Advancing User-Centered Design in the UiTM Library

Adi Azri bin Mohamad, Abang Mohd Farizan Bin Abang Yakup, Khairil Bahrom Bin Rosli and Mohamad Ismail Bin Bolia

Perpustakaan Tun Abdul Razak, UiTM Sarawak



Library and User-Centered Design (UCD)

Library user-centered design is a strategic methodology that tailors library services and spaces to patrons' needs. By engaging users in design decisions, libraries create accessible, intuitive, and enriching environments.

This approach enhances user experiences, promotes information discovery, and cultivates a sense of belonging within the library community.



UiTM Libraries User-Centered Design (UCD)

- A notable example of User-Centered Design implemented by UiTM libraries is the creation of a mobile app tailored to students' needs.
- The app offers intuitive navigation, personalized book recommendations, and easy access to electronic resources. By considering user feedback and preferences, the library maximizes convenience, promoting seamless information access and enhancing the overall learning experience.





MOBILEAPP@UITM LIBRARY

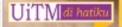
https://mobileptar.uitm.edu.my











An Ideal Choice for



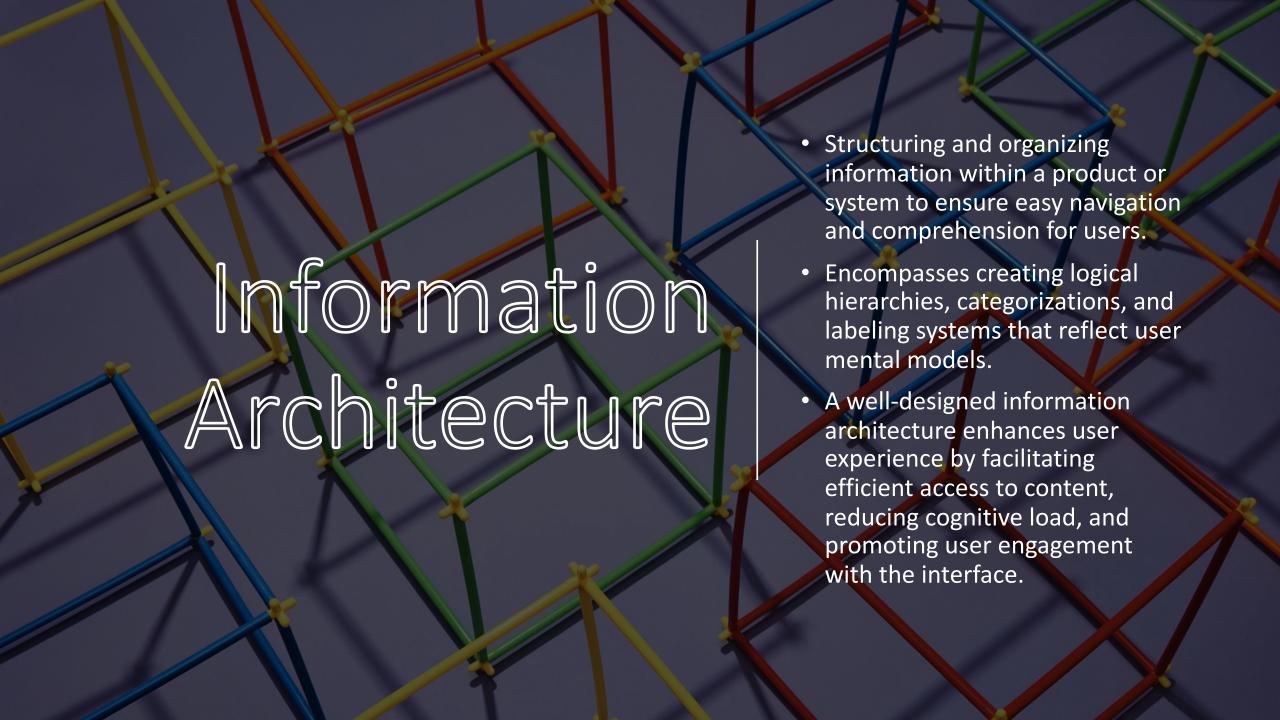
Key Principles of User-Centered Design

- User Research: Engaging users through surveys, focus groups, and observations to uncover their needs, challenges, and aspirations.
- Persona Development: Creating representative user profiles to inform design decisions and facilitate empathy with different user segments.
- Information Architecture: Designing intuitive information structures that enable users to navigate resources effortlessly.
- Prototyping and Testing: Developing prototypes of services, interfaces, or spaces and testing them iteratively with users to gather feedback.
- Iterative Design: Continuously refining and enhancing designs based on user feedback, leading to optimized solutions.



Persona Development

- Crafting fictional but representative profiles of typical users based on research data.
- Embody user characteristics, goals, behaviors, and needs, helping designers empathize with and design for real users.
- Design teams can better align their decisions and strategies with users' perspectives
- Enhancing the likelihood of creating products or services that genuinely resonate and fulfill user requirements.

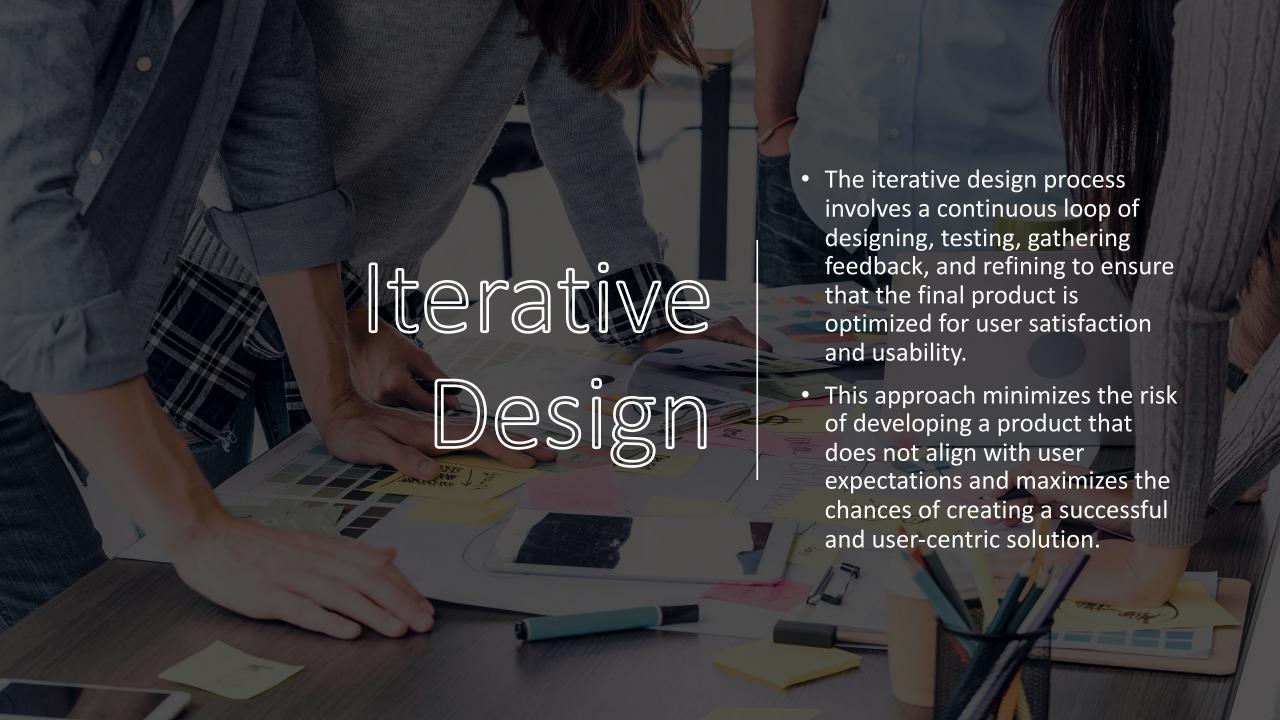


Prototyping and Testing

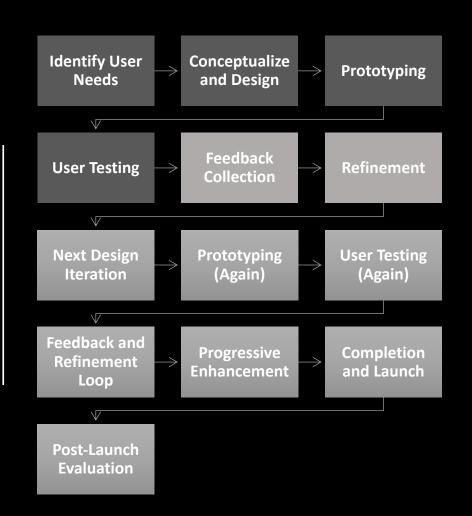
Prototyping: creating simplified versions of a product to visualize its functionality and design.
These prototypes can be lowfidelity sketches or high-fidelity interactive models.

Testing: entails exposing these prototypes to actual users to gather feedback on usability, identifying areas for improvement.

User Group: Supportive, Open-Minded, Hostile



Iterative Design



Challenges and Considerations

- Resource Allocation
- Organizational Culture
- Diverse User Needs

Conclusion

- User-Centered Design represents a transformative approach for libraries to engage with users, creating experiences that resonate with their expectations.
- By embracing UCD principles, the UiTM Library can position itself as a dynamic, user-centric institution that serves as a vital resource for its academic community.

