Mobile Culture & Urban Spaces

Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

04. Cultural Heritage

WS2012
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Summary

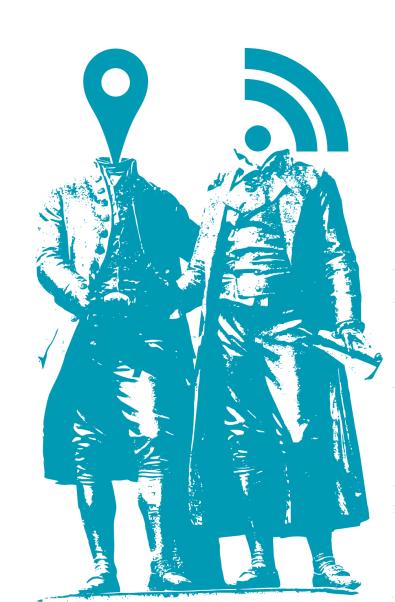
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Elements and Preservation



What is Cultural Heritage?

• "Cultural heritage (...) is the legacy of physical artifacts (cultural property) and intangible attributes of a group or society that are inherited from past generations, maintained in the present and bestowed for the benefit of future generations". ("Cultural heritage - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia," n.d.)

It is far behind the time when, in order to enjoy a historical and cultural experience, it was necessary to visit a museum or to buy a guide to check the information about the monuments and historical buildings in a city.

Despite the importance of these institutions and options, the technology allows the expansion of the concept one step further, and the cities itself can be considered open air museums.

The spread and importance of mobile devices on every-day activities is well known, but its use for cultural preservation it is still not clear, from the effectiveness perspective.

The tangible and intangible elements of cultural heritage can be explored on two ways: from the heritage-source (as a museum) to the user, and from the user providing content for the heritage-source.

The mobile devices have an important role in the society.

• "[m]ost of the current communication processes are based on the use of mobile devices. Some of the most used are tablet pc, pocket pc, smart-phone, PDA (Personal Digital Assistant), and iPod. (...) Adapting the power of these technologies to the field of cultural heritage, allows the broadcast of local heritage to a worldwide level" (Cutrí, Naccarato, & Pantano, 2008, p. 440).

The mobile devices have already supplanted the preference of the users as interface to check the latest news (Indvik, 2010), but its use as an entertainment tool or even as a personal educational device are still incipient.

If in one hand the technology can bring the world in a small scale of a mobile screen by enhancing the museums and galleries possibilities, in other hand the portable technology can add elements to the real world, changing the perception and turning the entire city into an open-air museum. There are no more limitations about space, neither about the opening hours to provide to the visitors a complete and empowered cultural experience.

Some aspects about the culture preservation should be considered:

• "There are many issues in the presentation of culture. One is the definition of culture itself, the second issue is to understand how culture is transmitted, and the third is how to transmit this cultural knowledge to people from another culture. In the case of virtual heritage, a fourth also arises, exactly how could this specific cultural knowledge be transmitted digitally?" (Champion, 2011, p. 131).

There are, in essence, two aspects of the cultural heritage to be preserved: the **tangible** and the **intangible** elements.

The **tangible** one could be divided in "Immovable heritage" – being land or land-based resources, such as buildings;



and "Movable heritage", touchable resources that can be detachable and transported from one place to another, as objects, documents, etc.

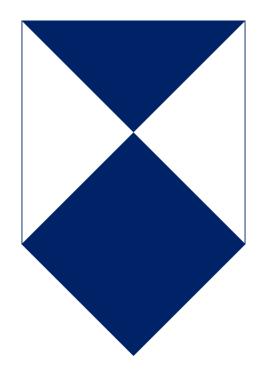


The **intangible** heritage is the non-material elements, such as culture, stories, language, dance, etc. (Ontario - Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, n.d.).



Cultural Heritage: Organizations





Cultural Heritage: Organizations



"The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) seeks to encourage the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity. This is embodied in an international treaty called the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by UNESCO in 1972"

("UNESCO World Heritage Centre - World Heritage," n.d.)

Cultural Heritage: Organizations



"The Blue Shield is the cultural equivalent of the Red Cross. It is the protective emblem specified in the 1954 Hague Convention (Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict) for marking cultural sites to give them protection from attack in the event of 'armed conflict. The Blue Shield network consists of organizations dealing with museums, archives, audiovisual supports, libraries, as well as monuments and sites".

("About The Blue Shield," n.d.)





Mostly, the already developed applications and games using mobile devices to interact with urban spaces are dealing with the tangible elements of the culture. A mobile applicability could work for intangible and tangible elements, in order to enhance the knowledge regarding it (Champion, 2011, pp. 130-131).

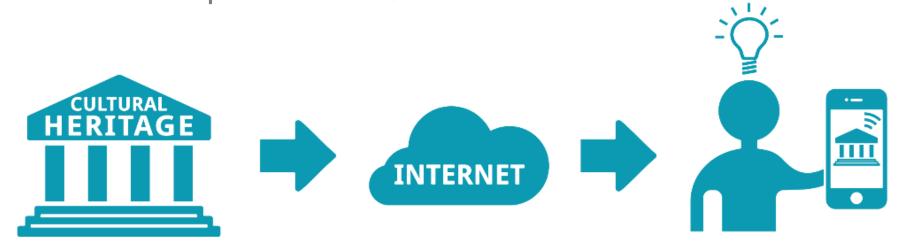
So far, it is also important to point the wide range of different digital applications available (Laurillard apud Pachler, Bachmair, Cook, & Kress, 2009, p. 309), plus social and shared networks as YouTube, Twitter, etc. that could be used for heritage preservation's purposes.

of Culture

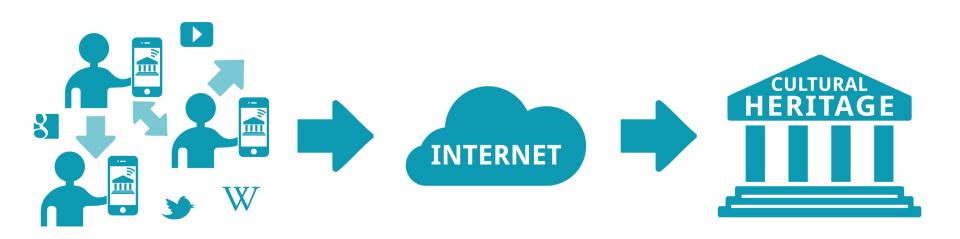


The dynamics and the relations among the cultural heritage promoters and the users through the mobile devices can be analyze as a two ways avenue were the information is floating.

 First, it is possible to observe the museums (or any other source of heritage content) using mobile devices to achieve the public and content production;



 Second, how the public can use their mobile devices to collaborate with the preservation of the intangible cultural values.



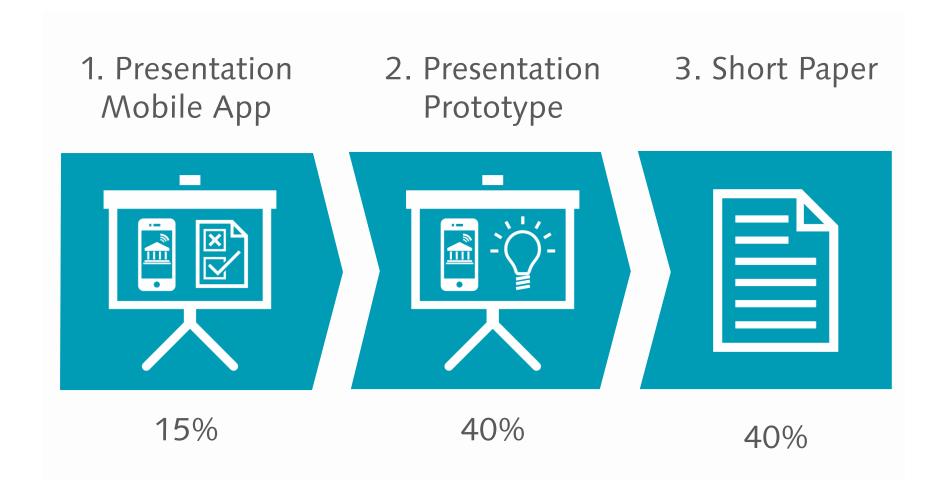
Considering this scenario, there are some questions already formulated about this matter:

- From a theoretical perspective, are the mobile devices **being helpful** on the **cultural preservation** of tangible and intangible elements?
- Which are the already developed successful cases in the cultural heritage scenario and how effective they are?
- Which technologies can be traced as common sense on the already adopted applications and which other resources are available to deal with the user experience with the cultural heritage information?
- In which ways, the use of collaborative technologies can magnify the content production, preserving the intangible elements of culture, from the user perspective?

Workplan and Presentations

What is expected from the assignments

Workplan and Presentations

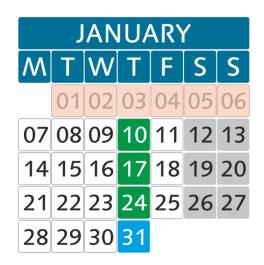


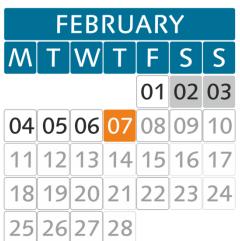
Workplan and Presentations

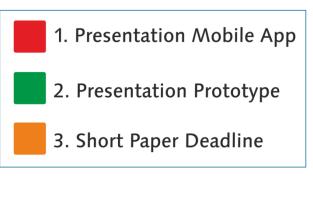
| OCTOBER | | | | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M | T | W | I | F | S | S |
| 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 |
| 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

| NOVEMBER | | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|
| M | I | W | T | F | S | S | |
| | | | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | |
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| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

| DECEMBER | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M | | W | T | F | S | S |
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| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |







How it can be done



Mobile applications for cultural purposes – around 5 min presentation



When it is not possible, the evaluation **could** be based on the developers information. The presentation should be a short slide collection, with a description of the application, contextualizing it, plus the application screens, pointing the suggested observed points.

What should be analyzed?

- What is the relation of this app with cultural purposes.
- How it interacts with the environment / urban spaces (if so).
- How (or if) the user can interact or contribute with the content.
- How the user can navigate in it, how many screen him/her should press to get the desirable content.
- What is your impression about this app and why you would recommend it.
- What are the technical background (OS, Resolution, availability, etc.) and requirements?

Mandatory Table of Analysis

- App's Name + Version
- Type (Museum, Guide, Travel, Game, etc)
- Operational System (OS) (Android, iOS, Windows, Web)
- Minimum screen-resolution required
- Minimum OS version required
- Native or Web-app
- Free or Paid (and how much)
- Where it is Available (URL or market link)

Slides in a PDF format should be delivered electronically until 23:59h of the day before the respective presentation, by e-mail.

Have in mind that if you cannot install and use this app, be sure that you can get all those information mentioned before from the publishers or someone else (i.e.: a friend who can install and play with it).

On next slides there is an example about how the presentation can be done (StreetDroids):















What is "StreetDroids"?

What it is?



StreetDroids is a context-aware mobile game, where users/players can contribute to its expansion through missions on different games scenarios (including cultural purposes), taking place in the real environment.

How does the game works?





- Outdoor scenario:GPS based location
- Play and explore the city
- Treasure hunters style
- Based on missions, maps, puzzles and hints
- You can create your own content



What is the relation of this app with cultural purposes?

Cultural Aspects



- This game has several adventure-maps, with several topics
- One of them is a historic one, based on the old city of Bremen in the Hanseatic time.





How it interacts with the environment / urban spaces?

Interaction with the city



- This is a context-aware game, based on GPS.
- The user can interact with real objects placed on the city, such as statues, monuments and historical buildings.
- By playing a map, the user should colect items in the city, as a hunter game by solving puzzles.

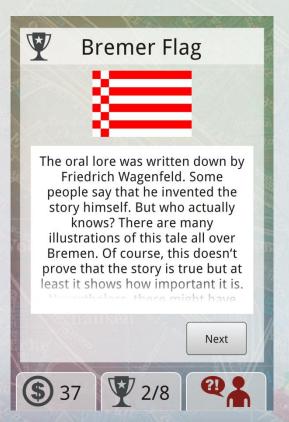


Interaction with the city



 after solving a puzzle the user colects a historical item with its respective content.







How the user can interact or contribute with the content?



- The user can contribute with the game by creating their own maps and adventures.
- The topics are quite open



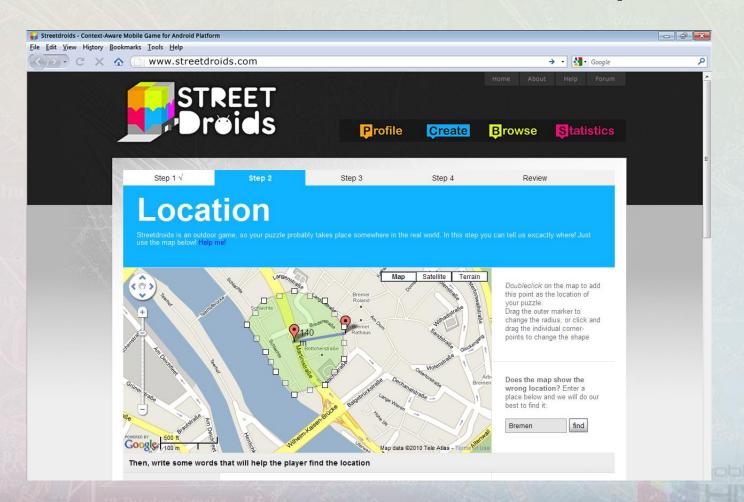


 There is a web-editor available at www.streetdroids.com



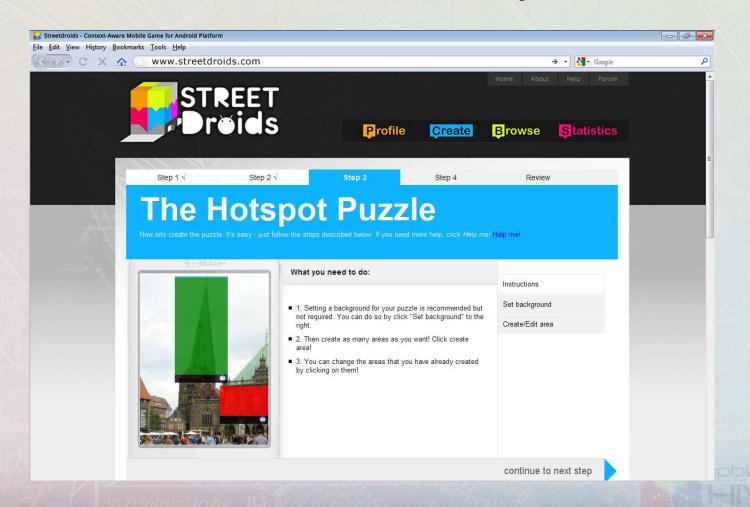


The user can create their own maps



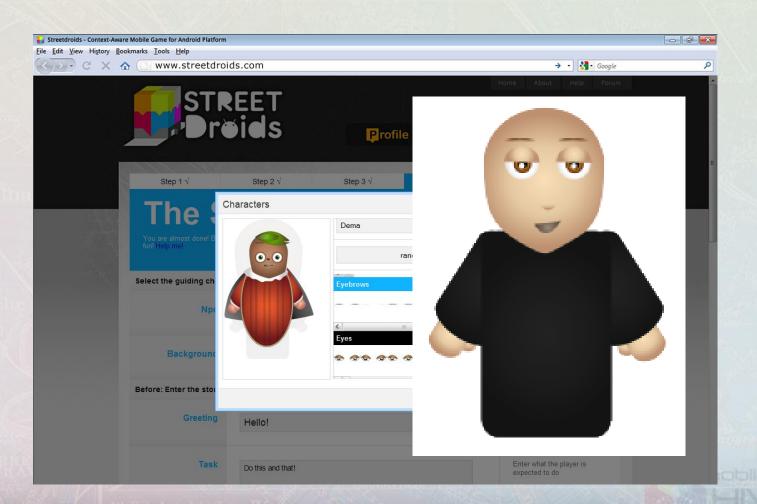


The user can edit their own puzzles





The user can create their own characters





How the user can navigate in it, how many screens him/her should press to get the desirable content

Playability









Playability





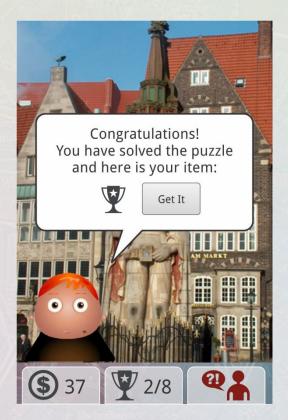


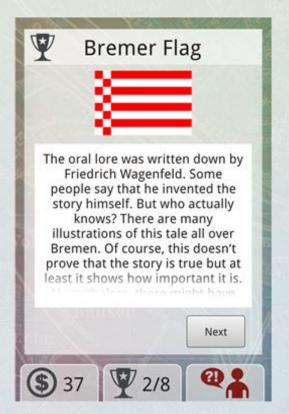


Playability









Video demonstration







What are the technical background (OS, Resolution, availability, etc.) and requirements?

Technology



- This game was developed for Android Platform.
- The chosen device was "T-Mobile G1", one of the first Android phones.
- The screen resolution is 320 x480



Technology



- This game was available for download directly from the website
 www.streetdroids.com
- Since 2011, this app is deactivated and unavailable for download



* Mandatory Table



| Itens | Answer |
|---|--|
| App's Name + Version | StreetDroids v2.0 |
| Type (Museum, Guide, Travel, Game, etc) | Context-Aware Game |
| Operational System (OS) (Android, iOS, Windows, Web) | Android |
| Minimum screen-resolution required | Fixed on 320 x 480 (T-Mobile G1 device) |
| Minimum OS version required | Android 1.5 Cupcake |
| Native or Web-app | Native |
| Free or Paid (and how much) | Free |
| Where it is Available (URL or market link) | It was available at www.streetdroids.com, but since 2011 it is unavailable |



The end



1st Presentation – Mobile App

Who will present first?

- 15.11.2012 = 12 presentations
- 22.11.2012 = 13 presentations

How it can be done



Mobile applications for cultural purposes - 15 to 20 min presentation



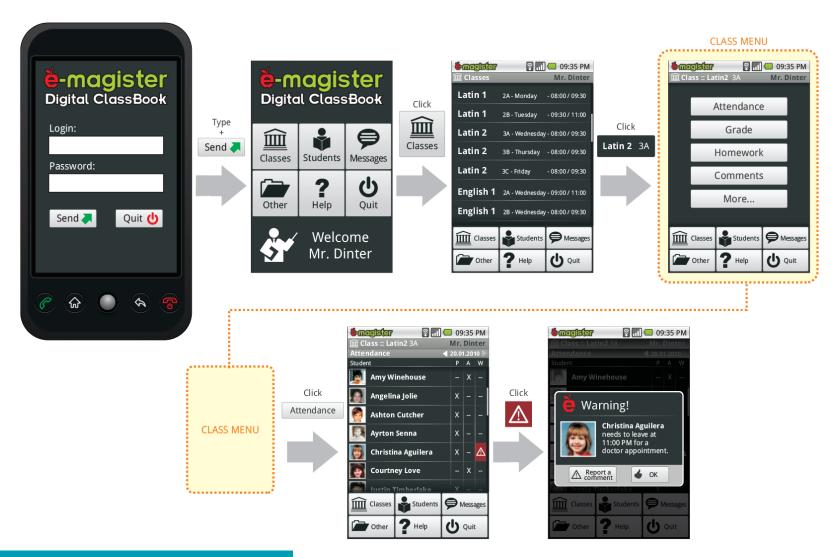
Each student should present a conceptual prototype, developed for mobile devices, for cultural purposes.

It is encouraged to be developed using the *weimarpedia.de* content, but not restricted to.

Another possibility is to analyze an existing mobile app for cultural purposes, and propose a new conceptual model inspired on it. For the conceptual model is expected to show, at least, one complete feature navigation, instead of just a "welcome screen".

The student should provide the entire mock-up for accessing a functionality.

For instance, if the user wants to select a feature from the welcome screen, which steps (and how many "buttons" should be pressed) until achieve the desired information.



It is expected for this exercise the use of HCI and design guidelines for the interface design and navigation. For instance, following the guidelines developed for iOS-Apple or Android or Windows platforms (according to the students' choice).

2nd Presentation – Platforms

Native



WebApp



2nd Presentation – Platforms: iOS



iOS – Apple: iPhone & iPad

2nd Presentation – Platforms: iOS



iPhone 4 640×960



iPhone 4S 640×960



iPhone 5 640×1.136

2nd Presentation – Platforms: iOS



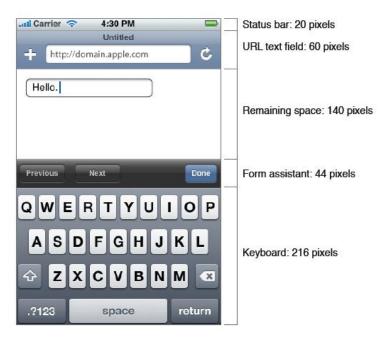
iPad 1 & 2 1.024 × 768



iPad 3 & 4 2.048 × 1.536

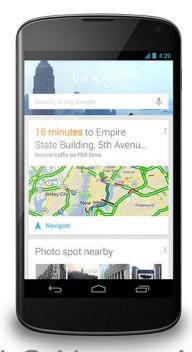
iOS Human Interface Guidelines

- http://developer.apple.com/library/ios/documentation/UserExperience /Conceptual/MobileHIG/MobileHIG.pdf
- http://developer.apple.com/library/ios/#DOCUMENTATION/UserExperience/Conceptual/MobileHIG/Introduction/Introduction.html





Android - Google



LG Nexus 4 1.280×768



Samsung S II 480x800



Samsung S III 1.280x720



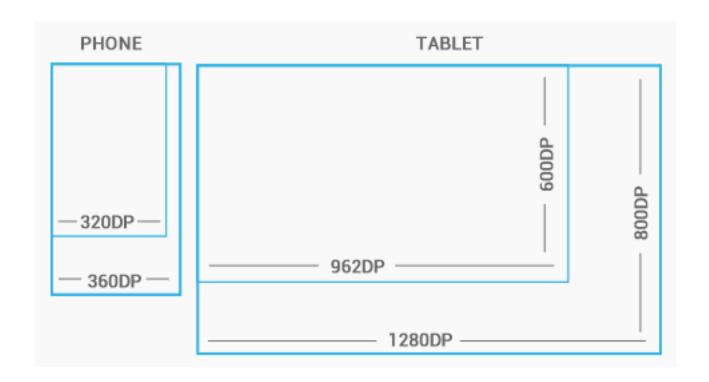


Samsung Galaxy Tab 10.1 1.280 × 800

Sony Tablet S 1.280 × 800

Design | Android Developers

http://developer.android.com/design/index.html





Windows phone - Microsoft





HTC Windows Phone 8S 480x800



Nokia Lumia 820 480x800



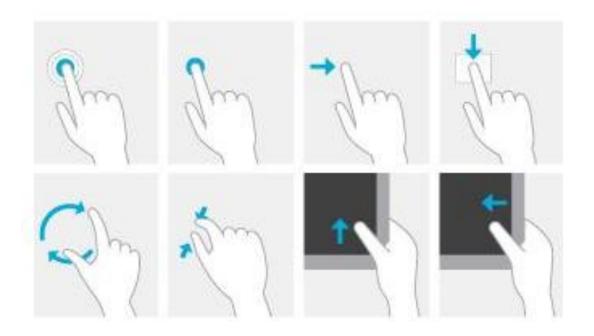
Samsung Ativ S 720x1.280



Dell Latitude 10 1.366 x 768 Microsoft Surface Pro 1.920 x 1.080

Index of UX guidelines for Metro style apps

http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/apps/hh465424



2nd Presentation

Several options and possibilites.

Use Your Imagination!

2nd Presentation

8th to 13th Weeks (December and January)

06, 13 and 20.12.12

4 Students per day

10.01.13

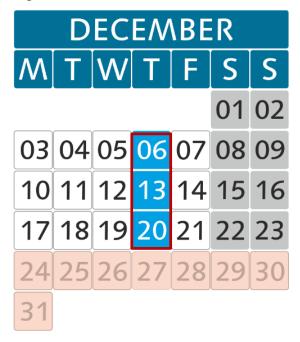
4 Students

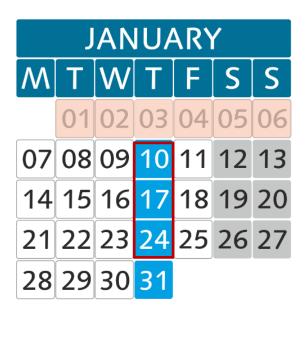
17.01.13

4 Students

24.01.13

5 Students





References

References for further readings



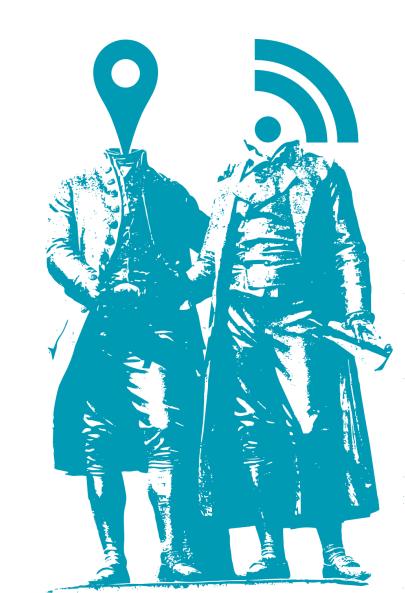
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Thank You!



Mobile Culture & Urban Spaces

Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

04. Cultural Heritage



http://www.uni-weimar.de/medien/wiki/IFD:Mobile_Culture_and_Urban_Spaces

