Independent Research (“Book Report”)  
and  
Presentation in Class

Objectives

1. opportunity to engage in self-directed learning in the context of a independent research exploration  
   1.1. this work is more conceptual than the course project (“Hands-On”) and is intended to complement complements the general experience of the course project?  
   1.2. in other words: it can be directly related to the course project, but it does not have to be!  
2. you will form teams of 2-5 members each focused design, learning, collaboration. These are broad topics and you should define a focus for your investigation by finding a specific topic in your area of investigation. Themes for more specific research topics are:  
   2.1. social creativity  
   2.2. meta-design  
   2.3. end-user development  
   2.4. distributed cognition  
3. some ideas:  
   3.1. for your information gathering process use books, articles, opinion pieces, the WWW, information on Amazon about the suggested books  
   3.2. interview people (e.g., faculty members, PhD students, friends, colleagues at work, ..) about their insights and perspectives  
4. interaction between teams: the four different teams should interact with each other and see how their findings can profit from each other  
5. discuss how your findings relate to some of the other topics discussed in the class

Deliverables:

1. a three to five page summary report of your “book report”  
2. please post this report (and copies of your slides in case you use slides) on the Swiki not later than 10:00am on the day of your presentation!  
3. a presentation in class  
   3.1. each team will have a full class session  
   3.2. think about how to get the audience involved

Assessment

1. your contribution to this major aspect of the course will be assessed as follows:  
   1.1. your work material submitted, including  
      1.1.1. your “mastering” of the theme chosen by you  
      1.1.2. your originality (i.e., just copying phrases from different sources will not do)  
   1.2. your presentation in class  
2. your work will be evaluated as a team effort — so hopefully all team members will act as “good contributors” to the collaborative effort!
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenters</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mo, 4/12</td>
<td>4/12</td>
<td>Collaborative Learning in Undergraduate Classrooms</td>
<td>Bill Beachley, Jun Chen, Huda Khan, Sarah Kim-Warren Scott Zweig</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mo, 4/19</td>
<td>4/19</td>
<td>Design of User-Friendly Systems</td>
<td>Joel Clawson, Genevieve Hudak, Brock LaMeres, Kitty Turner</td>
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