FARMUR
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WNM 801 OL28: User Experience

Session 1 Discussion Topics

Topic 1.2: Describe the domain area level of expertise for your project and define how well you know this area. Do you need to do a lot more research?

My thesis project covers the following areas:

1. Motion Graphics: My main area of focus, and reason for enrolling in the AAU program. I have always planned to have a strong motion graphics component to my thesis project.
2. Urban Farming: I love gardening, learning about sustainable food systems, and being outdoors. I've volunteered at a botanical gardens before I started the AAU program and I was involved in growing a model edible garden display with a team. I have had to do a lot of research into this subject, but I'm feeling quite confident that I the parts I need to present to people have been examined enough. I still need to condense my research into interesting copy for reading, but that should be fun.
3. Visual Design: I started the AAU program with very little background in Design—I have been delighted to explore this side of my project. I've already gone through the Visual Design class, so I feel I'm on the right track with my overall look and feel. I have learned a lot since I started this program and I'm really excited that I was able to integrate a lot of illustrations into my finished project.
4. User Experience: This is probably the newest area of focus me, but the one I think I will feel most comfortable as I learn more. I was a design intern at a startup in San Francisco last year called, Spacebar, where learned a lot about user experience and how much a user interface can really affect a user's response to a product. I have also taken the UX1 course on campus, but I'm looking forward to doing more testing a gathering of research related to my thesis. I really want to make my finished product be something people want to share with their friends—hopefully inspiring people to get involved in the food system more.
5. Web Technologies: Being this program in partly a "Web Design" program I have been spending a lot of time teaching myself how to utilize modern web technologies such as: HTML, CSS, and Javascript. I had done very minor web development before starting the AAU program, but I've been researching this topic a whole lot since I really want to know how to integrate motion graphics with interactivity. I still need to research how I will make the animations play when the user switches the sections, and to create a working test to prove I can do it.