FINAL DESIGN PROJECT ASSIGNMENT: Final Report (35 points total)
Final Report: Due April 26; upload to D2L

For this assignment, you will prepare a final written report based on your individual design project. Specifically, this assignment involves writing a professional final report (between 2,100 to 2,300 words in length). This report must also incorporate a bibliography[1] that includes at least six references. It is anticipated that for some students, preparing this report will require conducting additional research, addressing concerns raised in previous assignments, and potentially completing unfinished tasks from prior assignments. **Please write in full paragraphs instead of bullet points, and refrain from directly copying and pasting text from earlier assignments.** Carefully proofread your report before submitting it. It is important that the report reflects your voice; avoid using generative AI platforms to write your report (e.g., ChatGPT).

Please use this outline for your final report.

Title Page: Include your project title, name, and date.

Executive Summary/Abstract: Provide a concise summary of your project, covering the problem, design process, and solution within 150-200 words.

Introduction/Motivation: Here you should explain the problem you are addressing, whom this problem is affecting, and its significance. In this section, you must demonstrate that you understand topics discussed in class and their relationship to your design problem (rural, urban, colonialism, livelihoods, mobile phones, linguistics, etc.). Consider including statistics that communicate why your problem is significant (300-350 words).

Background Research/Competitive Analysis: Here you will present more information about your problem, especially important information gleaned from your review of prior research. You will also describe previous technological efforts to address your problem; in particular, what worked—or did not work—and why. Feel free to use text from your prior assignment (#1 and #4) when writing this section; however, you will likely need to include additional references and/or need to revise/edit your previous report. This section should be around 850-900 words.

Design Process: Here you will describe how your background research, virtual fieldwork[2], and in-class feedback/discussions informed your initial design concepts and sketches. In this section, you should include a brief overview of the "Human-Centered Design" process and include some information about how it guided your process. For example, describe some of your initial ideas (from your brainstorming session), then reflect on your sketches and the decisions that helped you determine which ideas became your prototypes. Finally, reflect on your final design concept (i.e., the sketch from Design Project Assignment #4: Developing a Design Brief) (450-500 words).

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[1] Note that the bibliography does *not* count towards your final word count.
[2] If you need notes from the fieldwork session, please contact Professor Wyche.

Future Work and Conclusion: Briefly describe any future work to do on your project (e.g., design changes). Also conclude your report with a paragraph describing what you learned in MI488/IAH 205. This section should be around (250-300 words)

References: Include a minimum of six references, predominantly peer-reviewed research articles related to your topic. Two-three references articles can come from papers read for class (see syllabus). Incorporate citations accurately within your report and format cited articles correctly in your bibliography. **Note: these references do not count towards the final word count.**

How will it be graded?

30-35 Points – The report is professional and references key terms/topics/ideas discussed in class and covered in the readings; the student clearly articulates their design problem and how they used human-centered design to address it. The student writes in full paragraphs rather than bullet points. The design solution is based on key findings from prior research; the solution also demonstrates an understanding of concepts covered in MI488 and accounts for feedback from in-class critiques/discussions. The final report is well-written and meets (or exceeds) requirements (length, number of references, etc.). The report is written in the student's voice.

• 21-29 Points – The report is complete but not as high-quality as it could be. The assignment does not meet all requirements; for example, the report does not include peer-reviewed articles and/or this work is incorrectly cited. The design solution is not grounded in findings from background research and does not account for in-class feedback. The assignment falls short in demonstrating an understanding of multiple concepts covered in MI488. The written report has multiple typos and confusing sentences.

• 0-10 Points – Poor: The report is incomplete and of poor quality. The assignment is rushed and falls short in meeting requirements. The assignment appears to have been writing by an AI platform (e.g., ChatGPT).