Project plan

Goals

The goal of this is to help the group converge on its topic and plan.

Submission instructions

Create a page for your project plan, called something like “Group X Project Plan”, and put your plan on that page. We’d prefer them entered directly in Confluence rather than using a doc file so they’re easy to see. Post a link

- On your group’s page in Confluence.
- On the Group Project Plans page, where all groups will post their plans and where we will post our comments.

Requirements

Your team will produce a project choice report that does a few things.

- Present the main individual project ideas your group seriously considered, along with a brief description of what features of the ideas make them better or worse for your group. You’re welcome to consider real-world impact, importance, fun, difficulty, match with group members’ skills and interests, and any other factors that you considered in the decision. Three seriously considered ideas is probably plenty, though you’re welcome to have more if you want to talk about them, keep them in play, or remember them for inclusion in the final project portfolio.

- Elaborate on the description of the project you think you will pursue for the next eight weeks or so (or, the top few projects if you want to keep more than one in play). Talk broadly about the kinds of users who might use this project, the specific users you will be working with the rest of the semester, related systems and how you might borrow from or improve on them, and the goals and values that you hope to achieve by choosing this project.

- To be clear, we don’t want to see every idea—we saw those from the Main Project Brainstorm. Rather, we’d like to see a representative, small sample that helps us understand what you seriously considered, and why.

This is not yet a binding choice. Projects can continue to evolve for a little while; the main goal here is to help you make progress, start functioning as a group, and think about interesting design problems.

We’re expecting to see significantly more coverage of your top project or two, and only limited coverage of other projects you considered.

Evaluation

Our primary care is that you thought hard about the choice of a project. Did you conscientiously examine the possible projects that individual members had generated? Did you present good reasons for preferring some over others? Did you very carefully look at the project that you chose? Did you show evidence of your process? Do you have specific people who will be go-to resources for the remainder of the project?

This is an S/U assignment: do at least a passable job, and you’re fine; do an obviously thoughtless job, and there will be a deduction on your group’s final project grade. You should look toward the requirements for the final project portfolio, and this good example from 3450 past, to help you think about kinds of things you’ll want to capture so that you can use them later.