Project description IN5510 2024

This is a description of the mandatory project in the fall 2024. There are two deadlines for the project: the project plan and the project report.

> The deadline for the project plan is Wednesday Thursday September 26 at 23:59.
> Submit as email to guribv@ifi.uio.no and jasminni@ifi.uio.no
>
> The deadline for the project report will be published later.
> (A tentative deadline will be Tuesday Nov 26)

Project topics

Six project topics are presented in the course. These are given as possible starting points for the groups to discuss and develop. The given topics can provide some resources for the project work but are only to be taken as inspiration. You are free to choose other topics.

When selecting a topic, you are free to follow your interests but also take your possibilities for carrying out a project into consideration. For example, you can start with a user group that you can get in contact with or find a user group that will be suitable for investigating design possibilities.

When considering a user group, take how you can get in contact with user participants into account. Projects often grows out of existing relationships which can be a starting point, e.g.:

- Workplace
- Relatives – family friends
- Babysitting
- Colleagues
- ……

You can work in parallel with different contacts and see what will materialize. NB: when you contact people, be the best version of yourself (Crang and Cook, 2007).

Purpose

During the project you will:

- Make a rich description of an application area using the methods and techniques in the course curriculum,
- Design at least one prototypes of a service/system, and
- Analyse the design process and the design using concepts and theories from the curriculum.

You will need to describe and explain the design process and the methods and techniques you have used theoretically with concepts from the curriculum. The project work includes 3 mandatory assignments (“oblig”):

- A project plan
- A mid-term presentation
- A final project presentation

You will also write a project report, which will count 50 % of your final grade, the other 50% is the final oral exam.

Although we want to put this up as a realistic project, it is important to emphasize that it is an exercise.

The project plan

The plan is a mandatory assignment in IN5510 and is primarily a means for you to start thinking about what to do in the project. It is to be understood as a first formulation of what the group plan to do during the project work. The plan may be as long or short as you find useful as a basis for your work.

You will get feedback from the teachers to this project plan. We hope the plan will be a resource for the project work you will carry out and expect you to revise the plan several times as your project work unfolds. You do not need to submit revisions to the plan.

Template for the project plan

1. Area
A brief description of the topic for the project. Which area do you choose? What do you focus on?

2. Target group
What is your target group for the design? Who will be the future users?

3. Purpose
What will you find out, or address with the design?

4. Methods
Which techniques and methods will you use to reach your goal? Argue that they are fit for the purpose.

5. Plan
Plan for the project, where you may describe
how you organize your project,
milestones and responsibility,
work or product breakdown, and
a progress diagram

Main features of the task

The project work will mainly consist of the group's efforts to plan and execute experimental and participatory design. During the project work, you will learn to:

- Explain the basic principles of experimental and participatory design
- Apply basic tools and techniques for collaborating with users in the design process

- Provide a rich description of the use context and the user group
- Design a prototype together with users and evaluate it with them
- Analyse the design suggestion through theoretical concepts from the course and argue for your design choices
- Discuss ethical perspectives concerned with designing with these users
- Plan and execute a use-oriented design process, with aims of achieving mutual learning

The project must result in at least one prototype of the design solutions that the project group has developed.

Overview of the group work

- Establish the group
- Choose the project topic
- Choose a target group for the design
- Choose a choice of focus
- Make a plan for your project work to be submitted as a mandatory assignment.
- Midterm presentation, each group presents the project for 15-20 minutes and receive feedback
- Develop one or more prototype(s)
- Write the project report to be submitted as part of the exam

Good luck with your project work!

Guri and Jasmin