

Assignment 1 User Interface Exploration

The goal of this assignment is to get you to start considering user interfaces and being able to express your opinion on them in a justified manner. Answer the following questions:

1. What does a user interface mean to you?
2. Why is a UI an important consideration when it comes to the design of information systems?
3. What stage in the design of the system should the UI be a consideration? Please explain
4. Now I would like you to put your evaluation hat on and consider the following:
 - a. Good Interfaces
 - i. Describe in detail an interface that you think was good and accomplished what was intended of it
 - ii. What made the Interface effective?
 - iii. What areas of this interface would you include in your own if you were designing one? Why?
 - iv. Are there any areas you would not select for use in your own UI? Why?
 - v. How would you describe the interface in terms of aesthetics?
 1. Does this affect its effectiveness in your eyes?
 - b. Bad Interfaces
 - i. Describe in detail an interface that you thought was poorly designed.
 - ii. What was bad about the interface that made it ineffective?
 - iii. What steps would you take to fix these errors?
 - iv. What do you think the impact is on the software due to the poor interface?
 - v. How do you personally feel about this organization after having to use this interface?
 - vi. What would you do to ensure that you do not repeat the same mistakes this designer did?
5. When it comes to a UI which do you personally believe is more important that of form or function? Defend your stance.
6. If you were designing a User Interface what would be your most important consideration? Why?
7. As in the other classes, what would you like to learn throughout this semester? How do you think the field of user interface design will influence your life?