

Coursera Heuristic Evaluation

Issue: Criteria for a 'descriptive title'

Heuristic violated: #5 Error prevention

Severity: 3/4

Description: If a title is too short, an error is returned that the title is not long enough. There is no indication of how long the title should be to meet the minimum requirements for posting. An explicit character/word count would help (e.g., a minimum of 20 characters is required for a title). Similar issues are reported for the minimum length of a post.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Create a new post". It has two main input fields: "Title" and "Body". The "Title" field is marked with a red asterisk and contains a single period ".". Below the "Title" field, a red error message reads "Error: Please enter a longer title". The "Body" field is also marked with a red asterisk and contains the placeholder text "Provide supporting details or context".

Issue: Navigating between posts

Heuristic violated: #3 User control and freedom, #7 Flexibility and efficiency of use

Severity: 3/4

Description: When looking at different discussion posts, there should be another way to navigate between them than going back to the previous page. Having a 'previous' and 'next' button to navigate between different posts for the week, assignment, etc. would be useful and reduce the need to go back to the previous page to view all posts if the user does not want to. This functionality is particularly useful on discussion forums when a user wants to quickly go through posts to see what the different opinions/thoughts are on a subject.

By: Omar Khan

[Discussion Forums](#) > [Week 6](#)

I hope no one actually needed help on content from Week 6

LC Lauren Clack

3 years ago

Otherwise it would be lost in our sea of nonsense posts!

[Like 73](#) [Reply 28](#) [+ Follow this post](#) [... More](#)

28 Replies

Recent 

A Austin

6 days ago

Ahhh yes, just like the internet

[Like](#) [Reply](#) [... More](#)

TJ Tianna Jordening

15 days ago 

Issue: Providing access to help and documentation

Heuristic violated: #10 Help and documentation

Severity: 3/4

Description: Help and documentation on how to use the forum is not readily available. It should be one of the main tabs on the left hand side, or made more visible elsewhere.

 **Course Material**

 Week 1

 Week 2

 Week 3

 Week 4

 Week 5

 Week 6

Grades

Notes

Discussion Forums

Messages

Resources

Issue: Indentation features

Heuristic violated: #6 Recognition over recall

Severity: 2/4

Description: The 'increase' and 'decrease indent' features are exclusive to lists -- when trying to use them to format paragraphs (like indenting the start of a paragraph, this functionality is not supported. Either this functionality should be extended to paragraphs or it should be made explicit that this is only for lists.

Test text

- Lists
-

B *I* U Σ        

Test text

- Lists
-

B *I* U Σ        

Test text

- Lists
 -

B *I* U Σ        

Issue: **Dropdown item organization**

Heuristic violated: **#5 Error prevention**

Severity: **2/4**

By: Omar Khan

Description: When trying to select the Course Issues and Questions topic, it wasn't at the top as one might expect it to be, but instead below the week 1 content/sub-headers. Moving this up might reduce confusion.

General Course Discussion

Week 1

└ Module 1 Quiz

Course Issues and Questions

Week 2

└ Assignment: 10,000 Floor Elevator

└ 10,000 Floor Elevator Assignment Questions

└ Module 2 Quiz