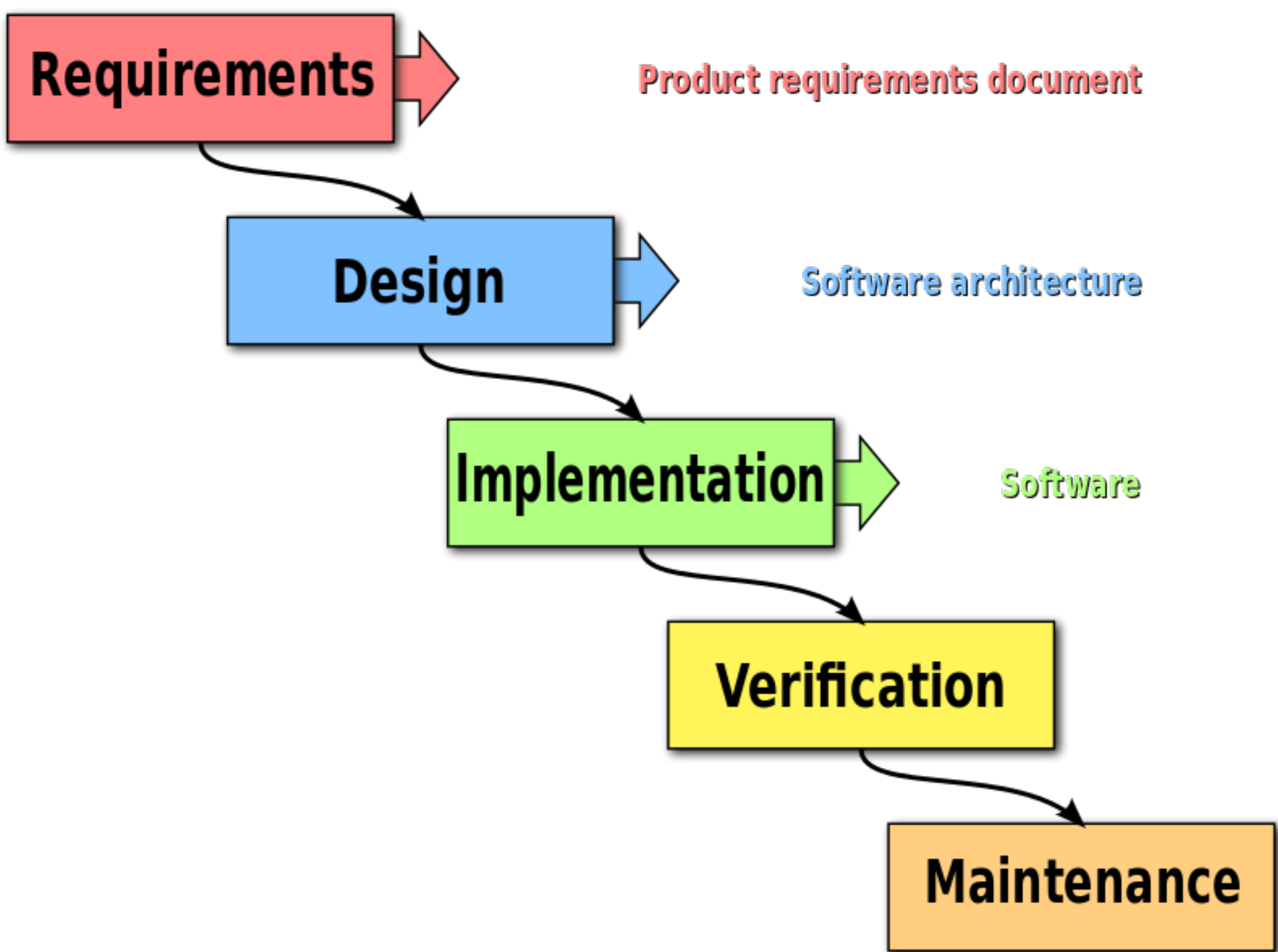
Software architecture

Implementation

Software

Verification

Maintenance



WaterFall Challenges

- Software development as pure production
- Knowing all required information upfront
- Time estimates are extremely hard to make
- Often entire project must be completed to fully test
- Long feedback and development cycles

Activity: Pop Quiz

Courtesy of the Safari Books Online course 'Agile for Everybody - The Essentials of Agile and Lean' by Matt LeMay

True or False?

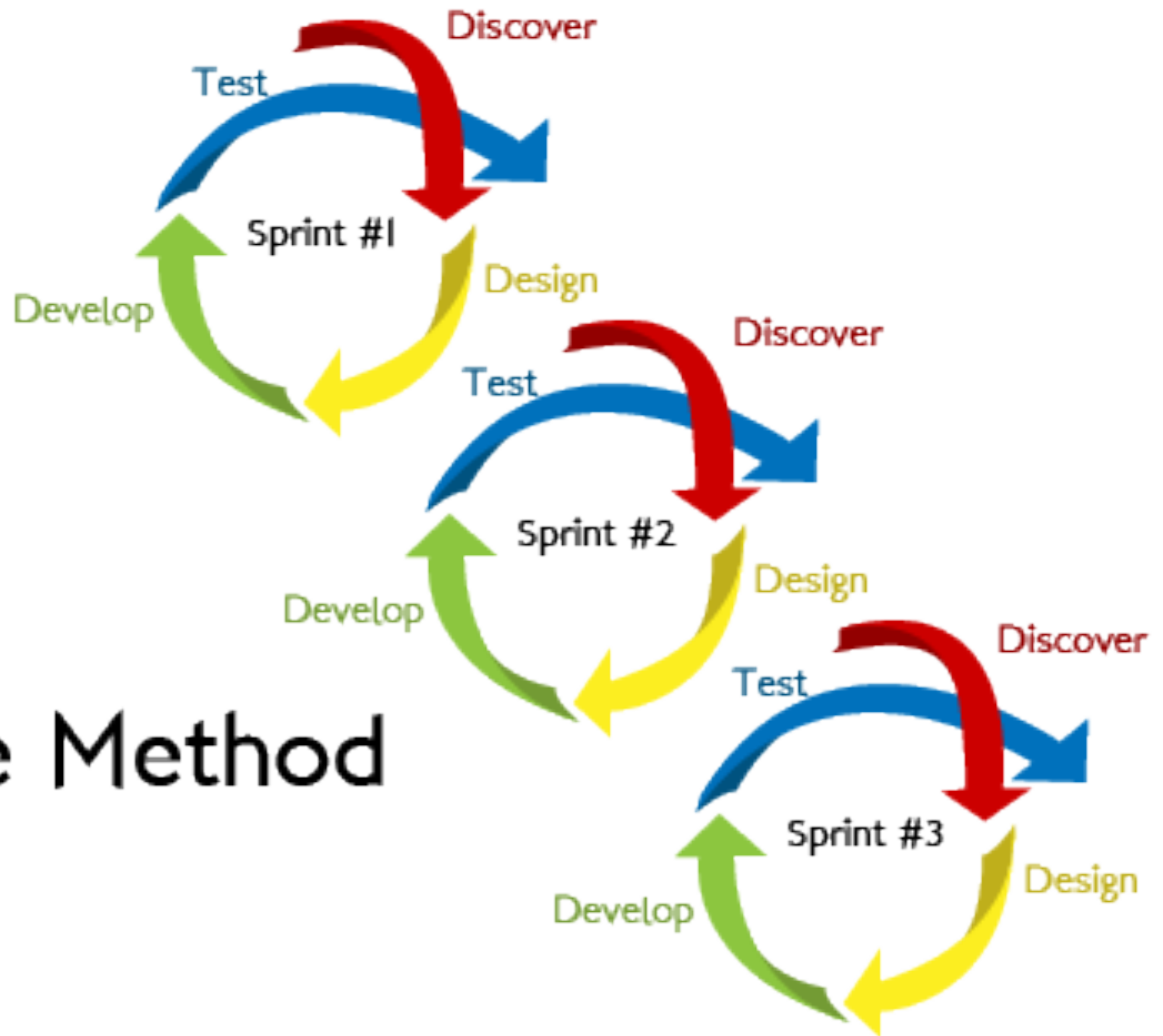
Agile and Lean are about doing things faster

True or False?

Agile and Lean are rigid frameworks

True or False?

Agile and Lean are only for software developers



Agile Method

Agile Manifesto

Individuals and interactions over processes and tools

Working software over comprehensive documentation

Customer collaboration over contract negotiation

Responding to change over following a plan

UX Practice
is critical here

users
opt-in

internal,
but not
mandatory
use

Consumer
Commercial

use is
compelled

internal
IT Projects

Enterprise
Commercial

Agile
came from
here
(mostly)

creates
efficiency
(saves
money)

earns
money
\$

With Agile we can combine
iterative design with
incremental development...

▲

Sell Amount

Sort Asc

Sort Desc

Unsort

From:

To:

2,000

6,500

Clear

Apply

This filter allows the user to enter a to and from amount

▲

Sell Amount

Sort Asc

Sort Desc

Unsort

From:

To:

2,000

6,500

< 1K

< 10k

< 100K

> 1M

Clear

Apply

This filter adds presets so that the user doesn't have to type in the values if there is a preset that matches their requirements.

▲

Sell Amount

Sort Asc

Sort Desc

Unsort

2K

6.5K

0

10 K

From:

To:

2,000

6,500

< 1K

< 10k

< 100K

> 1M

Clear

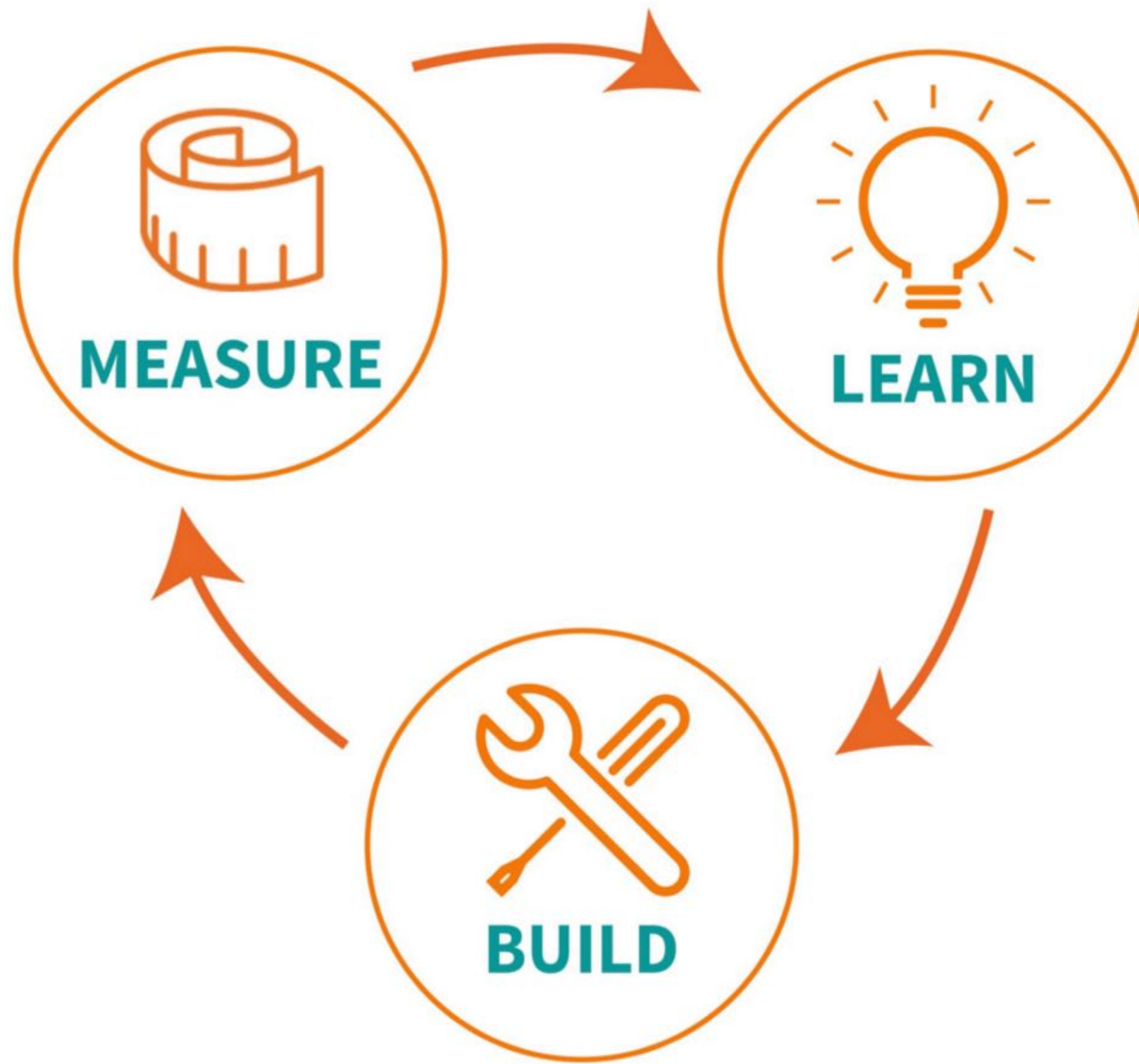
Apply

This filter adds a visual controls for the user to be able to set the filter. This control would need to know the largest and smallest value in the dataset in order to be able to set the min and max values on the slider.

Lean Development (based on the Toyota Way)¹

- A mindset, or **way of thinking**, commitment to achieve a totally waste-free operation that's focused on your customer's success
- It is achieved by **simplifying and continuously improving** all processes and relationships in an environment of trust, respect and full employee involvement
- It is about people, simplicity, flow, visibility, partnerships and true value **as perceived by the customer**

¹ Source: David Hogg, High Performance Solutions, 2008



With Lean each Design (Decision) is Viewed as a Hypothesis

A hypothesis can be defined as an educated guess that then can be tested to be shown correct



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w-NUOjwMto>

Example Hypotheses (includes outcome & assumption)

- We believe that our customers will find the “add to cart” button because it is highly visible
- We believe that our customers will be able to complete the checkout process because it is very simple

Activity: Write a Hypothesis

INDIVIDUAL OR TEAM

Write a simple hypothesis for a design decision involving a change to the GoSFU course registration system

Format: We believe that [outcome] because [assumption]

Example Hypotheses (includes outcome & assumption)

We believe that our customers will find the “add to cart” button because it is highly visible

We believe that our customers will be able to complete the checkout process because it is very simple

Waterfall vs. Agile vs. Lean?

solution space

known

unknown

problem space

known

unknown

Waterfall

Does not
exist

Agile

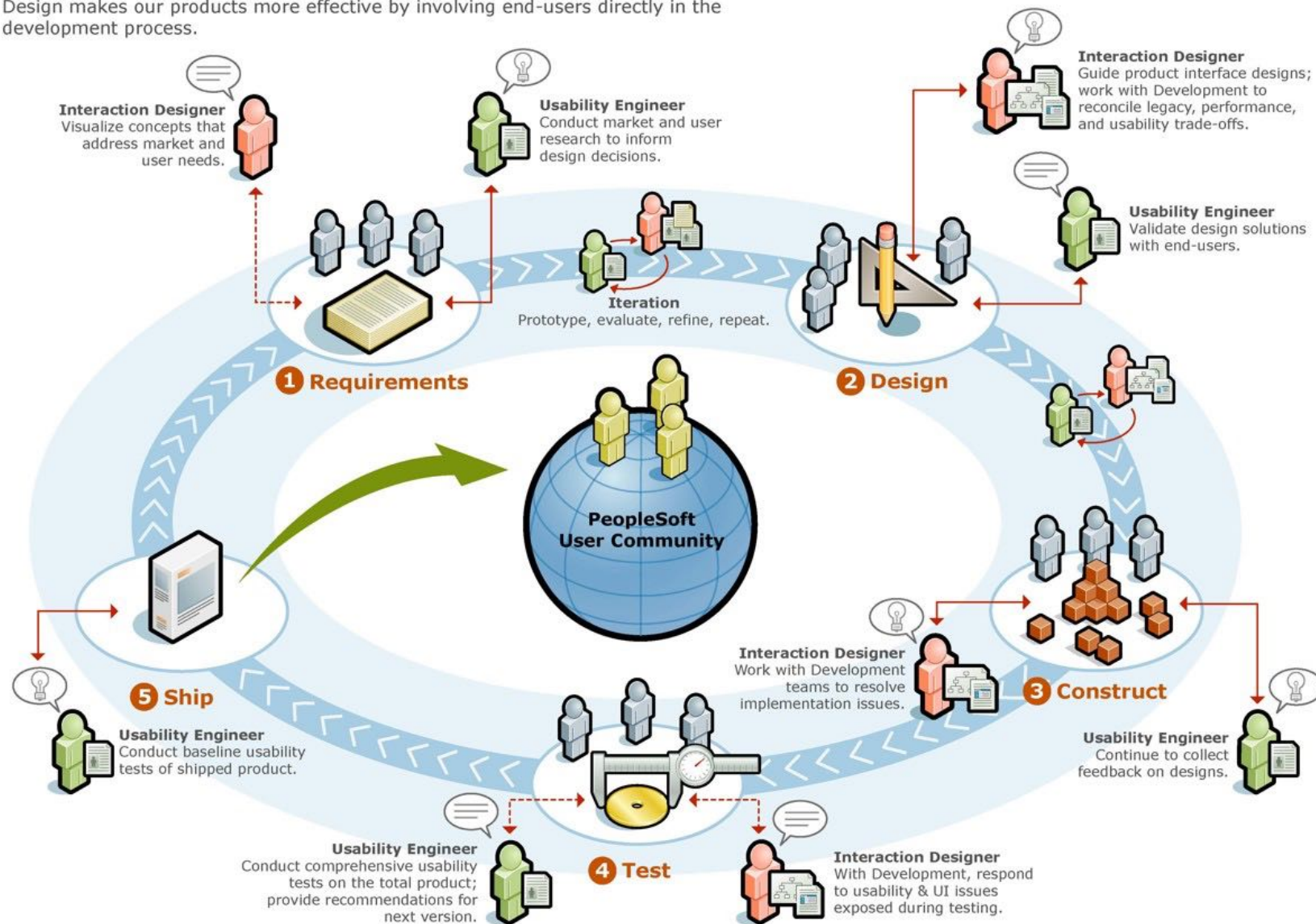
Lean

What does a holistic user experience design process look like?

User Experience Design Processes

SCM User-Centered Design Process

Business success today depends on producing well-designed products. User-Centered Design makes our products more effective by involving end-users directly in the development process.



1. Requirements

Understand user needs. Define new products and features. Outputs: early design mockups supporting BRDs; customer profiles, personas, and use cases.

2. Design

Translate user research and tested design concepts into user-friendly software. Outputs: user flows, more refined design mockups.

3. Construct

Prototyped concepts become coded reality. Outputs: well-designed applications.

4. Test

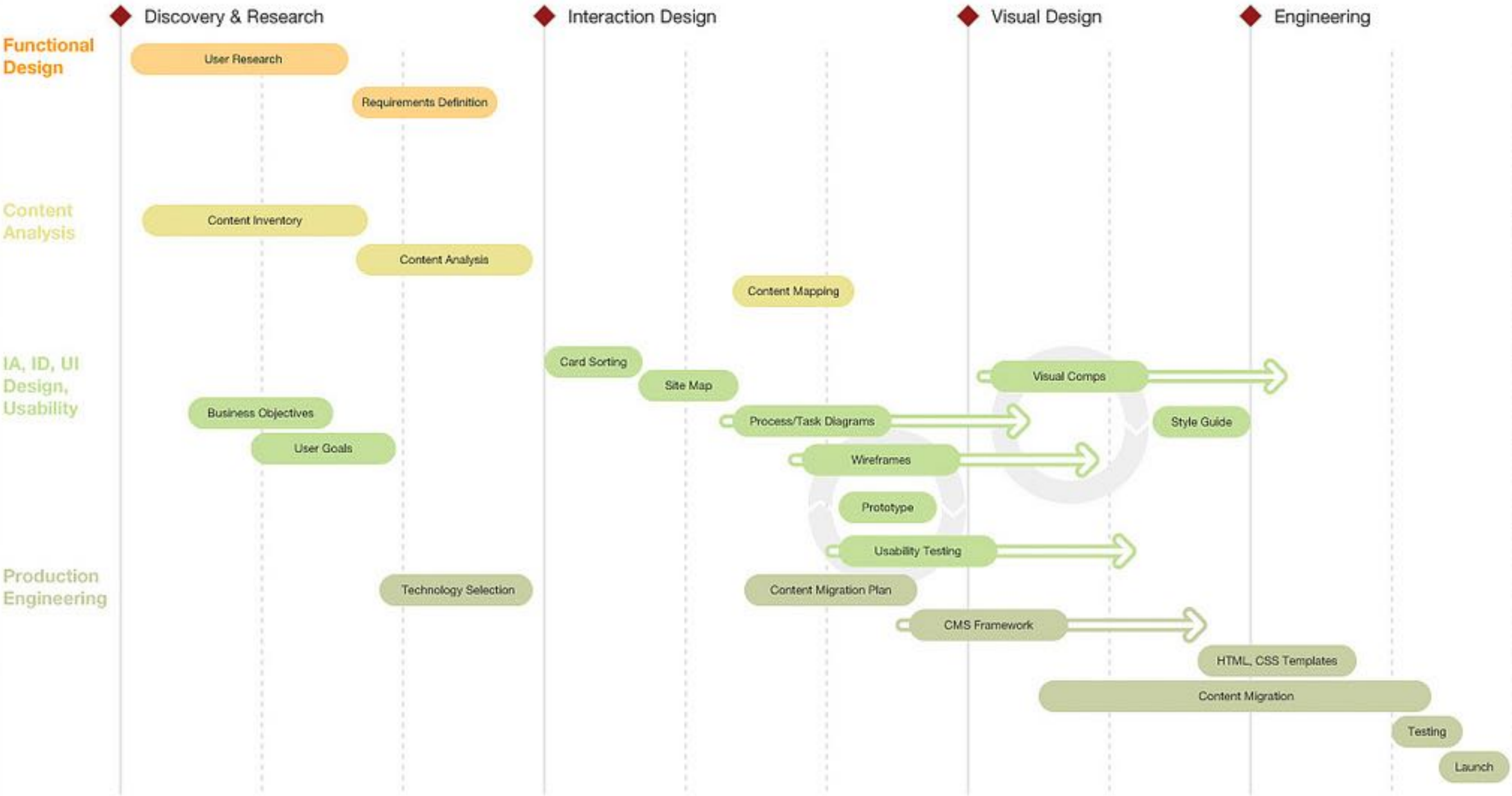
Making sure it does what it was designed to do. Outputs: data, reports, design and performance validations.

5. Ship

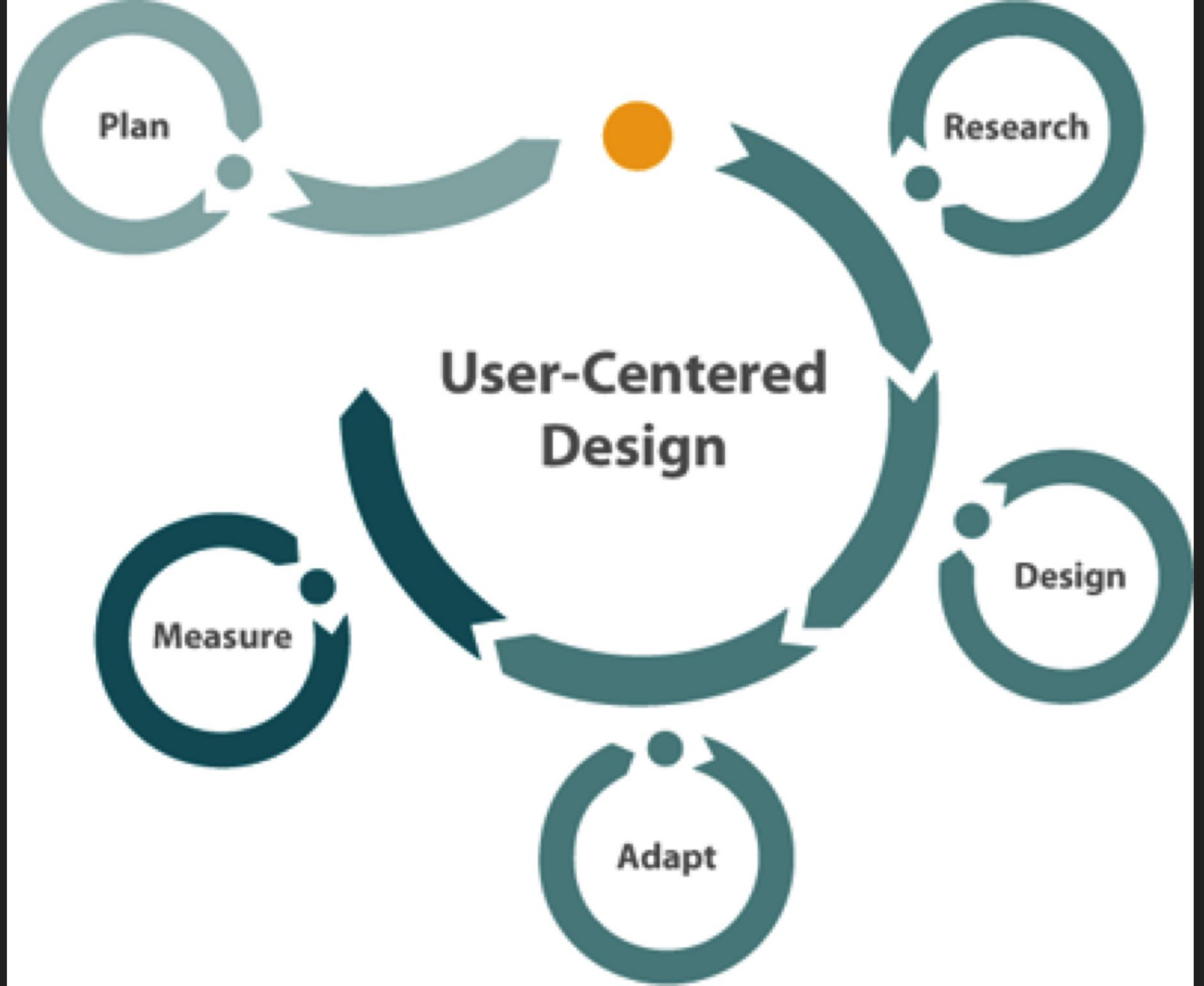
Product localization; PGS Consultants implement for customers; GSC begins support. UE responds to feedback, works with Dev to refine for future version releases.

Source: PeopleSoft

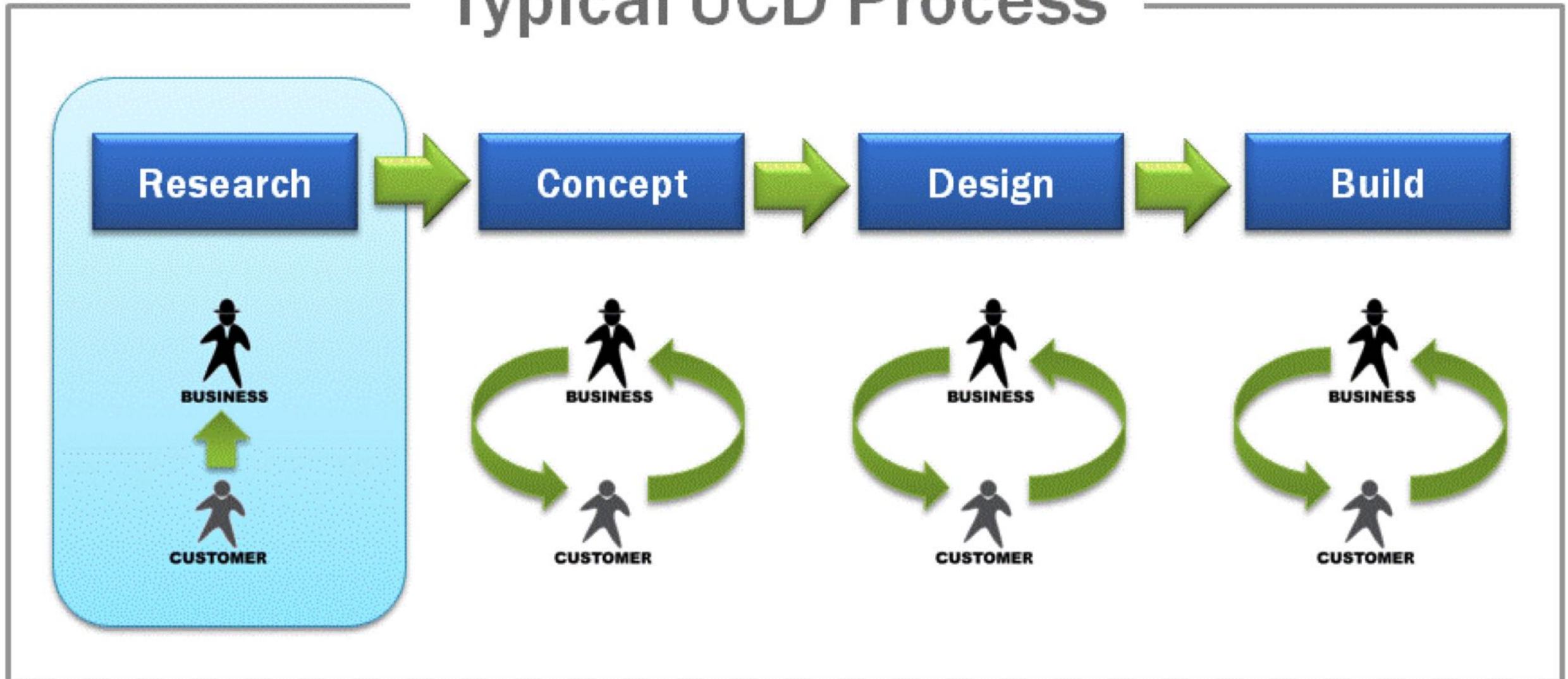
Design Process Diagram



These look really detailed and appealing, but are they always practical?



Typical UCD Process



These look more approachable,
but do they give enough
specifics?

What does a holistic user experience design process look like?

Our UX Design Process (aka Toolkit)

USER & BUSINESS GOALS

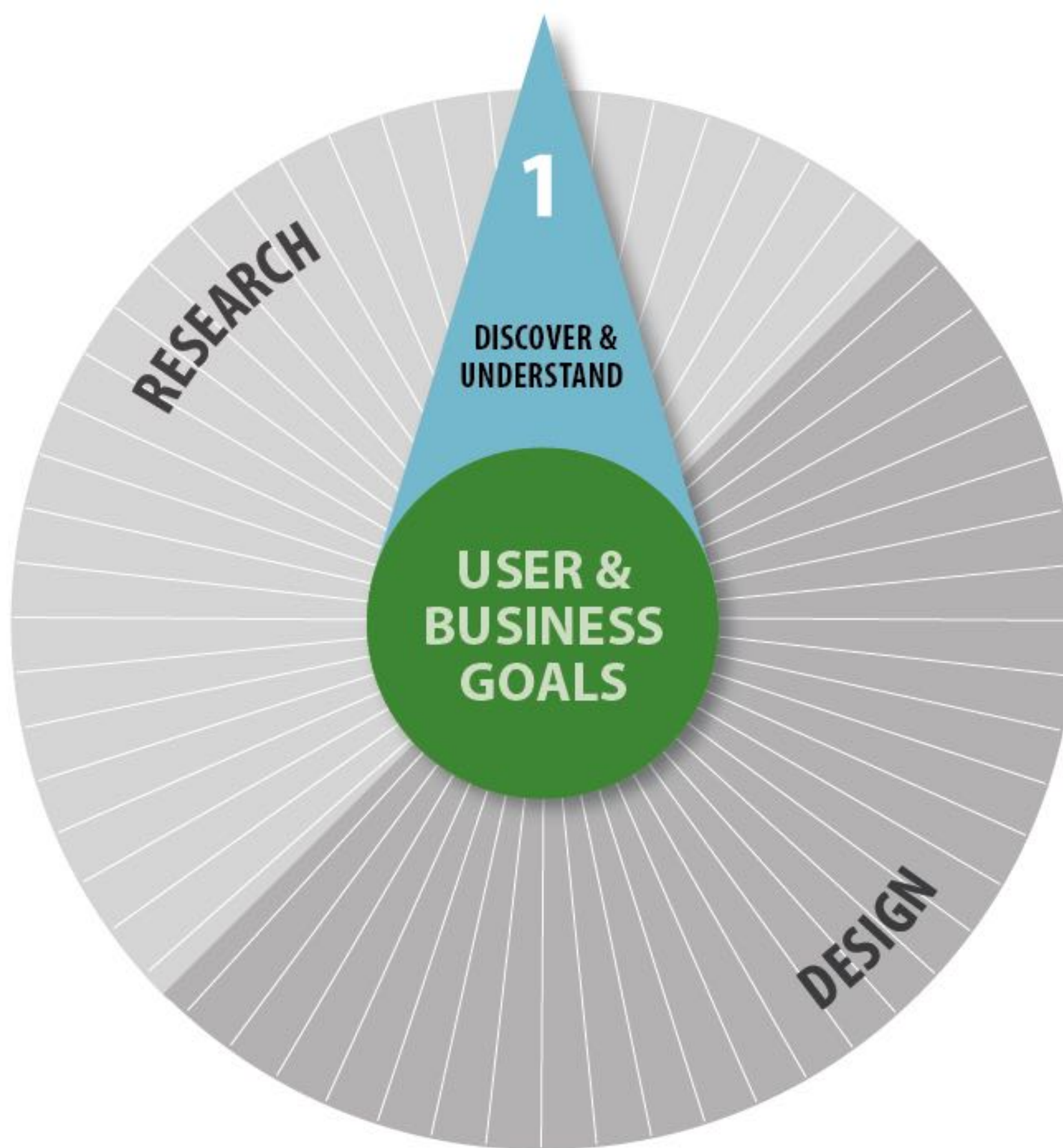


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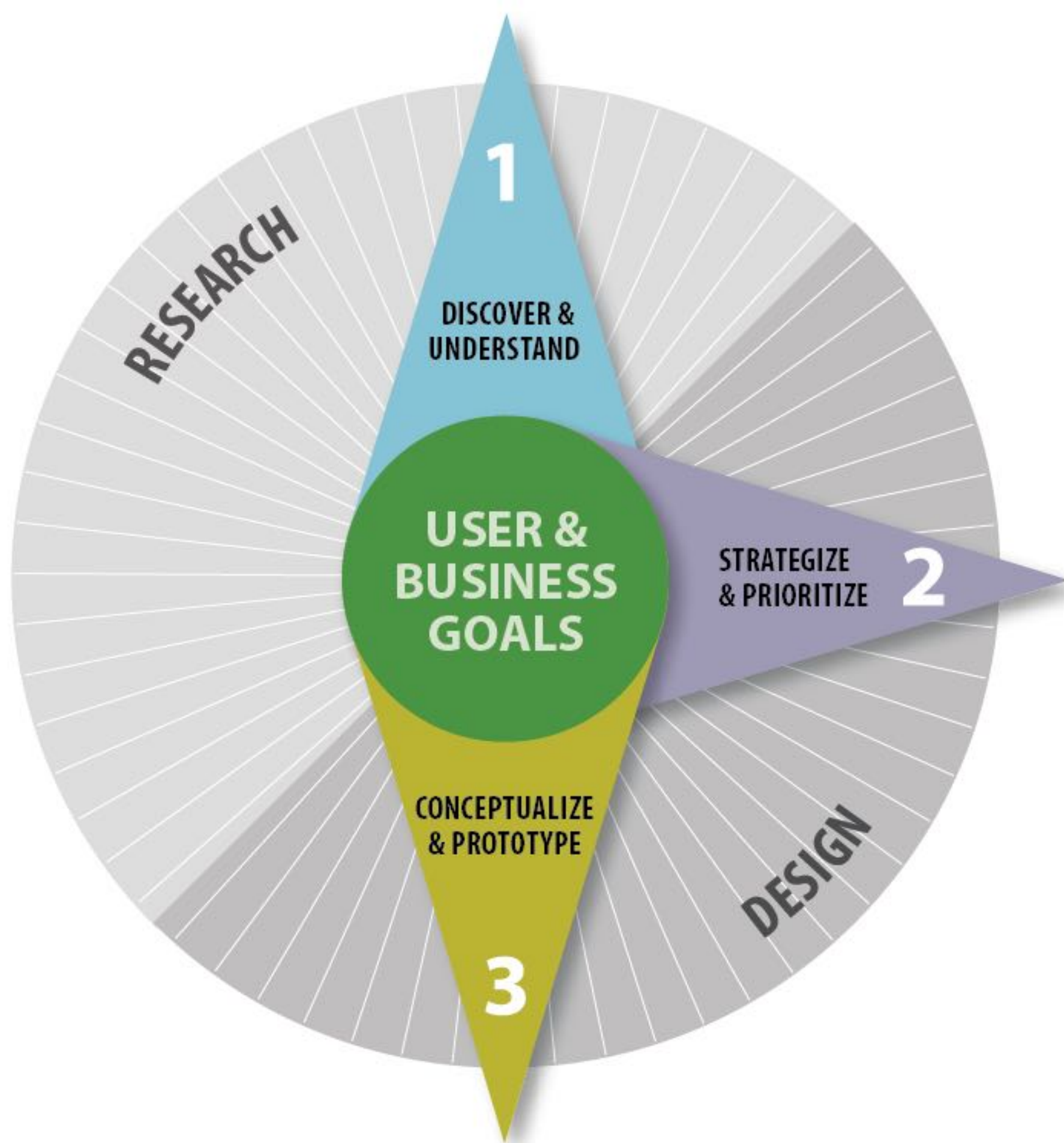


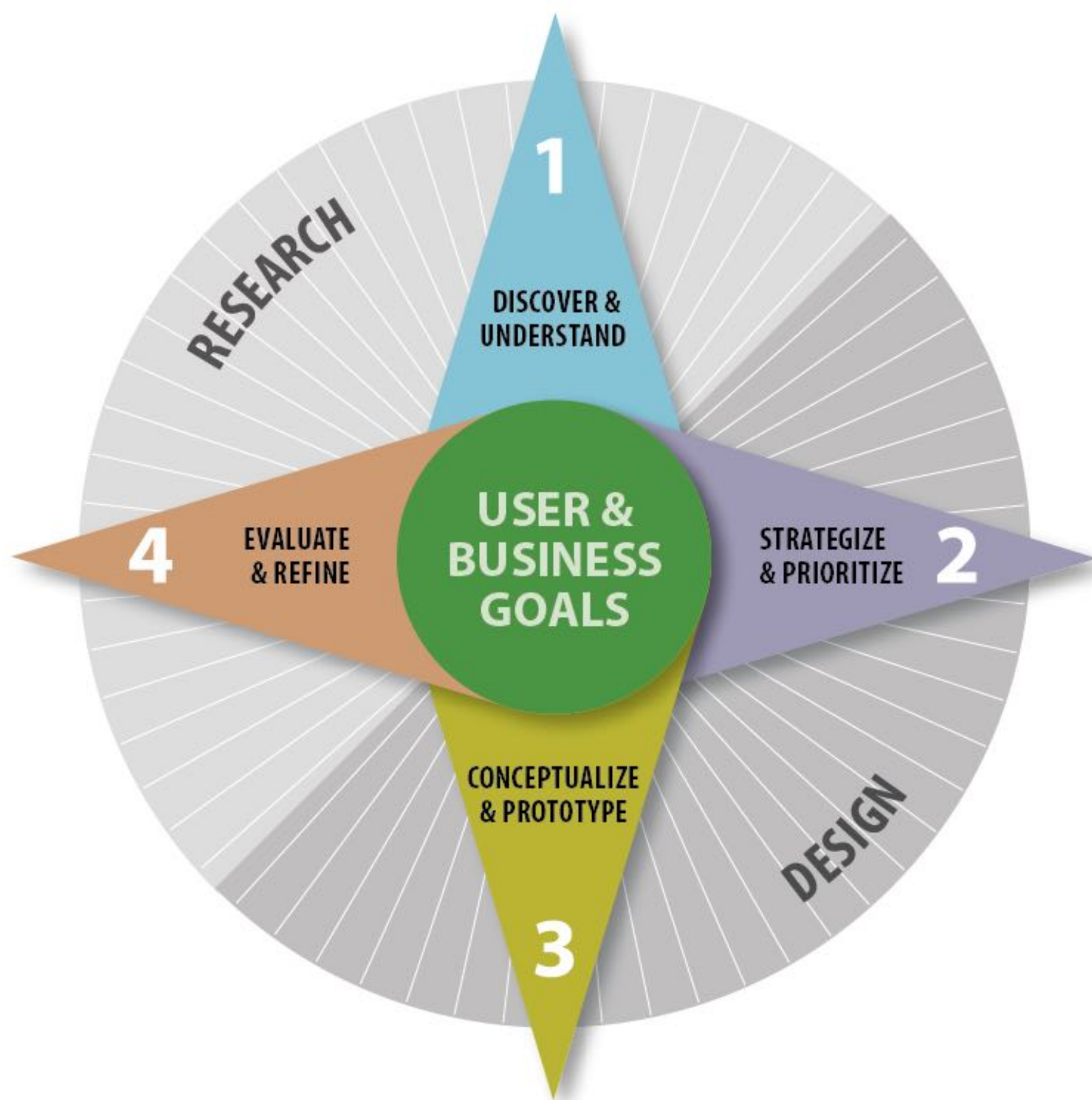


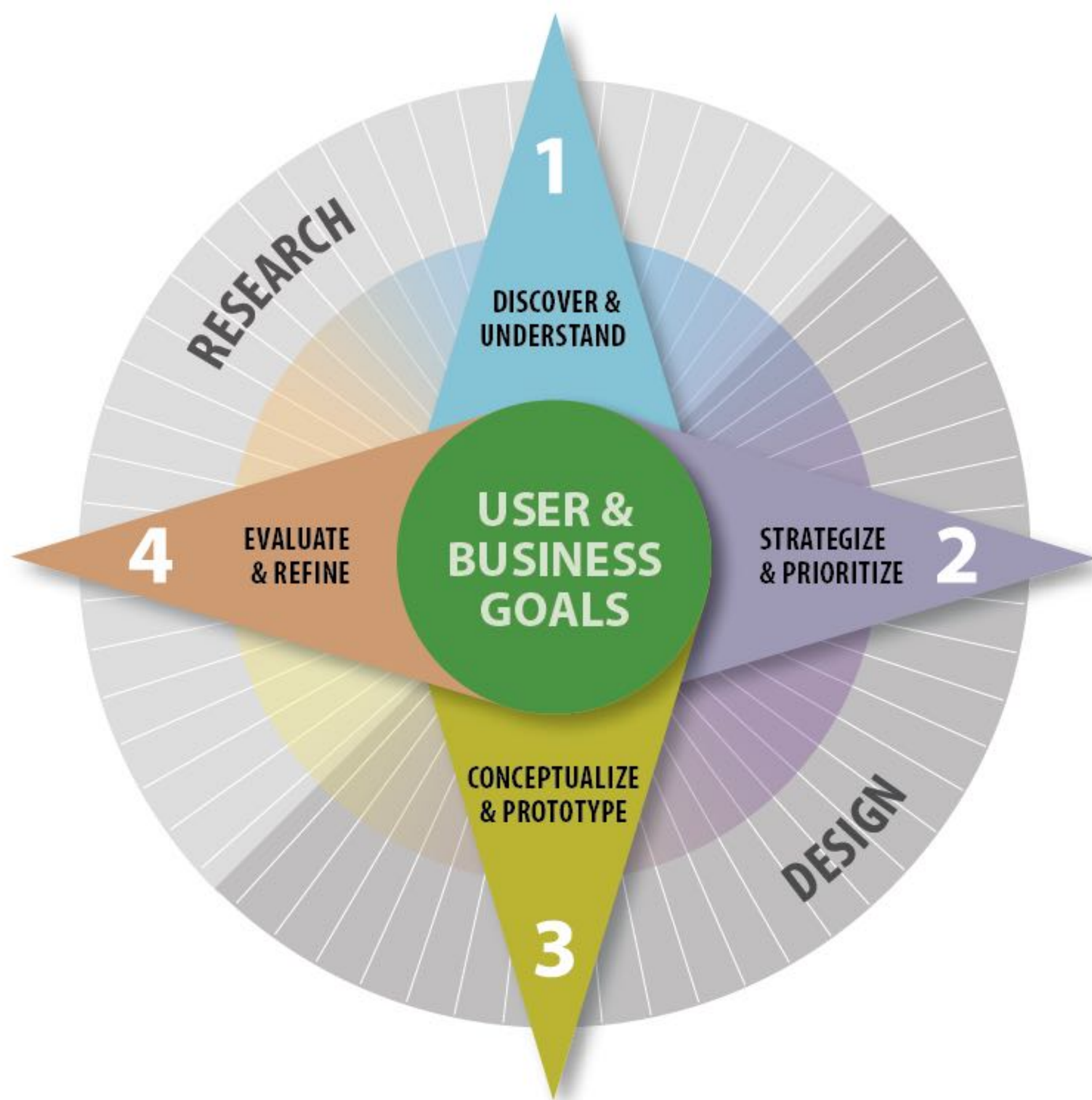
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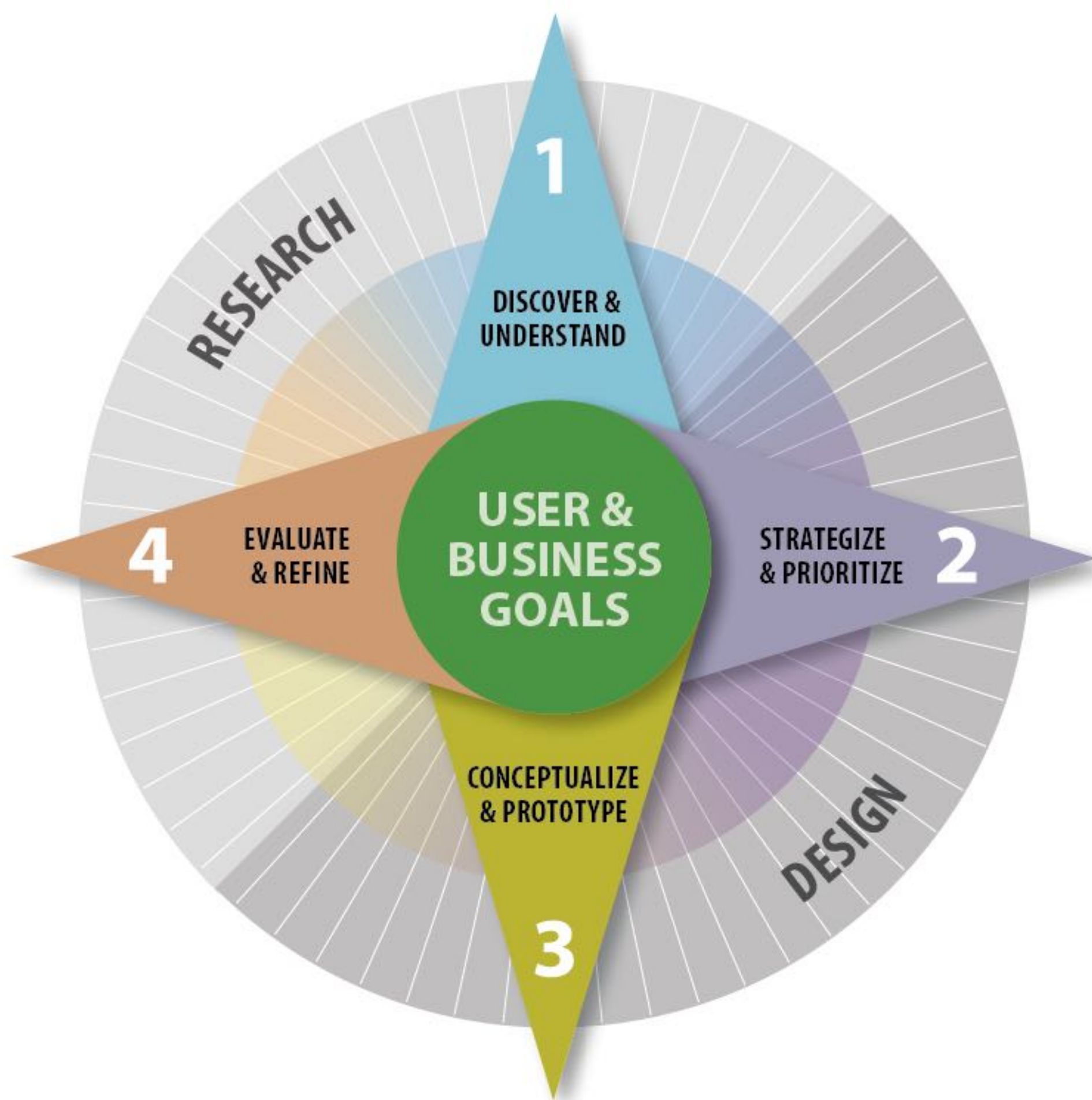




Our Process as a Toolkit

- Discover & understand
- Strategize & prioritize
- Conceptualize & prototype
- Evaluate & refine

Discover & Understand



Discover & Understand

- Affinity diagrams
- Contextual inquiries
- Empathy maps
- Interviews
- Job stories
- Jobs to be Done
- Personas
- Proto-personas
- Surveys
- Task analysis
- Five Ws and one H
- The five whys
- User interviews
- User stories



Susan Weinschenk, Ph.D.
Weinschenk Institute, LLC

5 Ways A Task Analysis Results In Great Design

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1lwT2VD5CJo>

What is the difference between a user goal and a task?

User Goal vs. Task

Goals

- Things users want or need to achieve
- Tend to remain constant over time
- System independent
- Reaching a goal changes the state of the world

User Goal vs. Task

Tasks

- Must be performed to reach goals
- Tend to change over time, often due to technology
- System dependent
- May require problem solving

Questions to Help Discover User Goals and Tasks

- Why would they use the system (goals)?
- What do they need to do to reach their goals (tasks)?
- What are common problems encountered?
- When would they use the system?
- Where would they be using the system?

Activity: User Goals vs. Tasks

THINK-PAIR-SHARE

Examples of student goals and tasks for using the GoSFU course registration system?

Example Task Analysis Tools

- Task inventory (incl. frequency & importance)
- Task frequency & importance matrix
- Task sequences
- Flowcharts

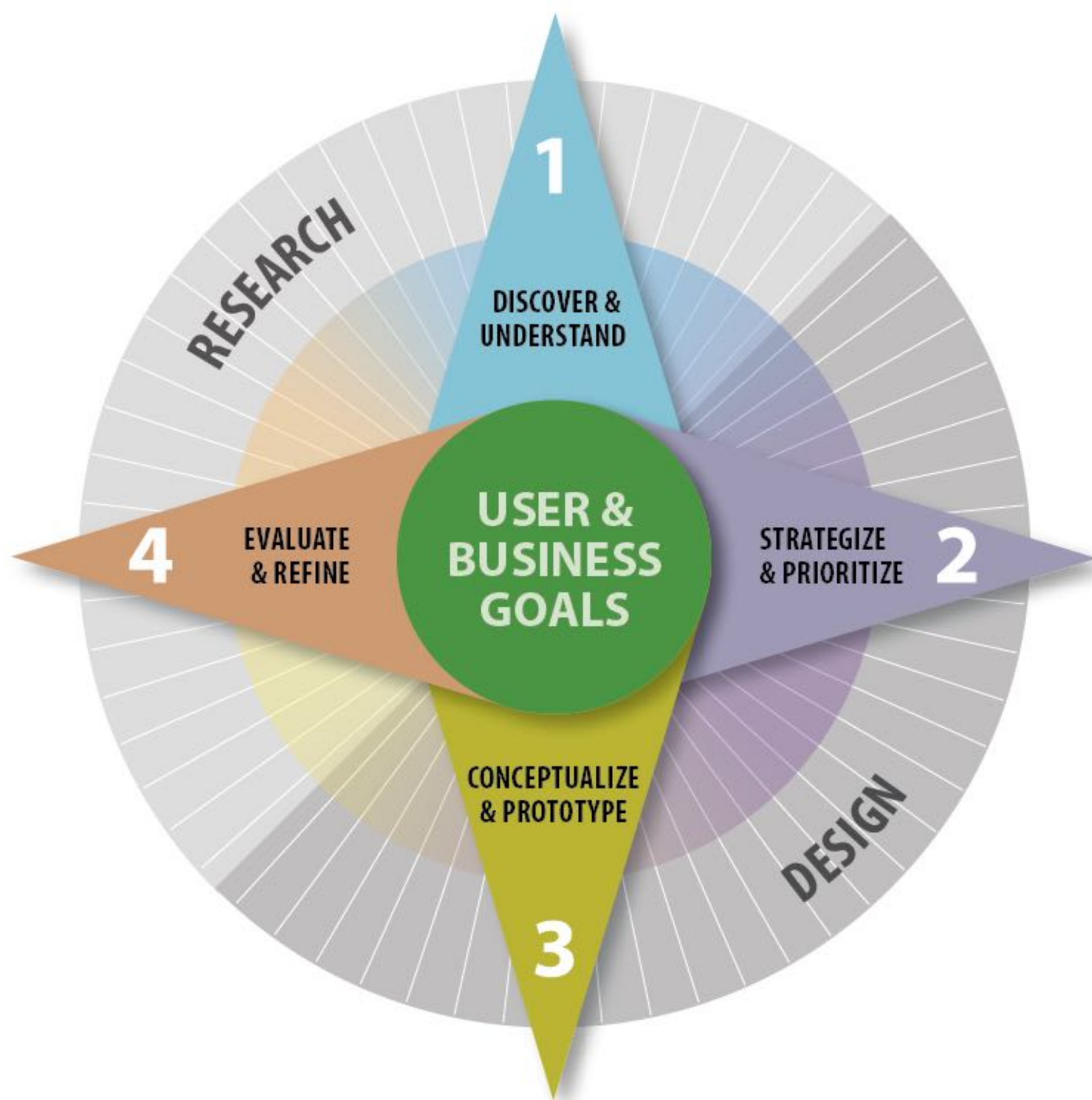
Task Importance & Frequency Matrix

Task List	User Group #1	User Group #2	User Group #3
Task #1	High/Frequent	High/ Infrequent	Low/Infrequent
Task #2	Never	Low/Infrequent	High/Frequent
Task #3	Low/Infrequent	Never	High/ Infrequent
Task #4	Low/Infrequent	Low/Infrequent	Low/Infrequent

Organizing an Interface by Tasks

- Important & frequent - higher visibility, fewer taps
- Important & infrequent - higher visibility, more taps
- Unimportant & frequent - lower visibility, fewer taps
- Unimportant & infrequent - lower visibility, more taps

Strategize & Prioritize



Strategize & Prioritize

- Content strategy
- Journey maps
- Kano model
- Problem statement
- Product design principles
- Product Reaction Cards
- Usability/UX goals
- Value Proposition
- Valuing UX

Usability Goals - How it Works

- Learnability (first-time users)
 - The product should be easy to learn
- Efficiency (experienced users)
 - The product should be efficient to use
- Memorability (casual users)
 - The product should be easy to remember
- Error-resistance (all users)
 - The product should minimize usage errors

Defining Usability Goals

- Common factors for consideration are
 - Frequency of use
 - Importance of task or need
 - Task structure (e.g. complexity, repetition)
 - Motivation/attitude
- Assign a priority to each goal (e.g. 1-3)
 - Could be specifically measured, but overall usability assessment (e.g. SUS) is usually sufficient

UX Goals - How it Feels

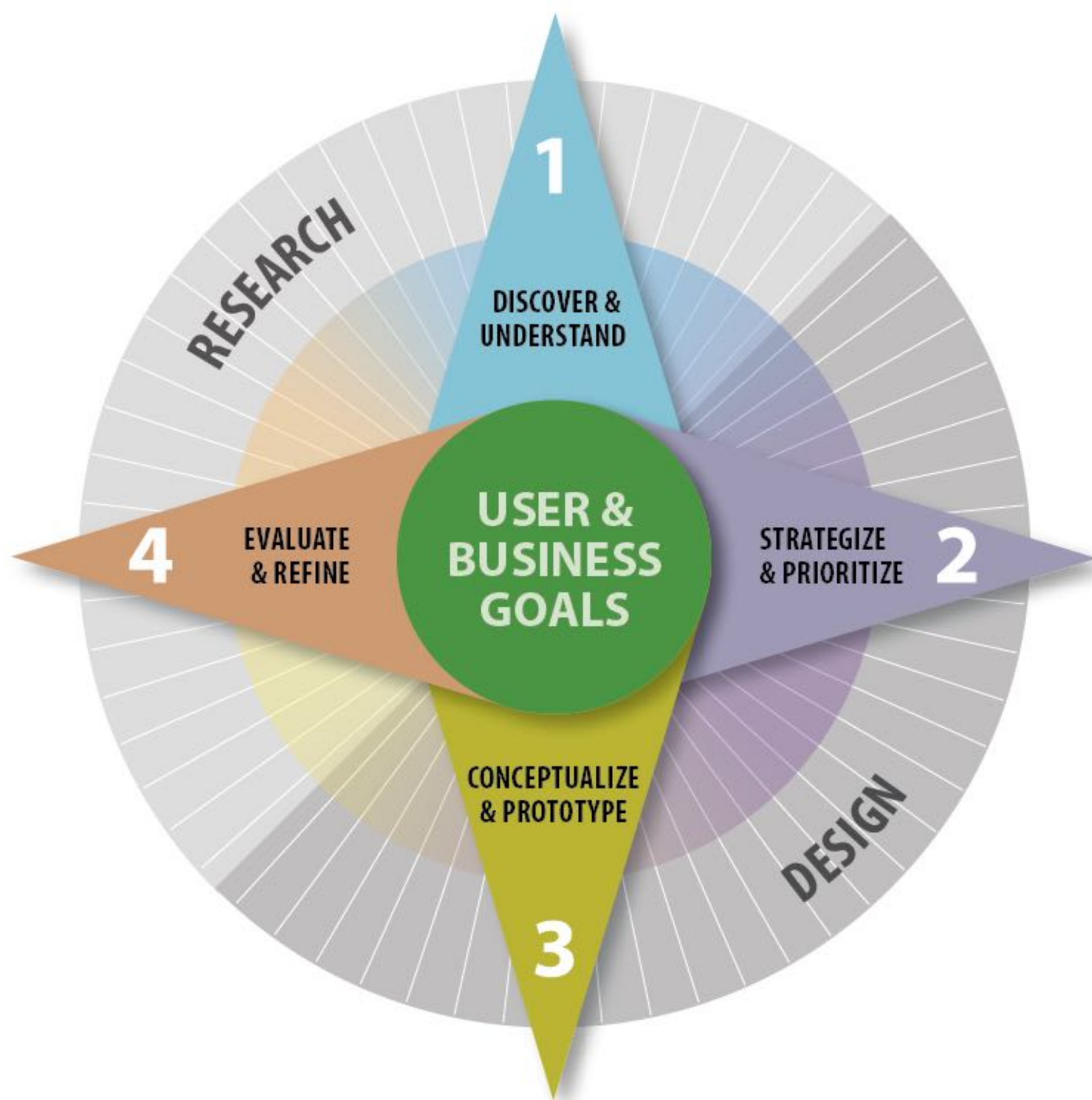
- Product Reaction Cards by Microsoft (2002)
- 118 words (60% positive, 40% negative)
- Sample words
 - Appealing
 - Complex
 - Familiar
 - Hard to use
 - Organized
 - Relevant
 - Too technical
 - Valuable

Defining UX Goals with Product Reaction Cards

- Select a set number of attributes (i.e. 4 to 8)
- For each attribute, assign a priority and note reason
- Consider visualizing results (e.g. word cloud)



Conceptualize & Prototype



Conceptualize & Prototype

- Conceptual models
- Content inventory
- Content prototyping
- Design patterns
- Task flow diagrams
- Platform design principles
- Responsive Web Design
- Seven stages of action
- Storyboards
- Visual design principles
- Wireframes

Content Prototyping

An approach where real content is utilized early on during a project for the creation of all prototypes

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animated or static images showing:
1) importing from sketch or photoshop
2) uploading images
3) using elements, layers, styling, etc. in editor


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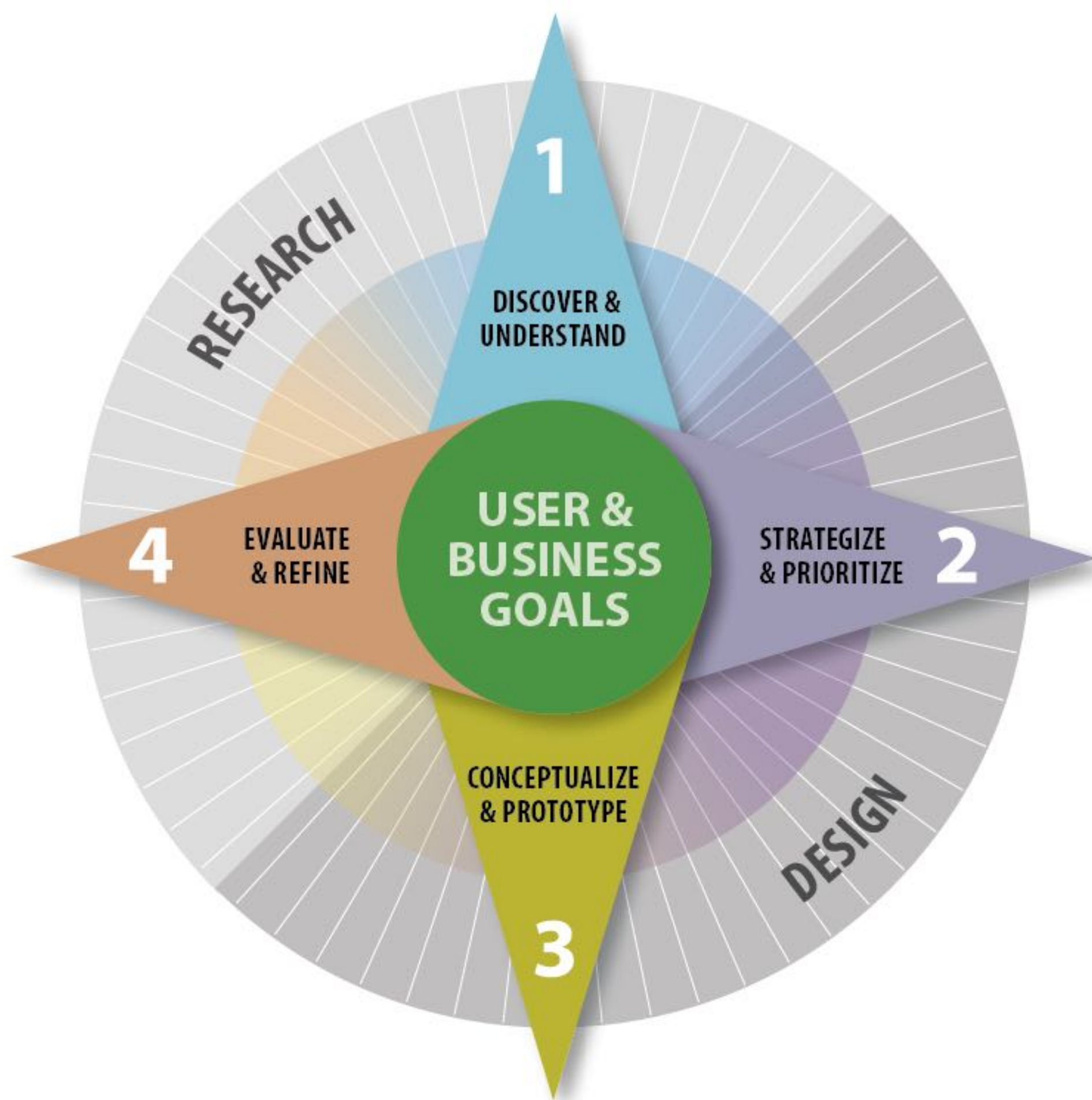
Love your current wireframe tools? Import flat wireframe files from any popular wireframe tool, or fully-layered wireframes directly from Sketch and Photoshop.   

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Learn more 

animated or static images showing:
1) importing from sketch or photoshop
2) uploading images
3) using elements, layers, styling, etc. in editor

Evaluate & Refine



Evaluate & Refine

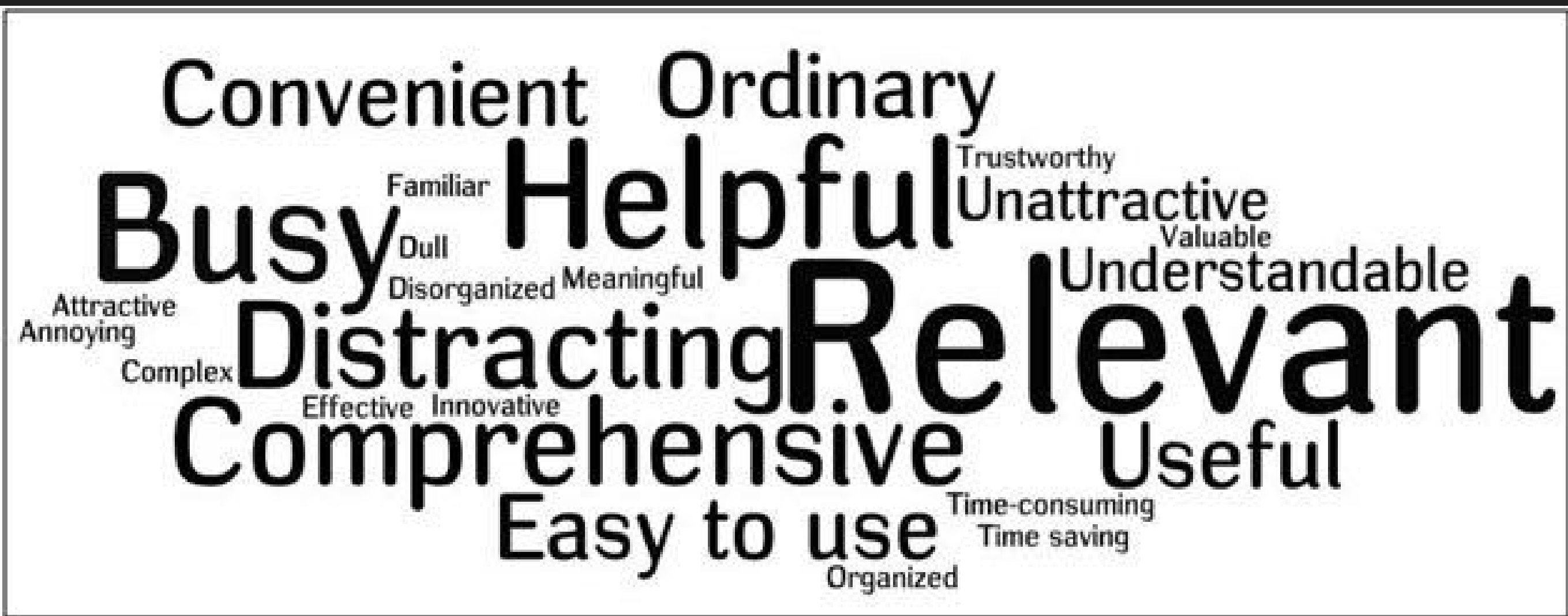
- 5-Second test
- Cognitive walkthrough
- Heuristic review
- Usability testing (informal and formal)

Measuring Usability Goals

- Learnability (first-time users)
 - Can a new user complete a task?
- Efficiency (experienced users)
 - How fast can a user complete a task?
- Memorability (casual users)
 - How easy can a repeat user recall how to complete a task?
- Error-resistance (all users)
 - How often does the software cause users to make an error?

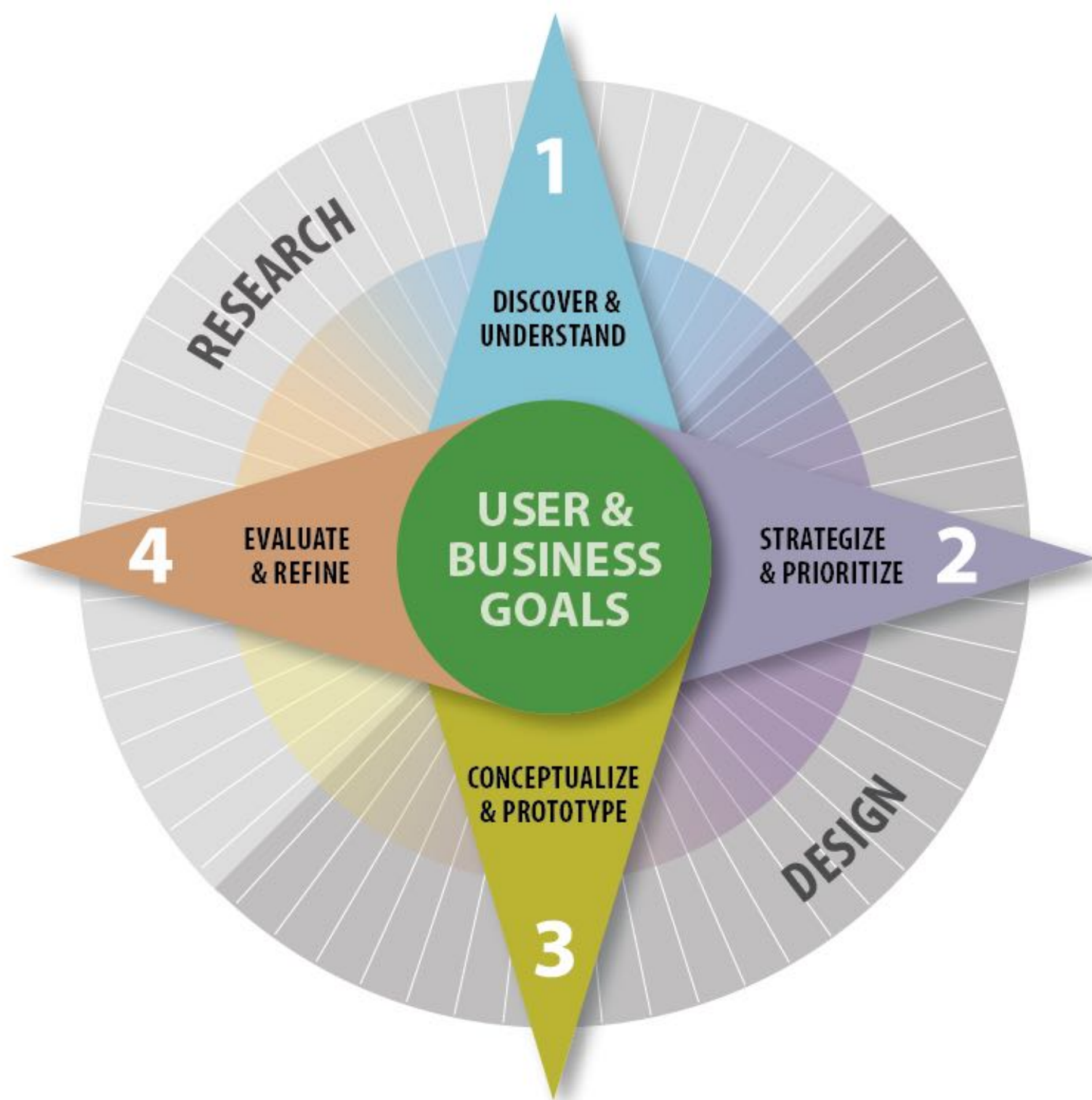
Measuring UX Goals with Product Reaction Cards

- Measuring
 - Reduce attributes to \approx 60 to 80
 - Ask participants to select most relevant 10
 - Visualize the results (e.g. word cloud)



Activity: Product Reaction Cards

- Pick one word to describe how you feel when using the GoSFU course registration system



Summary

- Software Development Processes
- User Experience Design Processes
- Our Design Process (aka Toolkit)

References and Suggested Books

- 100 Things Every Designer Needs to Know About People by Susan Weinschenk
- About Face 3: The Essentials of Interaction Design by Alan Cooper, Robert Reimann and David Cronin
- Lean UX by Jeff Gothelf
- The Design of Everyday Things by Donald A. Norman
- Rocket Surgery Made Easy by Steve Krug
- UX Team of One by Leah Buley

Image Credits

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