Project Part 0: Group Formation

Due: Sept 21

Description

Over the course of the term, you will work with a set of users as they conduct specific tasks. You will need to be able to:

- Interview these users
- Observe them as they work
- Get their opinions on designs that you create

This assignment is intended to help you form and find project groups with shared interests. **The sooner you turn this in, the better.**

Deliverables

For this assignment, create a document with the name of your project team (or your name), along with a description of the users whom you wish to study. You can list more than one user group (i.e., list all possibilities you have in mind). The goal of this assignment is to ensure everyone has a project group by the second week of class and to give us a chance to comment on your proposed user group.

Project groups should be 3-4 people in size.

Keep in mind that you will need to be able to interact with your users throughout the term. Thus, while it might be interesting to study astronauts, the chance of you being able to interact with them throughout the term is slim.

Remember, you will be studying people and their tasks. To make your job easier, your proposed user group should be experts with a specialty. For example, the following would make ideal users to study:

- Wet lab scientists
- Accountants
- Architects

Each of these users have very specific tasks that an average lay person could not do without training. Stay away from tasks that anyone could perform without training.

To the extent possible, seek out friends/relatives who are professionals working close by. As a last resort, if you have no contacts close by, you can study other students, preferably

those in a completely different major (e.g., chemistry, physics, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, etc.). As a rule of thumb, the less you know about your users' work, the better.

Given these guidelines, the following proposals are not acceptable:

- Building a better cell phone/MP3 player (no task, technology-centric)
- Kiosk for tourists (tourists are not specialized enough, and kiosk is technology-centric-you should be focusing on the people not planning to improve a specific technology)
- Temp office work (not specialized enough)

Note that you cannot study people in special populations. These include the following:

- Minors
- Medical patients
- Prisoners
- Those with mental disabilities or who otherwise cannot provide informed consent

If in doubt, contact the professor.

Each member of the group needs to submit the document to ensure that all members are aware that they are in a group.

Formatting

- PDF
- Submissions will be deducted 0.5 points for each formatting violation

Tips for Finding Groups

If you have trouble finding a group or groupmates, there is a Slack channel to facilitate this process. If you use this feature, please include **a list of potential users to study**.

If you do not find a group before the deadline, **you should still submit a document to Canvas with your name and list of potential users to study.**

Grading

Criteria	Pts
Members *List of team members*	2.5
List of Users *List of your potential users*	2.5
TOTAL	**5 pts**

Submissions

File: Group.pdf
Method: Submit on Canvas