Heuristic Evaluation – Third Down Play

- Good The cancel button on the user interface and the physical back button on my phone appear to do the same thing. (match the real world, consistency with other Android applications)
- 2. Minor The button on the home screen button says "Find People", but when you click on that button, the screen it leads to says "Find Others". (lack of internals consistency)



3. Catastrophic – There appears to be no way to view if I am available right now and for which classes I am available. The view/edit status button does not do anything. I understand that this might be an issue with the prototype being incomplete, although I feel that this button should have done something even in a prototype. (lack of visibility of system status)

4. Major – The application is virtually unusable in landscape mode, meaning the user must be careful to always hold the phone vertically. In landscape mode, the buttons on the home screen become long and thin and harder to accurately press. But the real problem is that the "My Info" and "Find Others" pages become scrunched up, with some elements on the page obscuring other elements since the pages do not scroll. I suggest either making it compatible with landscape mode or keeping it locked in portrait mode even when the user holds the phone horizontally. (not adhering to standards, lack of flexibility)

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THIRD DOWN PLAY		
	Third	
	Down	
	Play	
	Make Me Available	
	Find People	
	View/Edit Status	

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THIR	THIRD DOWN PLAY				
	My	Info			
Name:	Emily				
Class:	6.006				
I need help with everything					
Group Size: 1					
somewhere					
	Cancel	Submit			

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THIRD DOWN PLAY	
Find Others	
Class:	
Others in my class:	
Al Capone	32-141
Ben Bitdiddle	34-304
	W20-308
Cancel	

- 5. Catastrophic The submit button on the "Find Others" page seems to allow a successful submit even when none of the text boxes on the page have been filled in. Submitting a blank page or a page without Name filled in would probably be problematic. I suggest making certain fields in the form, such as Name, mandatory and checking to see that users input an actual number for Group Size. (lack of error prevention)
- Good The interface does not have any unnecessary or confusing decorative images or icons. (minimalist design)
- 7. Good The interface is monochrome. (colorblindness friendly)
- 8. **Good** The buttons on home screen are nicely large in portrait mode. The big buttons alleviate the fat finger problem. (efficiency, error prevention)



9. Major – Pressing the buttons for others in my class on the "Find Others" page appears to not do anything. Again, I don't know how much of it is due to an incomplete prototype. I would expect that pressing one of these buttons would allow me to join another person's group, but there is no evidence that I have joined a group. Also, how would I know who is in these people's groups already? (lack of learnability, lack of visibility of system state)

> 10. Major – The on screen keyboard obscures part of interface when I go to fill in the fields towards the bottom of the "My Info" page, meaning I could not see what I was typing unless I made the keyboard go away. I suggest having the text box pop/scroll up when selected so that they are positioned above the keyboard. (not adhering to standards, lack of efficiency)



11. Catastrophic – Writing too much text in interface (or even pressing enter too many times as shown in the screenshot) causes elements on the "My Info" page to resize dynamically and obscure once another. I expected that the interface would scroll if I entered more data than would fit on one page, and I suggest making it scrollable to be consistent with other applications. Also consider how entering an extremely long name or an extremely long location might adversely affect the layout of the "Find Others" page. (not adhering to standards, lack of visible navigation)

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THIR	THIRD DOWN PLAY				
	My	Info			
Name:					
Class:					
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Group Size:					
	Cancel	Submit			

12. Catastrophic – On the "Find Others" page, I cannot figure out what typing in the Class text box is supposed to do. I tried typing in that text box and nothing happened, as far as I can tell. (lack of feedback)



13. Major – The application seems to allow you to make yourself available for multiple classes simultaneously. I don't know if this is intended, but it seems unlikely that a student would be working with multiple groups at once when working with each group in person. It also seems possible to easily submit the "My Info" page with many different names on one device, which does not match most other applications. Since most mobile phones are not shared among many people, applications tend to require that only one person can be "signed in" at a time. (not adhering to standards, does not match the real world)

14. Minor – The "Make me Available" button on the home page leads to a page titled "My Info". To me, "My Info" also implies that I am filling out some sort of profile rather than toggling whether I am available or not. (lack of internal consistency)



15. Catastrophic – I could not find a way to remove myself from a group. Again, I don't know if this is due to the prototype being not fully functional, but your GR2 storyboard implies that this should be possible. (lack of user control, lack of learnability)

16. Cosmetic – The width of the buttons with the people's names on the "Find Others" page seems to be dependent on how long the room number is. I think it would look better and be easier to width if all these buttons were the same fixed width. (minor lack of aesthetics and readability)



- 17. Major What Group Size means on the "My Info" page is somewhat unclear. That is, does it refer to the size of the group the user is currently in or what size group he is looking for? Furthermore, unless there is a way to view Group Size for others on the "Find Others" page, this asking for this information seems unnecessary. (lack of learnability, lack of internal consistency)
- 18. Major There is no indication of whether or not pressing Submit on the "My Info" page caused any action to be completed successfully. (lack of visibility of system state, lack of feedback)
- Good The "My Info" page has adequate spacing between elements on the page and doesn't seem crowded. You could perhaps consider using whitespace even more effectively for grouping. (readability)