Effective Planning

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Survey

Approaching the problem from an appropriate direction
Planner Type Usage

- Google Calendar: 40%
- Paper and pen/notebook/planner: 35%
- Other: 10%
- Microsoft Outlook/Apple iCal: 10%
- Phone/portable handheld device: 5%
Important Features to Have

- Seeing a list of events/assignments
- Having a calendar of events/assignments
- Being able to sort and filter events/assignments based on due date/event time
- Ability to adjust event/assignment importance
- Viewing event/assignments in order of importance (as opposed to due date/event time)
- Color coding of priority or type (course, event, assignment, etc)
- Accessibility via the internet (aka through a website)
- Other
Attribute Importance

• Situational Events
  ▫ Sample Event: Given the tasks below, please rank the tasks in the order you would complete them. 1 being the first task to complete and 4 being the last task. (Note: there is no right or wrong answer)
    • Assignment A: Due in 3 days. Worth 5% of your grade for Course V. Will take about 1 hour to complete. Will be used by Assignment D
    • Assignment B: Due in 3 days. Worth 25% of your grade for Course X. Will take about 6 hours to complete
    • Assignment C: Due in 5 days. Worth 15% of your grade for Course Y. Will take about 4 hours to complete
    • Assignment D: Due in 6 days. Worth 20% of your grade for Course V. Will take about 6 hours to complete. Depends on completion of Assignment A.
Order of Importance

1. Due Date
2. Grade Weight
3. Expected Completion time
Qualitative Study
Evaluating 3 types of assignment planning solutions
Heuristic Evaluations

• 3 Evaluators
  ▫ Each evaluated each assignment planner:
    • Physical Planner
    • Google Calendar
    • Lo-fi Prototype of our Proposed Solution
Results

• Did a Severity Questionnaire
  ▫ Biggest problem was search
    • Searching for an assignment is a hassle in physical planners.
  ▫ Everything else was considered “minor problems”
    • Lack of overview, customization, etc.
Things To Do

• Make SQL Database work with Flex
• Transitions
• Calendar View
• List View
• Stack View
  ▫ When clicked → connect to larger editing window
• Incorporating Effective Priority Algorithm
• Making the legends into clickable filters