

TOWARD MEANINGFUL ENGAGEMENT: A FRAMEWORK FOR DESIGN AND RESEARCH OF GAMIFIED INFORMATION SYSTEMS

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Appendix A

Organizational Gamification Examples

Successful Gamification Examples			
Organization and Application Area	Goals	Gamification Elements	Outcomes
University College London's Transcribe Bentham project ¹	Motivate volunteer transcribers worldwide	Points for every edit made, leaderboard, progress ladder from "probationer" to "prodigy," recognition (virtual gifts from editors to users), avatars, community features (profile page, personal message board, "add friends," discussion forum).	1000+ handwritten documents transcribed in a six-month period.
Liveops Inc.'s gamified virtual community for call center agents ²	Convert 20,000 call center agents into brand ambassadors, measured by shorter call times and improved customer satisfaction rates	Badges and points for completing additional training modules and certification, points for increased call conversion and demonstrated skill attributes, public daily leaderboards, "LiveOps Learning" social forum, badges for knowledge sharing, coaching, networking, and feedback.	80% of agents opted in and three quarters of them returned on a bi-weekly basis. Participants outperformed peers by 23% in call-handling times and boosted customer satisfaction by 9%.
Microsoft's Ribbon Hero for Office 2007 and 2010 ³	Training customers to use ribbon features in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and One Note	A time-traveling narrative by an animated avatar Clippy, short, relevant challenges, progress tracking, fantasy-based visuals, background music and sound effects, points and leaderboards, integration with Facebook for sharing achievements.	Although there are no specific statistics, it is a fan favorite and as a result, a sequel (Ribbon Hero 2) was launched. Sixty percent of users who completed two challenges went on to play all 10.

Organization and Application Area	Goals	Gamification Elements	Outcomes
Verizon Wireless' community web site ⁴	Create a community of socially connected Verizon wireless users	With a third-party vendor's help, it provides users with Social Login—a service that allows users to easily log in using their existing social network accounts. It further uses achievements, points, levels, contests, and a leaderboard to reward users for logging-in, commenting, sharing, uploading photos, entering sweepstakes, etc.	More than 50% of the site's users participated, and users who logged in via Social Login spent 30% more time and generated 15% more page views.
Less Successful Gamification Examples			
Organization and Application Area	Goals	Gamification Elements	Outcomes
Omnicare's gamification initiative for helpdesk ⁵	To improve long helpdesk waiting times and enhance efficiency	Reward employees with cash if they achieve the fastest time. Introduce a scoring system with a leaderboard.	Employees felt like "Big Brother" was watching and that the gamified system was too intrusive.
JetBlue's JetBlue Badges program ⁶	To engage the airline's customers and motivate spending	Badges for sharing on social media, purchasing from partners ("Hertz Hotshot"), and other travel and loyalty activities. Leaderboards, personalized interactive travel map, over 25,000 achievements to unlock.	Failed to take off. Customers felt that it asked for too much personal information. It failed to incorporate existing travel, had unattractive badges, and was intrusive (e.g., "post tweets for you").
Adobe's LevelUP for Photoshop ⁷	To increase revenue with gamified onboarding training to new Adobe Photoshop customers	Guided levels and step-by-step tutorials, points and badges, extra points for sharing on social media, quiz questions for each level, leaderboard, monthly drawing for every 400 points earned.	Although gamification was found to change user behaviors, it did not meet the company's goals: that is, to drive immediate conversions and revenue.

Notes:

¹<http://www.digitalhumanities.org/dhq/vol/6/2/000125/000125.html>

²<http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052970204294504576615371783795248>

³<http://www.gamification.co/2011/04/26/microsoft-ribbon/>

⁴<http://venturebeat.com/2012/07/23/verizon-wireless-gamifies-its-site/>

⁵<http://www.cio.com/article/2453330/careers-staffing/how-to-use-gamification-to-engage-employees.html>

⁶<http://www.webinknow.com/2013/07/jetblue-badges-gamification-marketing-fails-to-take-off.html>

⁷<http://www.cmo.com/articles/2012/10/24/game-over-for-gamification.html>; <http://www.slideshare.net/gzicherm/mira-dontcheva-learning-how-to-use-adobe-photoshop-through-gamification>

Appendix B

Inconsistent Descriptions of Commonly Used Gamification Terms

Term	Source	Description
Game elements	Academic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • building blocks or features shared by games • anything that is found in most games and readily associated with games • game design principles, game mechanics, game dynamics and storytelling • general term to encompass design features • mechanics, aesthetics, and game-thinking in non-game contexts
	Practitioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • points, badges and leaderboards
Game aesthetics	Academic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • emotions evoked by a game • emotional responses the player experiences as a result of dynamics • art, beauty, and visual elements • graphics and sounds • visual and aural characteristics of the game, including the general look and feel • content that adds style and artistic depth to the player experience
Game mechanics	Academic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recurring parts of the design of a game • elements used by game developers • instructions for a game • functional components of a gamified application • processes that engage players • processes that drive action forward • rules of the game • rules that provide dynamics of game play • rules and sequence of events in the game
	Practitioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • elements such as points, badges and leaderboards • tools and techniques used as building blocks for gamification
Game dynamics	Academic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • interactions of users with mechanics (gamification elements) • emergent behavior of both the game and the player during player-game interaction • high-level aspects of games that have to be considered and managed, but not directly implemented into games • the big-picture aspects of the gamified system that include constraints, emotions, narrative, progression, and relationships
Game principles	Academic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evaluative guidelines • mechanics, dynamics and emotions
Game play	Academic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gameplay (experience) involves the interaction between the player and the game (artifact) • the challenges, rewards, and decisions encountered by a player • performance-oriented simulation
	Practitioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a term to rate or score the quality of the experience of the gamer while playing a particular game • the specific way in which players interact with a game • the pattern defined through the game rules, connection between the player and the game, challenges and overcoming them, plot and player's connection with it

Academic and Practitioner Sources for Appendix B

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