#### **CSE440: Introduction to HCI**

Methods for Design, Prototyping and Evaluating User Interaction

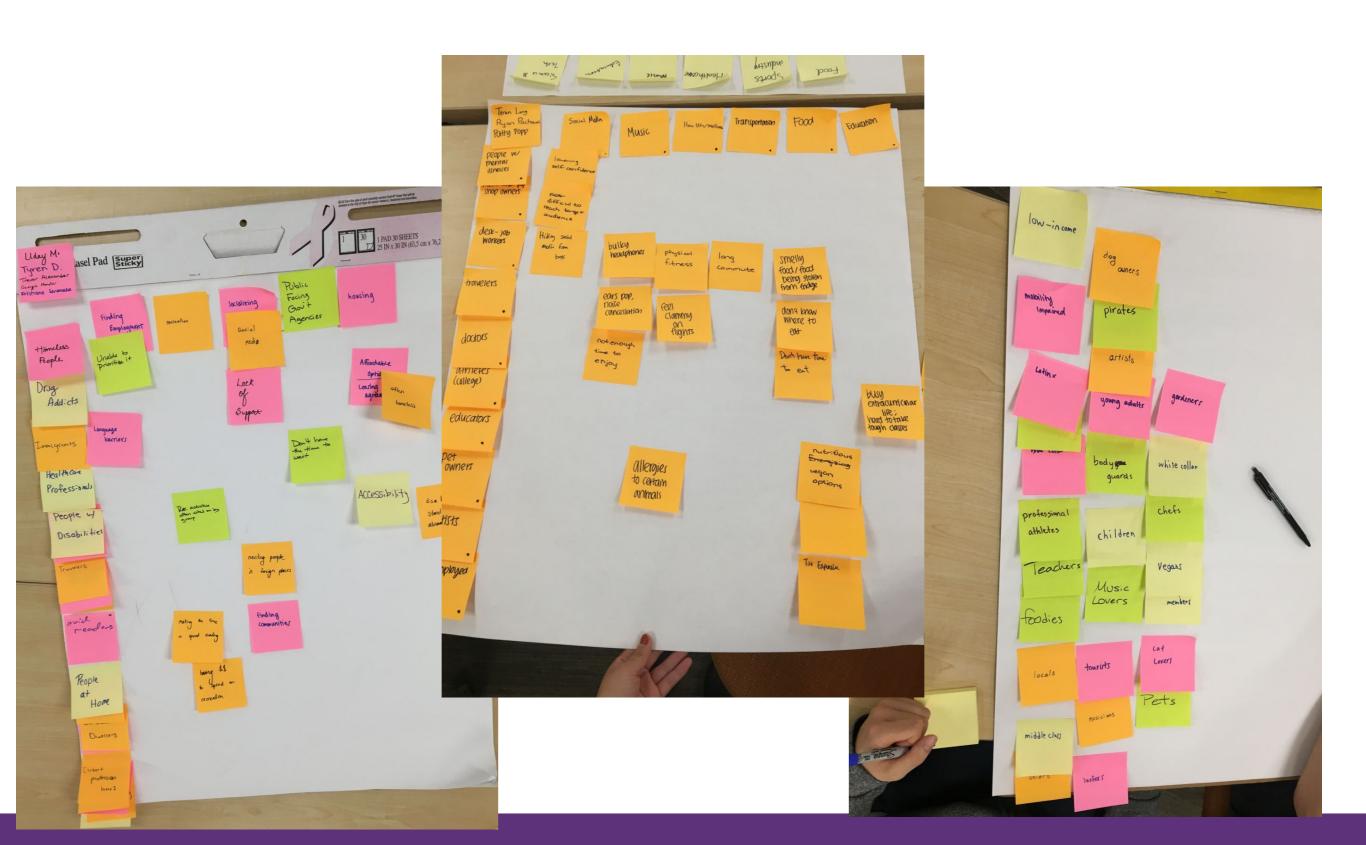
Lecture 03: Design Critique

Nigini Oliveira Abhinav Yadav Liang He Angel Vuong Jeremy Viny





# What about Friday Section?



### What do you want to improve?

Help travellers to connect with their families and we all to sleep better

Balance out the amount of time children and others spend on digital devices and gaming

Increase awareness of consuming footprint

Cook at home and eating healthier

Make commuting faster and driving safer

Help communities that need outdoor installations and social encounters

Manage time and health for students and content (sometimes harmful) for readers

Support people on taking care of their loyal companions: plants and pets

#### Week Calendar

Apr 9 Apr 10 Apr 11 Apr 12 Design of Everyday Things Designing Critique 1b - Project Proposal Section 10:00 - 11:20 | OUG 136 10:00 - 11:20 | OUG 136 10:30 - 11:20 | MGH 058 Nigini's office hours 11:30 - 12:20 | MGH 058 10:00 - 12:00 1:30 - 2:20 | MGH 058 Allen Center 338 2:30 - 3:20 | MGH 058 1c - Revised Project Proposal

# Design Critique

# Why critique?

#### Critique helps evaluate early, often, and cheaply

Applicable to artifacts of many types

Compare to other expert inspection methods

#### You are not your own worst (best!?) critic

We collectively know more than any one of us

It is hard to see past your own decisions

Design requires getting past our own infatuation

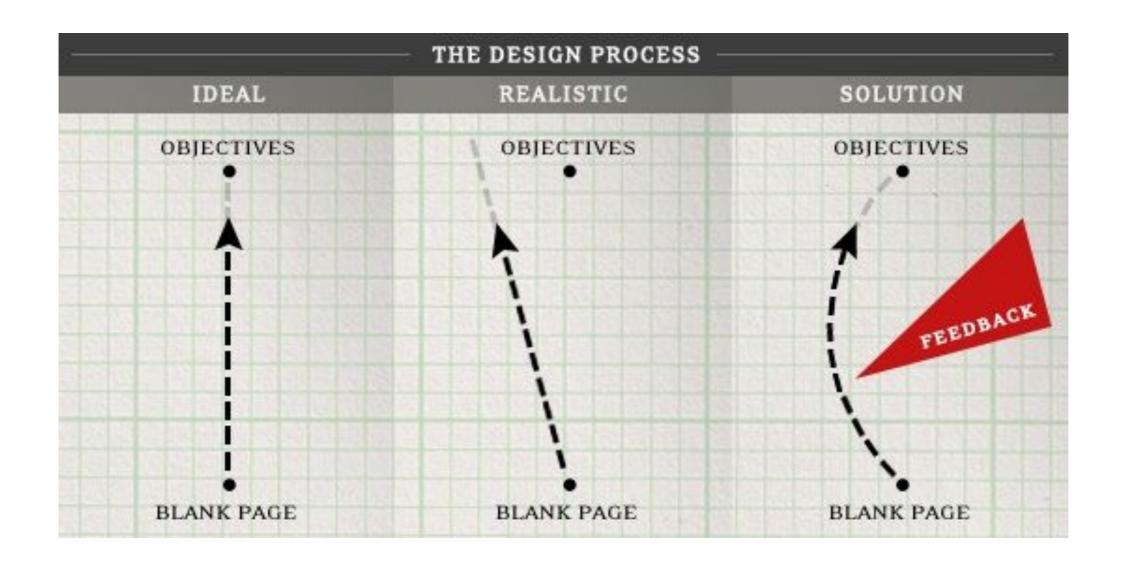
# Why critique?

You will encounter critique in many other disciplines visual art, writing, design, code (i.e., code review)

Over time, you should gather people who can give you high-quality critique in everything you do

You may meet some of those people in this class!

# Critique is about improvement



## What is critique?

#### Critique is a method for feedback

It is not just a list of complaints

- 1. Presenters sit down with critics
- 2. Quickly explain their artifacts and their feedback needs
- 3. Critiques ask clarification questions, then give feedback
- Presenters respond to questions and take notes on what is discussed

#### Critique is not criticism!

Seriously, not just a list of complaints

Critiques offer honest feedback

Both positive and negative

Presenters should be able to learn what works well and what is problematic about their artifact

It is then presenter's responsibility to sort through feedback, decide what is important, and how to act

You must take notes for later review

### Common issues in critique feedback

Lack of Clarity

Taking it Personal

Design Apathy

Contradictions

Indecisiveness

Resistance

Too much Negativity

(McDaniel)

## Tips for those receiving feedback

#### Taking advice is not giving up authorship

You still make the final decision

A half-baked suggestion does not contain all the details of a finished solution

#### Design your critique

What you show invites different forms of feedback

Verbally indicate what kind of feedback you want, but also provide an artifact of appropriate form

This course will guide you what feedback you invite at which stage

#### Tips for critics

#### Hamburger method:

Bun: something fluffy and nice

Meat: Criticism on how to improve

Bun: Something fluffy and nice

#### I like, I wish, What if method:

I like: Lead with something nice

I wish: Some criticism, often leading from what you like

What if: An idea to spark further conversation

#### Socratic method:

Identify an aspect of design and ask "Why?"

Can be good if unsure what else to say

Forces presenter to give, or develop, explanations for decisions

Avoids that the presenter gets defensive (gives him/her a chance to justify)

## Tips for critics

Limit your use of personal pronouns (e.g., "you")

Critique is about the artifact, not the designer!

A designer deserves honest feedback
Both positive and negative
Including clarity and rationale

Help with actionable suggestions

### Critique summary

Fall out of love with the things you build Let others help you see past the infatuation

Get feedback early, often, and cheaply

Focus on improvement

In brainstorming, we were not criticizing In critique, we are not defending

You will learn to both give and receive critique If you are having difficulties... (join the club)! =)



# Project Proposals

## Sit with people from your Section

(3-4 people per group!)

A (10:30)	B (11:30)	C (1:30)	D (2:30)
4 people	4 people	4 people	4 people
4 people	4 people	4 people	4 people
3 people	4 people	3 people	
	1 PERSON (MOVE to A or C?)		

## Proposal draft activity (Step one)

5 minutes: Take turns to present your favorite idea as submitted in assignment 1a.

Only one idea per person.

## Proposal draft activity (Step two)

5 minutes: After hearing all ideas, which ones are you most excited about? **Pick two ideas** that your team would like to move forward with.

If there is no consensus, discuss how the ideas could be combined.

## Proposal draft activity (Step three)

10 minutes: For each of the two ideas, **discuss the questions** on the handout.

Pick the idea that is ultimately most promising.

#### Proposal draft activity (Step four)

3 minutes: Prepare to present and get feedback.

- Who will present? (The others should take notes)
- What will be presented in a 1-2 minutes pitch?

#### Peer-feedback session

5 (x2) minutes: Partner with another team and take turns in providing each other with **feedback**.

- Pitch your project idea (2 minutes)
- Get feedback from the other group (3 minutes)
- Invert and repeat

#### Feedback questions:

What do you think is interesting about the chosen **domain and target group**?

How do you think this target group could be interviewed or observed (within the **scope of this class**)?

Why do you think is the **design problem** unique and important?

Do you know whether the design problem has been **addressed in the past**, and if yes, how? (We want to avoid creating another Facebook or Meet-up!)

In general, do you think the project can be turned into something **exciting and novel**? Or is there a way to give it a more exciting twist?

# Ask me something!