MGA 673 – Evaluating User Experience (5 ETS, 135h), spring 2017 (15 weeks)

Instructor: Sónia Sousa, sonia.sousa@idmaster.eu

Teaching support: Mati Mottus, mati.mottus@idmaster.eu

Contact Details: All email communication regarding this course should be sent to mati.mottus@idmaster.eu cc'ing sonia.sousa@idmaster.eu. Special online "office hours" will be set up for group and individual mentoring and those will be conducted through Google Hangouts.

Course objectives: This course aims to broaden your scope of interaction design by focusing on methods, tools and procedure for user experience evaluating.

This course will focus on three main aspects:

- Distinguishing main user experience concerns and usability metrics,
- Understanding the consequences of getting feedback on specific design processes and concerns; and
- Understanding how to report its criteria and recommendations.

Course content: Tools for measuring user experience. The course's structure is spread over 8 sessions (14 days apart). The course consists of the following modules:

	Date	*Course content by topic*
Session 1	23-5 Feb	Evaluation of Concepts
Session 2	6-19 Feb	Evaluation of Concepts

Session 3	20-5 Mar	Evaluation of Early prototypes
Session 4	6-19 Mar	Evaluation with Early prototypes
Session 5	20-2 Apr	Evaluation of Functional prototypes
Session 6	3-16 Apr	Evaluation of Functional prototypes
Session 7	17-30 Apr	Evaluation of Functional prototypes
Session 8	1-14 May	Overall reflection and evaluation defence (synchronous session)

Learning Outcomes: After successfully completing the course students will know:

● Recognize main user experience concerns and usability metrics.

● How to apply its criteria and recommendations.

● How to assess user experience concerns and usability metrics

● How to cater for evaluating user experience main features in user centred design processes.

● How to report the evaluation criteria and provide recommendations

Workload: To successfully complete this course students are required to do

Expected work activities: Students are expected to: (1) take part in individual reading assignments; (2) participate in the synchronous sessions; and (3) fulfill practical assignments.

Expected group work activities: Students are required to…

● Participate and report on an usability metrics (group activity);

● Participate in the group mentoring sessions.

● Participate and report on an evaluating user experience workshop (group activity); and

Expected individual activities: Students are required to:
● To elaborate four reading cards (individual activity).

Note: Students should select at least one paper from each of the three reading lists (usability metrics, user experience and user centered design).

Assessment criteria

You will be assessed as Exam. The threshold for passing the course is 51%.

To pass you are required to…

- Maintain and regularly update a GitHub repository for their project with source code and documentation;
- Develop at least one fully functional feature of the group prototype and provide a detailed explanation of the source code.

Synchronous activities:

These sessions are planned to be short synchronous session of 30 minutes. In each session we will discuss acquired knowledge, provide feedback and/or mentor students. We will divide this session in groups and a time for discussion will be agreed with the students. The synchronous sessions are planned to occur on the following dates: 2 in February, 1 in March, 2 in April and 1 in May. The times and days of these synchronous sessions will be decided and announced early in the semester.