## CS449/649: Human-Computer Interaction

Winter 2018

Lecture VIII

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#### Gibson's Affordances:

- Offerings or action possibilities in the environment in relation to the action capabilities of an actor

- Independent of the actor's experience, knowledge, culture, or ability to perceive

- Existence is binary – an affordance exists or it does not exist

#### Norman's Affordances:

- Perceived properties that may or may not actually exist
- Can be dependent on the experience, knowledge, or culture of the actor
- Can make an action difficult or easy

McGrenere, J., & Ho, W. (2000). Affordances: Clarifying and evolving a concept. In Graphics interface.



Design

**Signifier** - indicators of any type that communicate the action needed so the affordance can take place

Affordance - the possible use for an object when interacting with it

**Constraints** - restrictions that limit the possible actions available with an object

Feedback - conveys effects of user's actions









How To Design Outstanding Feedback Loops



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**Findability** - whether it's easy to find content



**Learnability** - whether it's easy to learn how to use functionality

Make use of existing practices and familiar interactions

Build around existing mental models

Make use of signifiers and affordances

**F-Shaped Pattern For Reading Web Content** 



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Mapping - indication of the relationship between objects



**Mapping** - indication of the relationship between objects (often controls)





- Make use of spatial gestalt principles
- In some cases culture-specific
- Build around existing mental models





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**Conceptual Model** - user's understanding of how the system works, communicated through the design



"For people to use a product successfully, they must have the same mental model (the user's model) as that of the designer (the designer's model). But the designer only talks to the user via the product itself, so the entire communication must take place through the "system image": the information conveyed by the physical product itself."

(Originally published in Norman & Draper's User Centered System Design (1986), and reused frequently thereafter: The Design of Everyday Things (1988, 2003) and Emotional Design (2004).



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The path a user follows through an application. Does not have to be linear, can branch out

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Which pages/screens should link to each other

Help to design a navigation experience



## Site/App Flows

### **User Flows**

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Help to design a navigation experience

Microinteractions and responses to user's actions and errors

Help to analyze the **efficiency** of a task

Often attached to personas











