

Interaction Design Studio 3

UConnect

When Learning Meets Community

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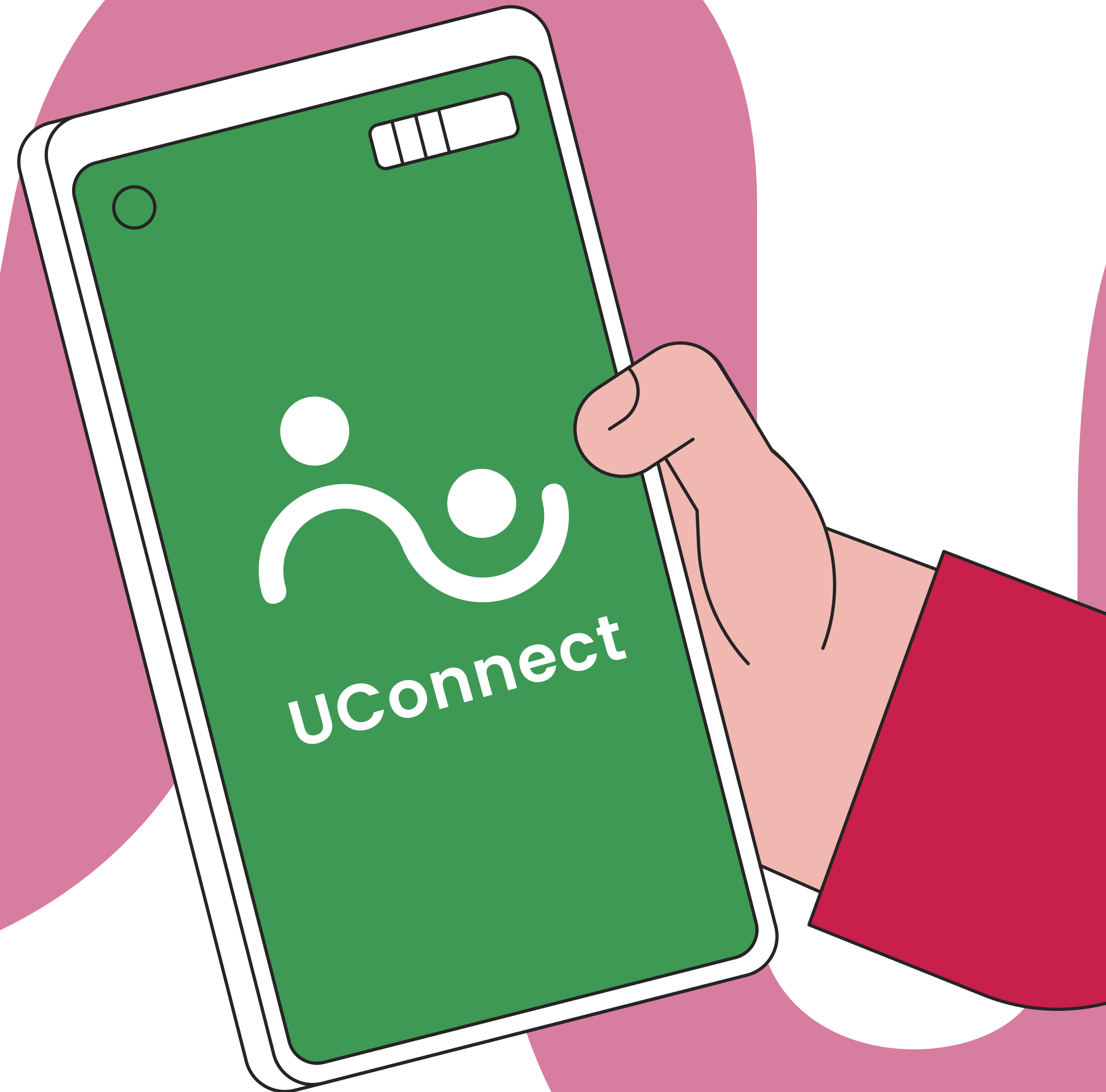
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Project Scope



UConnect is a digital resource, designed to support university students in navigating both their academic and social aspects within their university life.



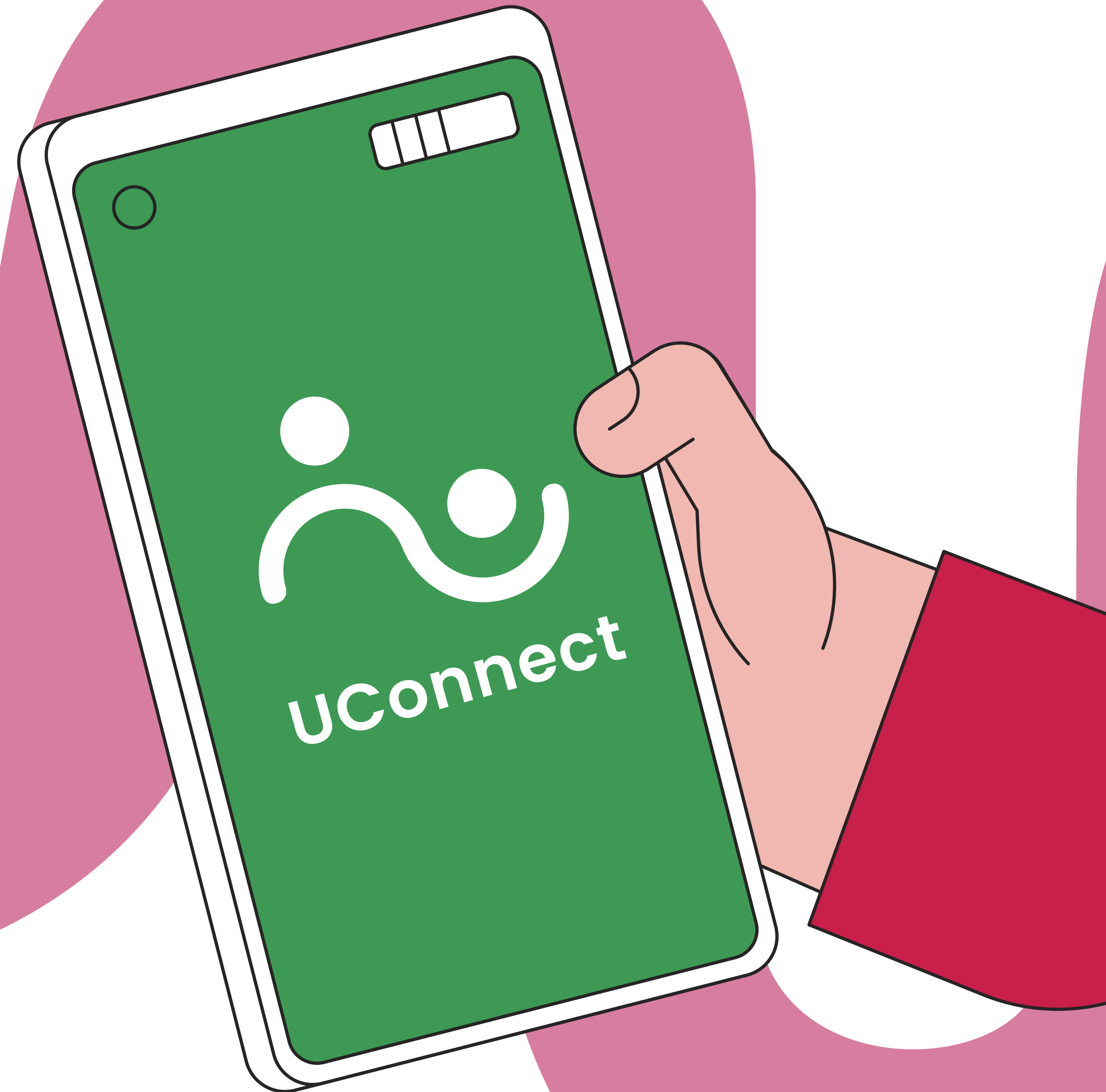
UConnect's primary goal is to help students easily find and share educational resources, connect with peers, and gain a clearer understanding of their coursework.

UConnect places a strong emphasis on peer support and community building, recognizing that learning is not just about content but also about connection.

Uconnect focuses on supporting students facing language barriers, aiming to help break down communication challenges, to make academic content more accessible.

Whether it's through University run events or discussion forums, UConnect strives to foster an inclusive environment where all students regardless of background or language can thrive, feel supported, and confidentially participate in their university experience.

Background & Chosen App



Background

This project was developed as a conceptual design response to the challenges university students face in navigating academic life, particularly those experiencing language barriers and social isolation.

UConnect is a digital platform that aims to support students in building community, accessing peer support, and better understanding their coursework. The project was inspired by the need to create more inclusive and accessible learning environments, especially for students from all diverse backgrounds

UConnect seeks to provide students with a space where they can share educational resources, connect meaningfully with peers, and find support beyond the classroom. The goal is to ease the pressures of academic life, foster a sense of belonging, and help students thrive both socially and academically throughout their university journey.

The Problem

University students often face challenges of building a sense of community during their studies which are particularly difficult due their limited access to resources, the pressure of managing heavy workloads, language barriers, and the stress of forming new friendships in already established social circles.

These challenges further intensify feelings of isolation, making it harder for students especially from diverse backgrounds to fully engage within their academic studies and participating in social environments.



The Solution

The desired solution is one that will enhance students ability to find their desired community which can build their confidence within class and their engagement within their education. This will encourage students to create long life connections during and after their education.

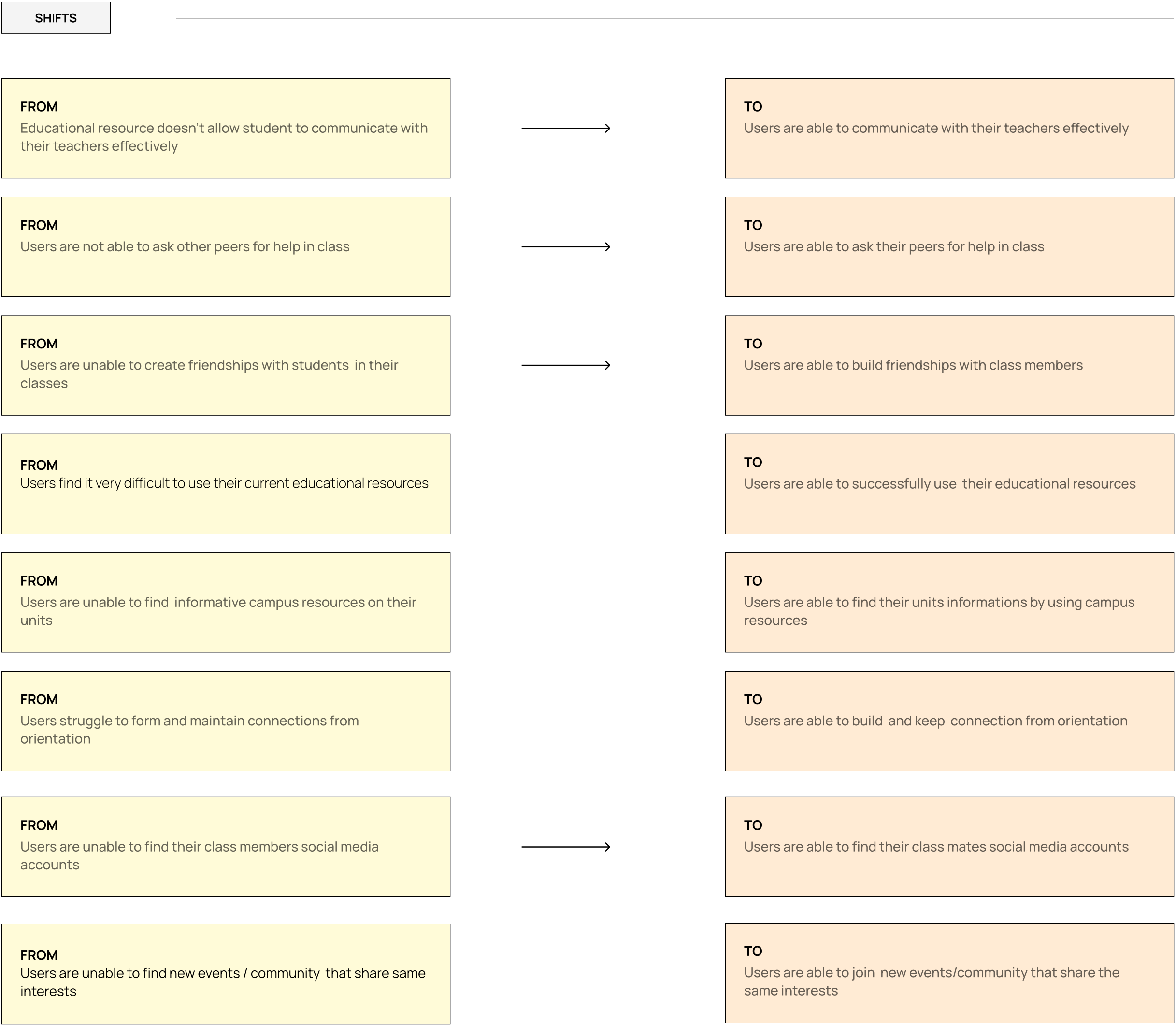
Theory of Change

Template

Theory of Change

STEP 1
Write out each of the shifts that you are trying to solve for to get to your desired outcome.

These will be shifts around significant moments in your user journey that you have uncovered through your research and tested prototypes on. Place them in a row from right to left across your workspace.



Theory of Change

Template

Theory of Change

STEP 2

Write out each of the concepts that you are excited about taking forward.

These will be the things that have stood out in research phase or initial ideation. Place them in a vertical row, so you have a grid structure now.

STEP 3

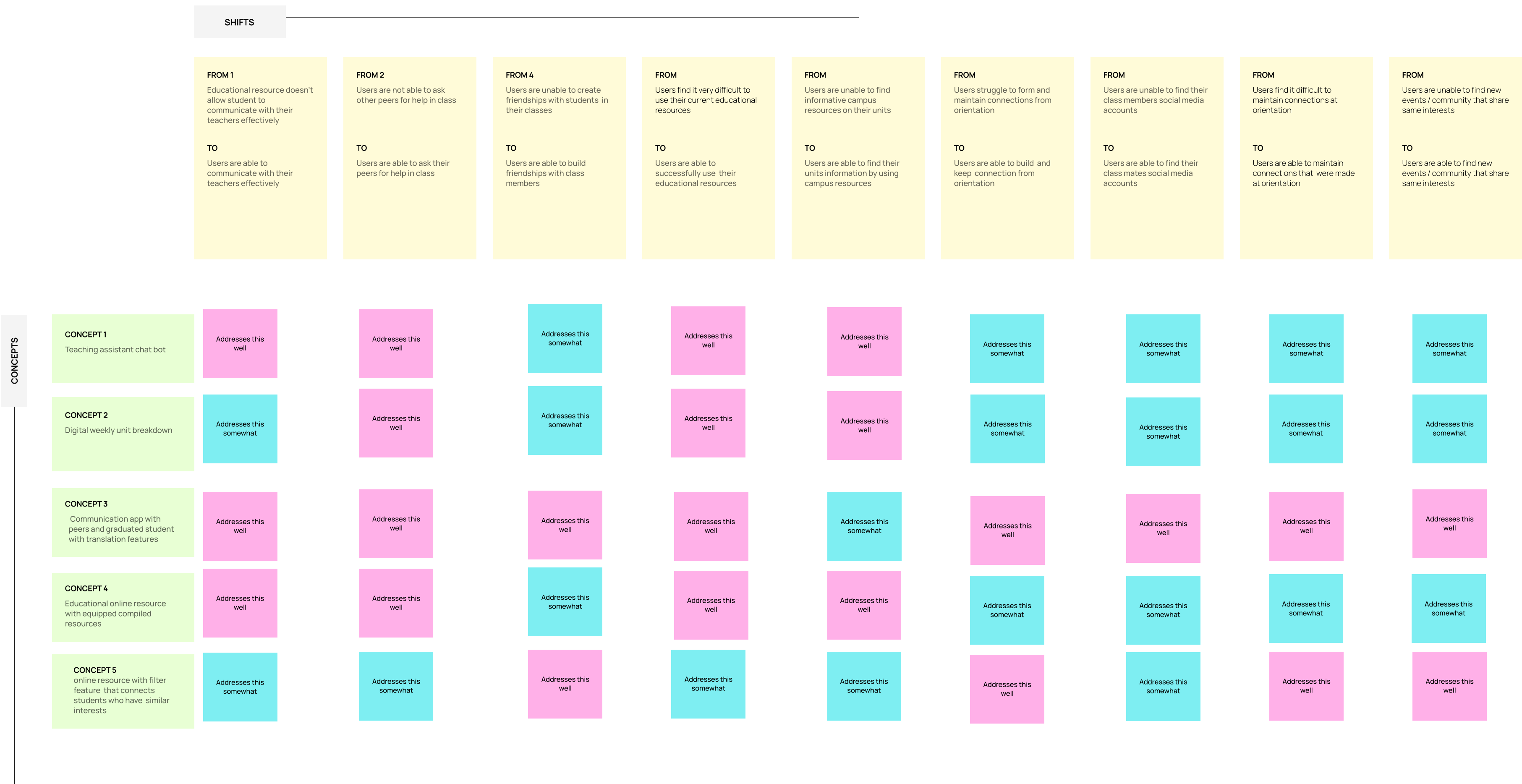
Tag your concepts according to their effectiveness in tackling each shift.

Tag each concept as either 'Addresses this well' or 'Addresses this somewhat'. Use 2 different post-it or sticker colours to make it visually easy to see the spread at the end. If it does not address the shift at all leave it blank, to represent a gap. For this step, go with your team's collective instinct!

STEP 4

**Narrow down to a set of
priority shifts and concepts**

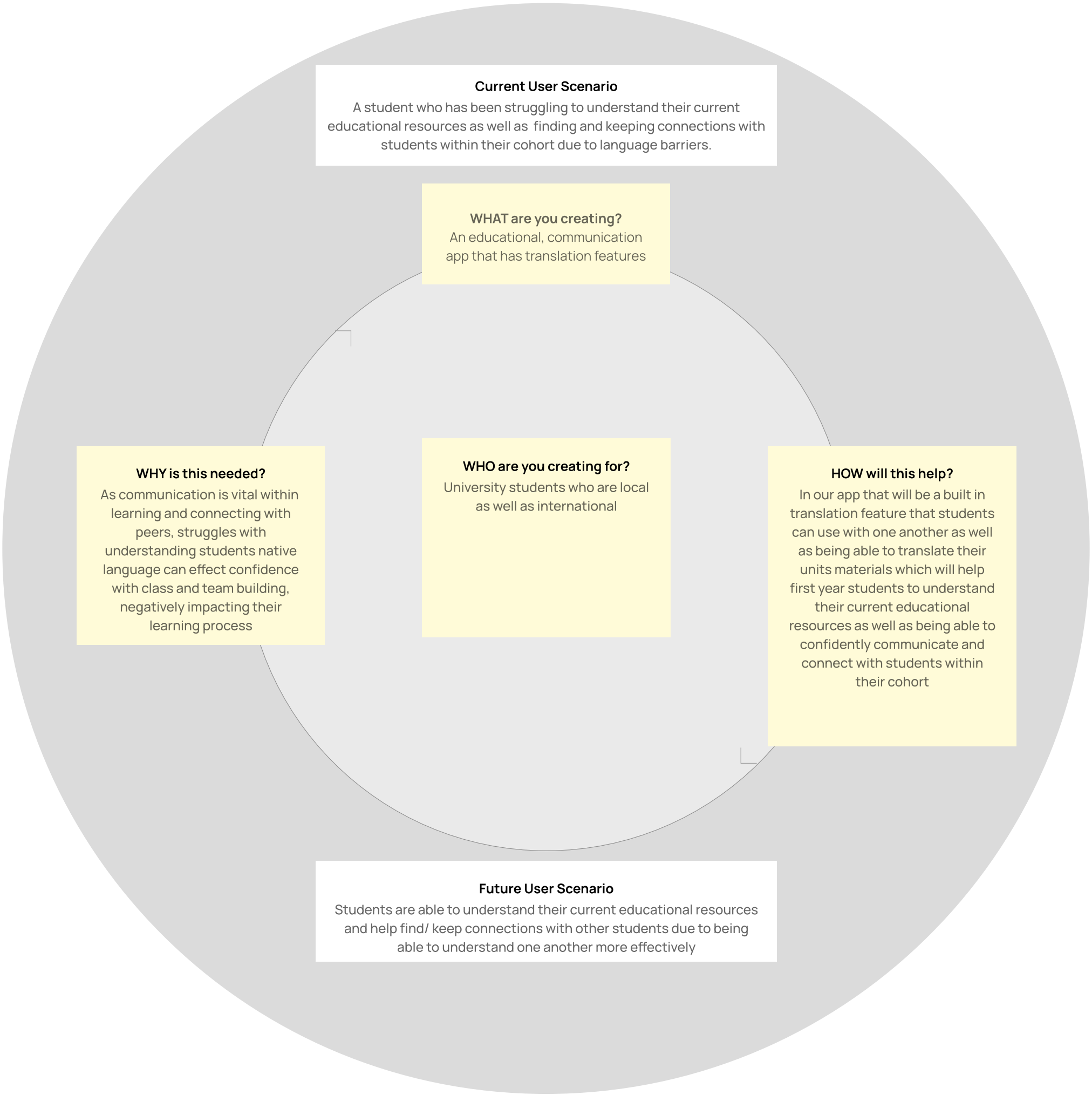
Explore which shifts are a priority to address; how well those shifts are addressed by your concept; and what combination of shifts and concepts to move forward with for impact.



Theory of Change

[Template](#)

Design Challenge Framing



Theory of Change

Template

Brainwriting

STEP 1: DEFINE

With your group, choose the main topic/problem for your brainstorm.

STEP 2: BRAINSTORM

Add your name to a sticky note.
Set the timer for 5 minutes and individually brainstorm an idea for the problem.

STEP 3: REPEAT

After 5 minutes, restart the timer.
Move to the idea on your right, and build on it. Repeat for a few rounds.

STEP 4: DISCUSS

At the end, review and discuss all the ideas with the team. Sort and vote to find the best ideas.

Discuss and vote for the best ideas and drag them here.

Outline any insights or next steps.

TOPIC/PROBLEM: Which specific features should we implement to ensure our design concept successfully meets our users' needs?					
	Maedeh	Nasim	Shavina	Mackenzie	DISCUSS & VOTE
ROUND 1	Peer support Engagement Sense of belonging digital platform	clear explanation about each assignments and educational resources	Joining Events App have visual interaction more than text base	An university app that is adaptable for all university students where they can have their unit and class notes translated into their language	it will be better to divide student from their unit and also there should be a feature that they can ask other student from different majors opinion about their work.
ROUND 2	resource app/website that connects students with past graduates from their same cultural background to ask inquires, support, questions about their studies and life on campus	have a specific place for brief and question can communicate there and asking their questions	a feature that you can attach video and photo besides having text box and everyone can share their interest there	also they can find friends and classmate share intrests and have too	uni resource app designed like a social media app that connects all students from the same uni and units with one another where they can share updates on their life as well as ask inquires about their studies
ROUND 3	some feature to connect with the graduate one and know about the field of work they interested	Have an active chat box with current students to ask current questions in regards to their studies or available resources around campus to help them	people can communicate and use that app like other social media to share their interest meanwhile they can collaborate in different rooms for different units.	a feature that not only translates content into their own language but also help them to learn new language	this feature will help student to developed their language skills by asking them to communicate and set some goals and rewards
ROUND 4	feature that could connect with people who have job related to their major cause they graduated before, and could provide job opportunities or give students insight into what they need in the future	it will be better to divide student from their unit and also there should be a feature that they can ask other student from different majors opinion about their work.	uni resource app designed like a social media app that connects all students from the same uni and units with one another where they can share updates on their life as well as ask inquires about their studies	this feature will help student to developed their language skills by asking them to communicate and set some goals and rewards	feature that could connect with people who have job related to their major cause they graduated before, and could provide job opportunities or give students insight into what they need in the future

Brainwriting

Template

Features Definitions

Describe WHAT?

What is the feature in detail?

Describe WHY?

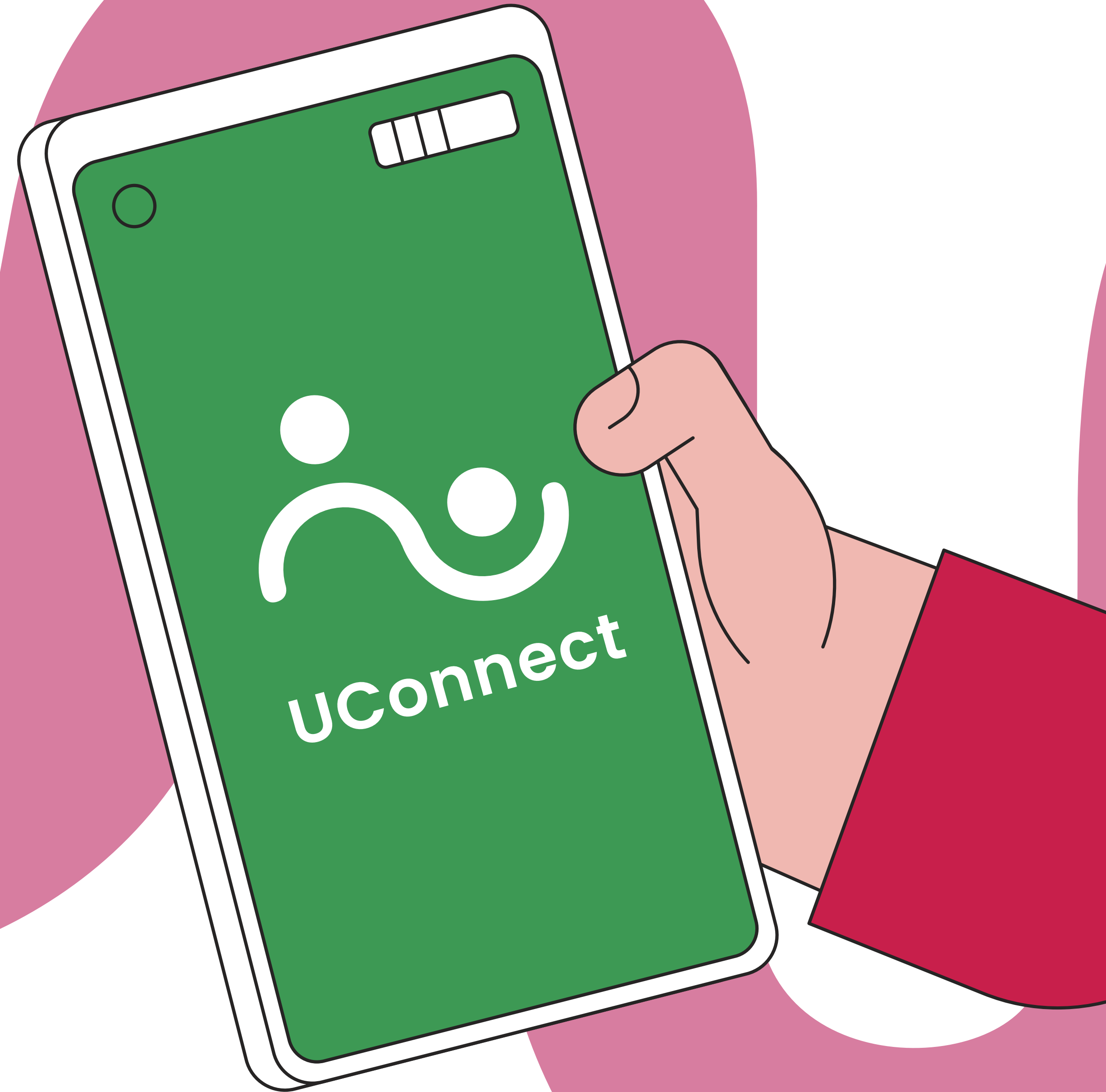
Why is this feature important to design?

Describe HOW?

How will this feature work?
How will this meet user's needs? How is this different from other existing features?

	WHAT	WHY	HOW
it will be better to divide student from their unit and also there should be a feature that they can ask other student from different majors opinion about their work.	FEATURE 1 sharing feature/option that connects students from different majors	because it connects students from different majors and backgrounds	it could happen by sharing links and invitation , it will help them to have others perspective specially for design work
uni resource app designed like a social media app that connects all students from the same uni and units with one another where they can share updates on their life as well as ask inquires about their studies	FEATURE 2 An app that students can log into based off their uni and connect with students within their units and location of University	Because students can socialized and it may help them reduce anxiety and gain better understanding about their assignments	there should be a specific section in bottom navigation to navigate student to their units and on that page they have a brief and communication part
this feature will help student to developed their language skills by asking them to communicate and set some goals and rewards	FEATURE 3 built in feature for students to translate their notes in their own language or to quiz themselves to further strengthen their communication skills	Because it helps them to understand their assignment better, besides learning new language without pressure and strees	there could be a note part in bottom navigation for student notes in class and records, images and whatever they need and it can be translated and they can also share that
feature that could connect with people who have job related to their major cause they graduated before, and could provide job opportunities or give students insight into what they need in the future	FEATURE 4 Built in searching feature where students can find past graduate students to give them advice on their future or potential job opportunities	Because it helps students get insight into their future job or find it more easily	have a search feature with filters that help students to find the gradated people who have same interest with them and add them as friends and collaborate with them.

User Research & Insights



Research Objective

This projects aims to strengthen students current community within university, aiming to encourage a more stimulating environment that could further benefit their learning.

1

Helping students to **find their community** that best suits their needs.

2

Assisting students to **find community within their education** aiming to help assist them **building confidence** and establish relationships.

3

Understanding the obstacles that prevents students from engaging with their peers.

4

Identifying the key factors that influence student's ability to **find a suitable community**.

5

Identifying the factors of what makes a **supportive community** and a practical service

Key Findings

Language barriers, limited time, and lack of accessible resources made it harder for students to connect, stay engaged, and navigate their learning experience with confidence

1

Students conveyed that **language barriers** significantly hindered students from **connecting** with their peers

2

Student's found it easier **maintaining** their friendships that they had made previously to their studies rather than making new connections

3

Students express that they wished they had an **easier educational resource** that could help them to find more information about their units

4

Student's were having **difficulty** with **finding time** to be a part of social clubs whilst **managing their studies**

5

Students conveyed that they think having more **personal insights** on their classmates may help them **build** better earlier relationships with them

Persona's



Sarah
22
Bachelor Student
From Australia
Melbourne,
Australia

About

Sarah is a first-year local student who recently started studying BFA at RMIT University. Although Sarah is local to Melbourne, she has been having a hard time building connections in her class and is struggling with catching up with all her upcoming assignments. Sarah has been really looking forward to her first year of uni but has been feeling a little lost about potential future and the expectations she has put onto herself. Sarah has become a bit more quiet in class so she has decided she wants to break out of her shell and meet some new people on campus .

Quote

"It was definitely really daunting. Like, I wasn't sure how I would make friends in uni"

Behaviours

- Prefers communicating digitally rather than in-person conversations
- Feeling awkward to attend events alone
- Checks her uni website regularly but finds it impersonal

Attitudes

- Introverted but friendly
- Prefers to figure out her own problems rather than ask friends or students
- Likes structure and clear, low-pressure interactions with high level of trust
- Open to trying new things

Pain points

- Wishes for a casual & friendly space to ask questions or collaborate
- Confused by lack of unified communication platforms/ services (email, Moodle, social media apps)
- Doesn't feel a strong sense of belonging to the university community

Goals

- Join to events based on her interests or academic study groups
- Build friendships with people from her cohort
- Navigate assignments and unit expectations more easily with peer support

Persona's



Rebecca
24
International
Student
Melbourne,
Australia

About

Rebecca is an international student from India who recently moved to Melbourne to study a Master of Design. She's fluent in English but sometimes lacks confidence in academic or peer conversations specially when it comes to finding community due to her language barriers. Sarah has faced challenges adjusting to a new academic system, making new friends, and understanding coursework structure. She wants to connect with peers in her course but finds orientation and current platforms difficult to understand

Quote

"I didn't know any resources before the semester starts. So I have no way to know whether there's platform to, like, meet new people"

Behaviours

- Unsure to start conversations unless she feels comfortable or invited or trust to somebody.
- Look for their classmates to ask questions about units and assignments.
- Uses translation apps (like Google Translate) to understand her course works or communicate with others

Attitudes

- Curious and hardworking
- Anxious about academic performance and finding friends or appropriate community
- Respectful and open to friendships

Pain points

- Difficulty in finding and connecting with classmates
- Struggles with language barriers (like making friends and starting conversation)
- Limited resources for educational and building community support
- Struggling with understanding of course works and unit expectations

Goals

- Build meaningful connections with students in her course/ Classmates
- Get clarity on unit expectations and assignments through peer support
- Find a platform where she can ask questions without fear of judgment
- Join student groups or events which are aligned with her interests

The journey of the User

Paints Points

Their current educational resource doesn't allow them to effectively communicate with other students or teacher in their cohort	They found it hard to ask other students in their class for help as they hadn't formed a close relationship yet and were anxious due to language barriers	They find it very difficult to understand their current educational resources as it lacks information about campus resources and their units.	They struggled to form deep connections during orientation as they didn't have any opportunities to start engaging with their coho.	They were struggling to find their classmates social media accounts to get in better connect with them	They struggled having a accessible educational resource tha gave them more thorough information about their unit requirements
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Opportunities

Implement interactive features that help assist teachers to accommodate to their students more effectively.	Assist students with language barriers to build community more effectively	Consider and design to accommodate for international and non international students who are experiencing anxiousness starting their new degree.	Design a communication app to help guide students into building stronger relationships.	Create a seamless educational resource that helps students learn more about their learning objectives and unit requirements.
Discussion based forum, option for direct contact information	Additional built in feature for students to translate their notes in their own language and feel more confident reading their unit information	Include active chat box with current students to ask questions in regards to their studies or available resources around campus to help them	Uni resource app designed like a social media app, connects students from the same uni and units with one another where they can share updates on their life and ask inquires about their studies	have a specific place for brief and question can communicate there and asking their questions

HMW

"HMW design an inclusive and intuitive University based feature that empowers both local and international students so that they can discover meaningful communities, build classroom confidence, and foster lifelong connections beyond their studies?"



The HMW

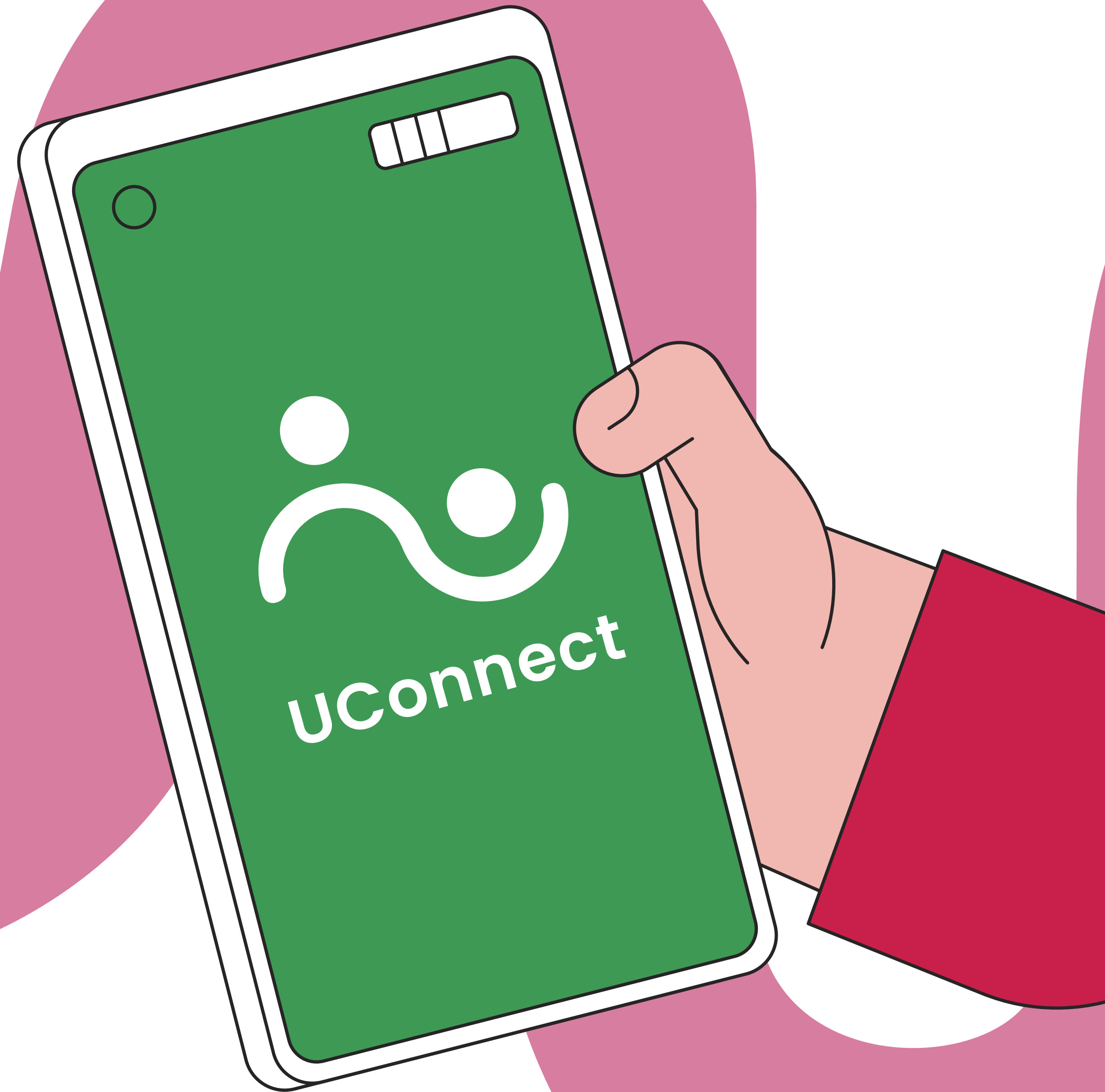
"HMW design an inclusive and intuitive University based feature that empowers both local and international students so that they can discover meaningful communities, build classroom confidence, and foster lifelong connections beyond their studies?"



The Goal

We will make it accessible for all students to find their desired community whilst on campus as well providing them with added academic assistances to help improve their confidence within a learning space as well within their community

Design Concept



Design Concept

A digital platform application designed to help all diverse universities students to help them connect with their peers, access course-related resources, Making them feel confident from the start of their Academic studies

Key Features



Built-in translation

Ask & Answer space
(contributing and helping
peers)

Finding community and
events dashboard

Sharing interest

Personalizing your app
through onboarding
process



Our Goals

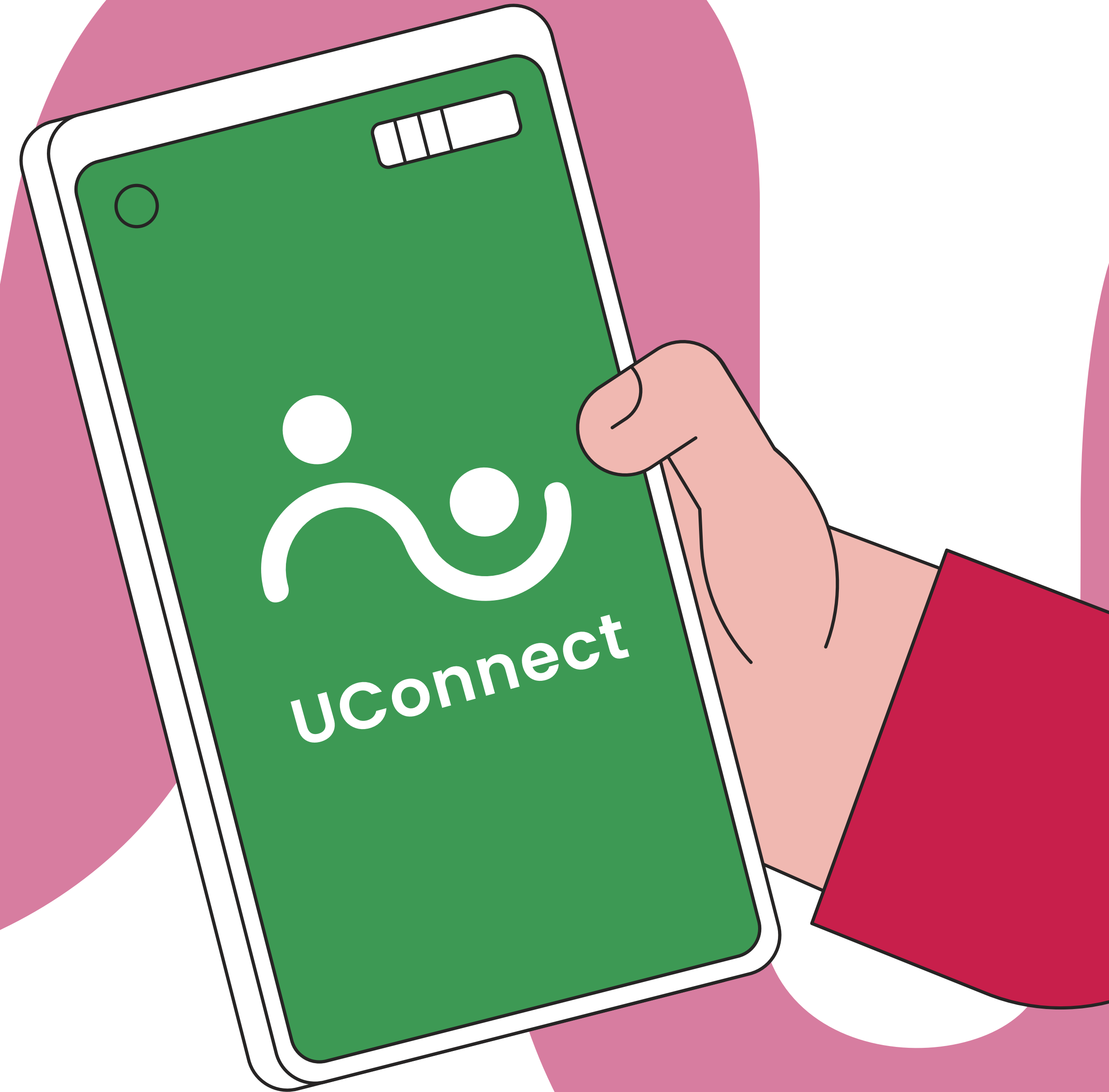
Make it easier for students
to builds connections
before class begins or
even during semester

Prioritizes language
accessibility

Encourages active
participation to find
community and build their
relationships

Provide peer support

Context Scenarios



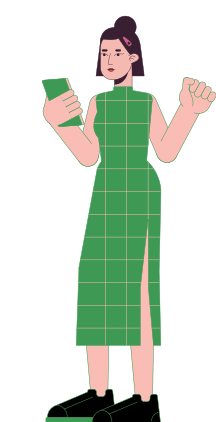
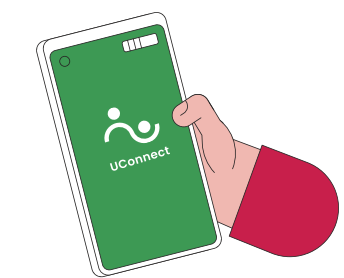
Context Scenario

Eliza has just started university and feels isolated on campus. Most students seem to have found their friendship groups, and she struggles to start conversations or ask for help with her studies. At home, she browses apps for support but finds most are too general until she discovers UConnect, designed for university students to support social and academic life.

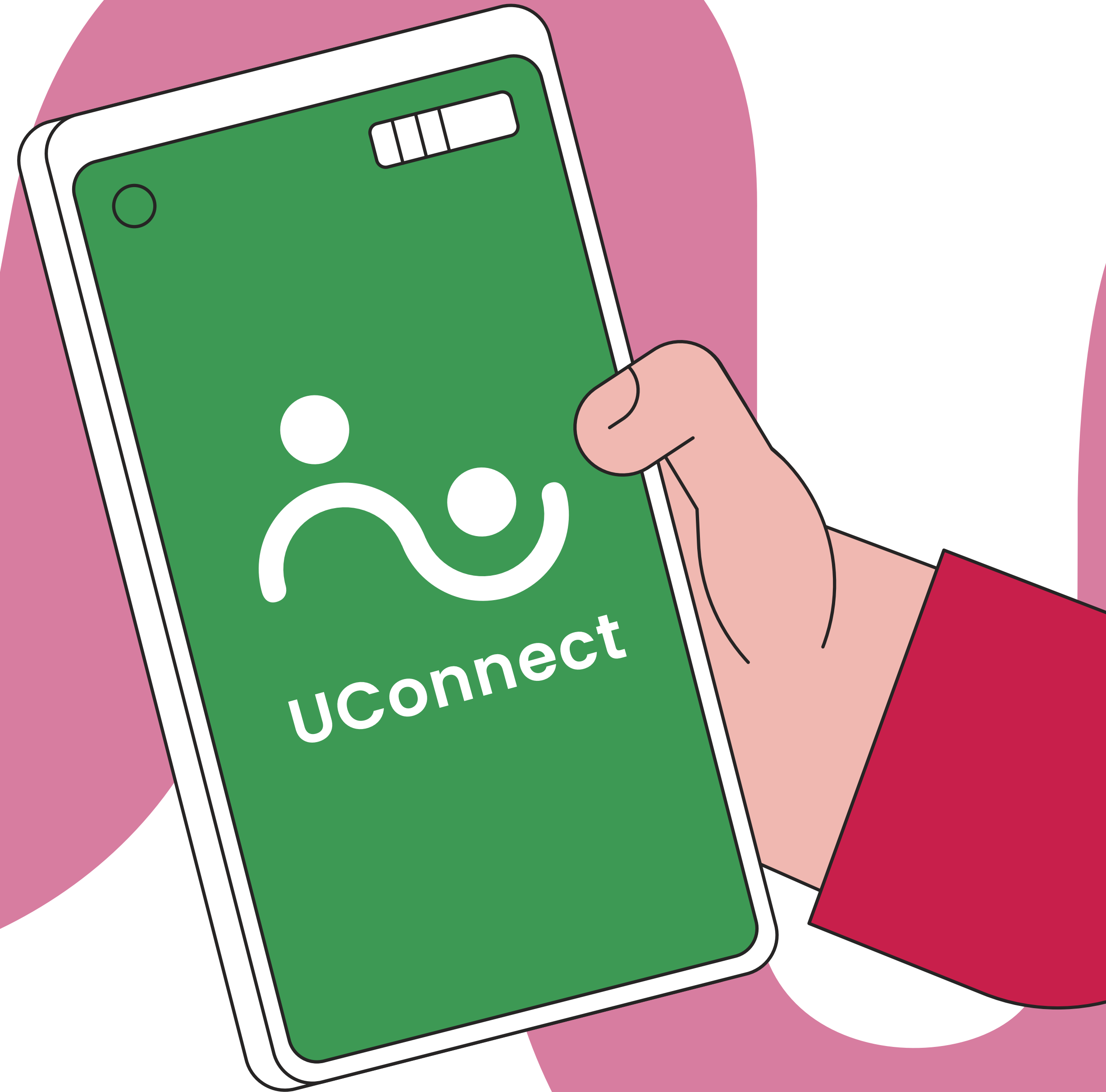
She downloads the app and, during onboarding, selects her study hobbies, interests, and preferred language. UConnect suggests communities like a Library Study Session Group. After joining, she begins to feel more included.

Eliza explores the Community tab to find groups, events, and other students with similar interests. Later, while stuck on an assignment, she posts a question in her course section using the translation feature. Classmates respond with helpful advice, boosting her confidence.

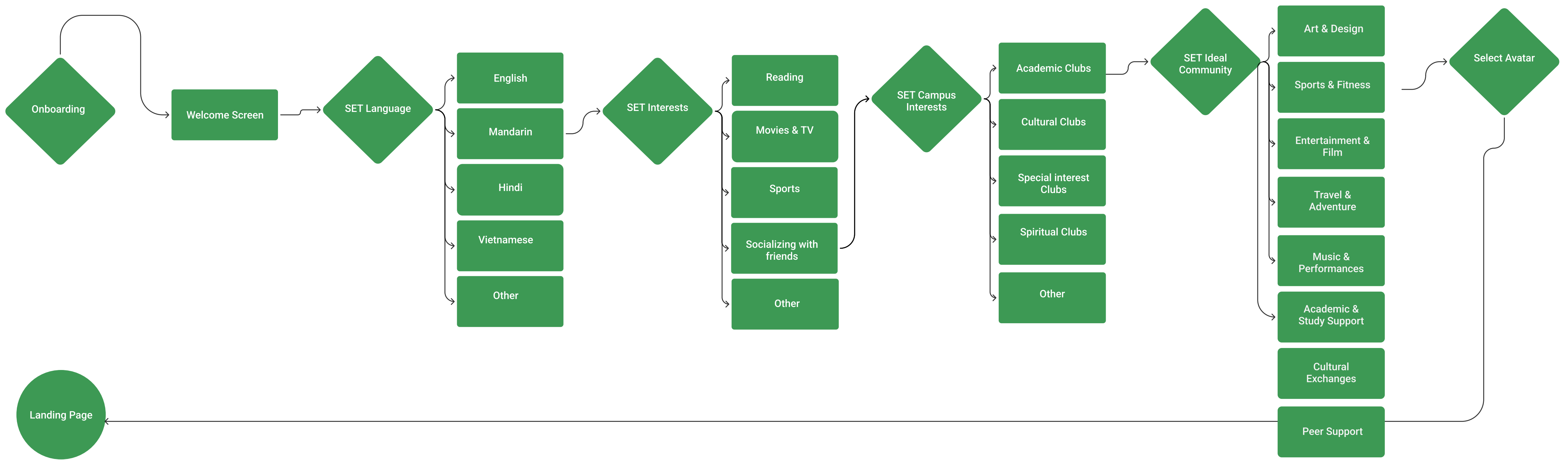
Through UConnect, Eliza finds the peer support and sense of belonging she's been missing—shaping a more connected and confident university experience.



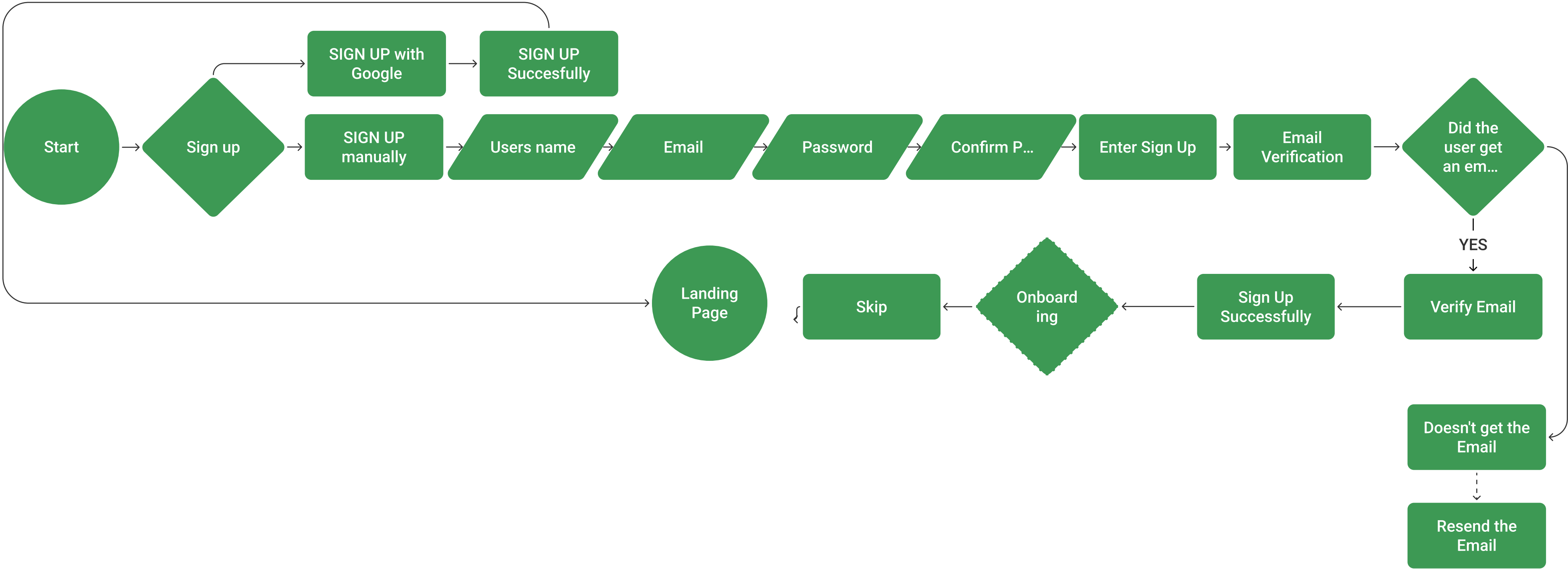
User Flow



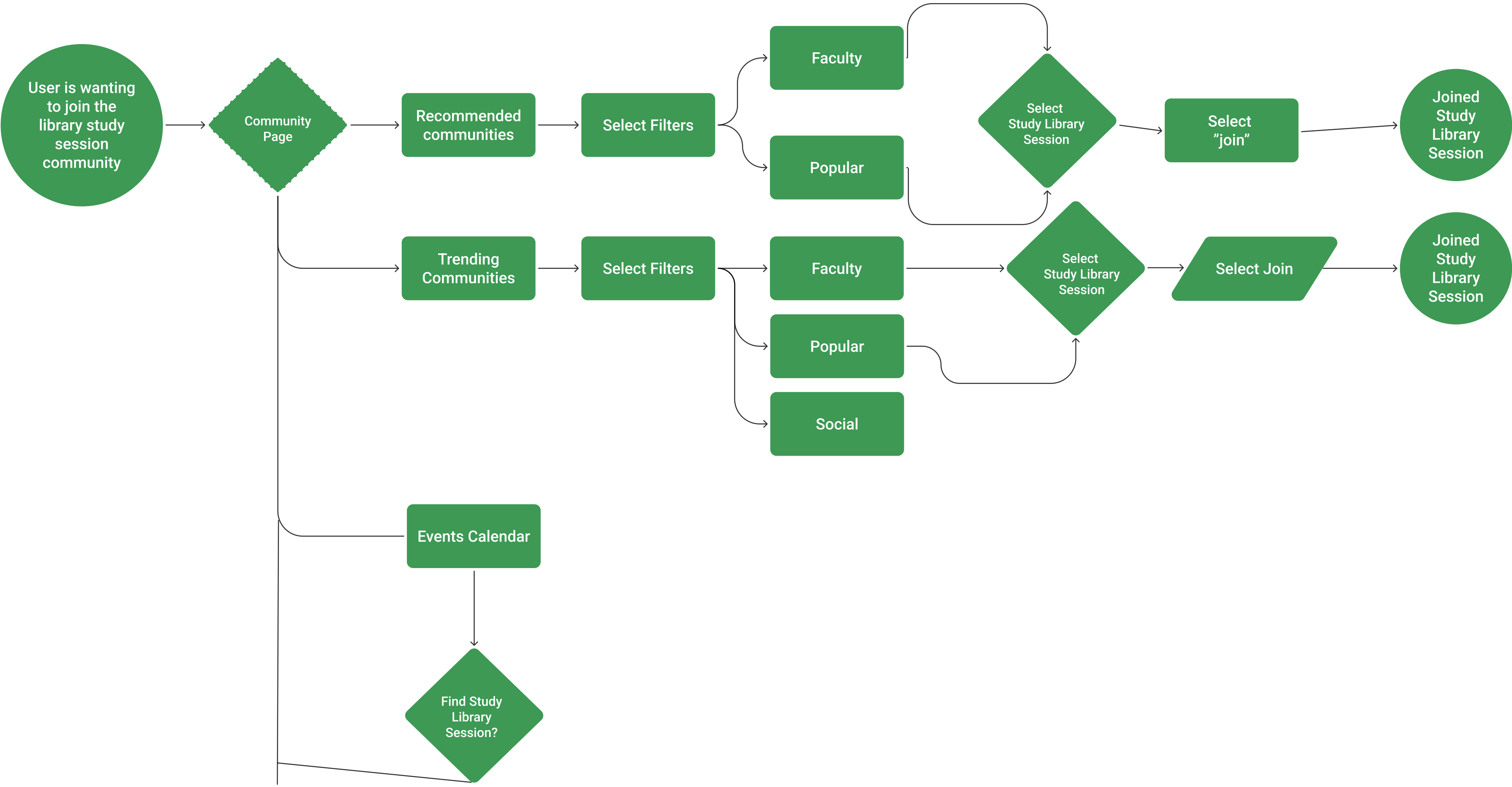
Onboarding



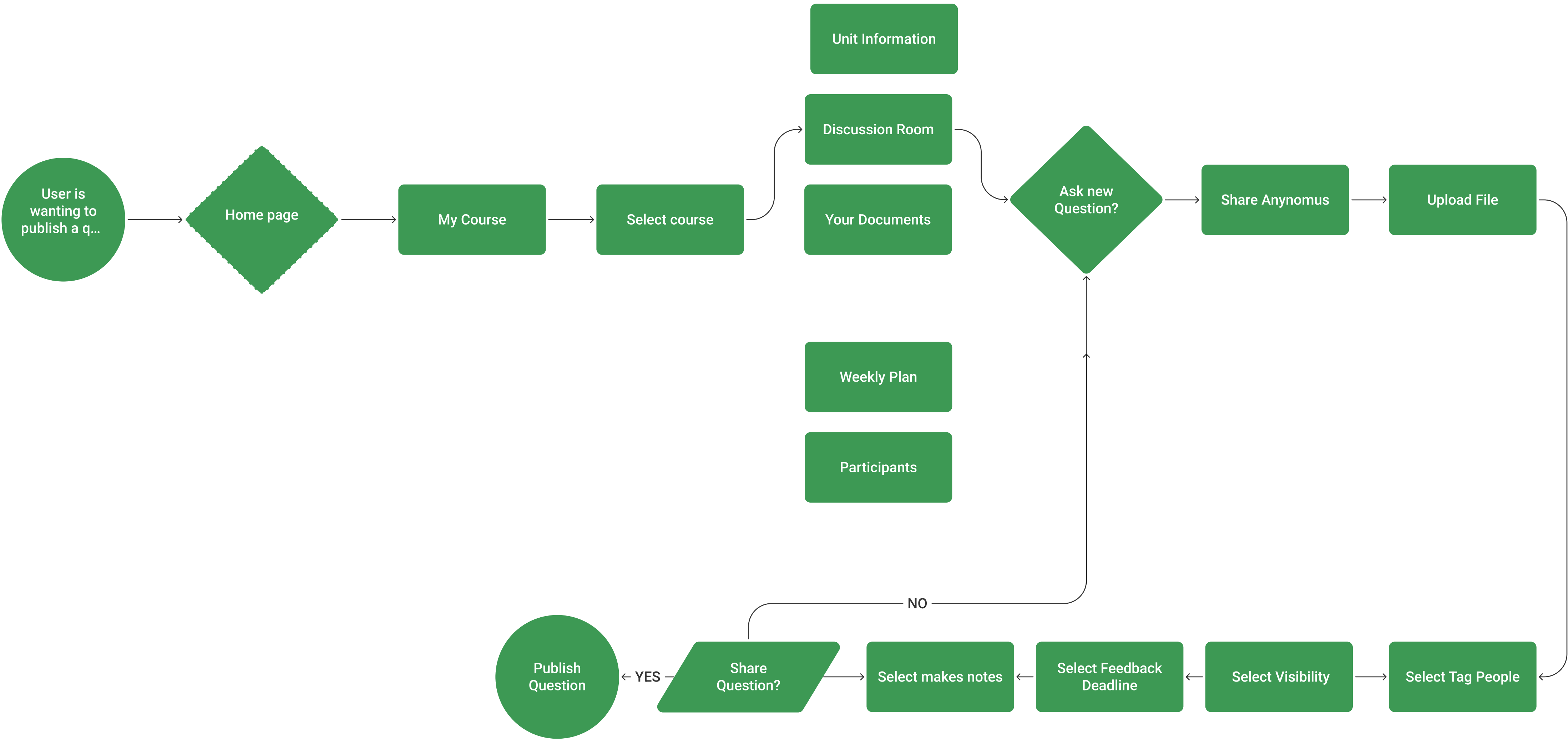
Onboarding



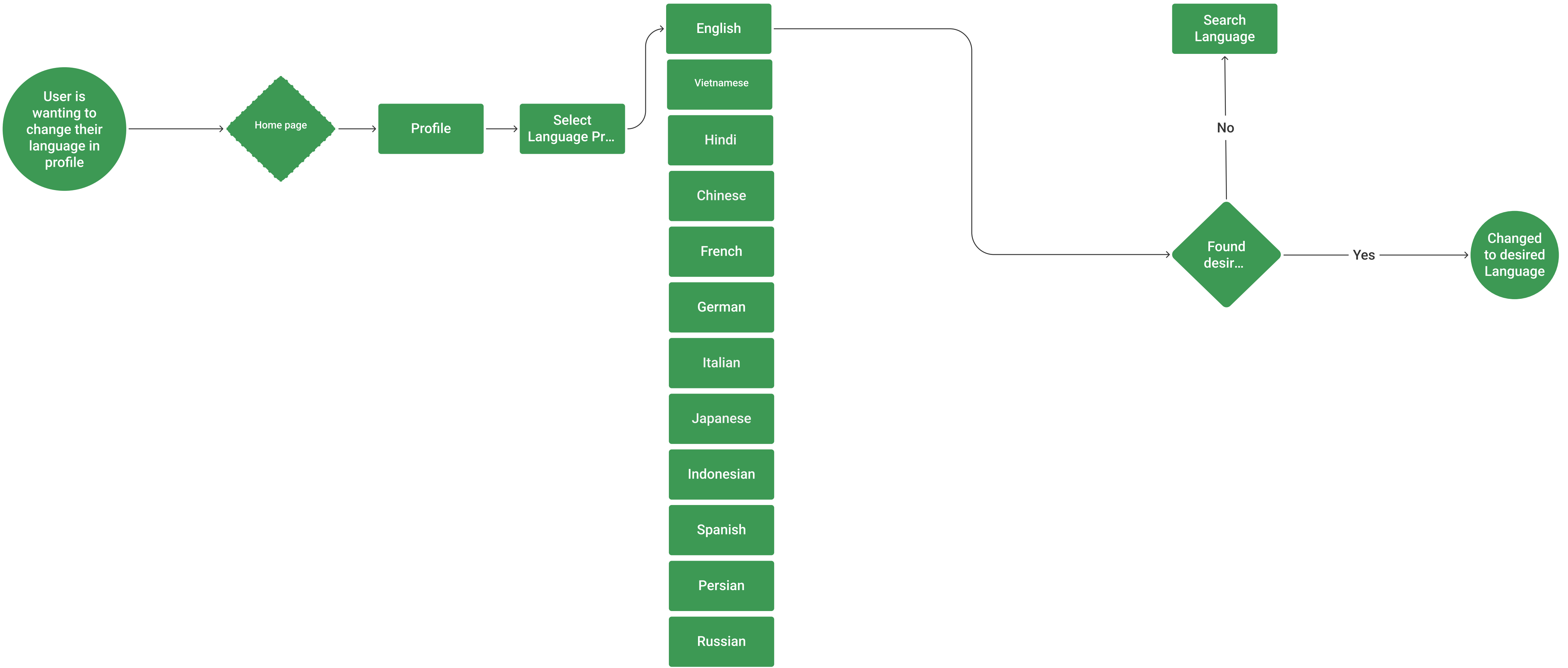
Community



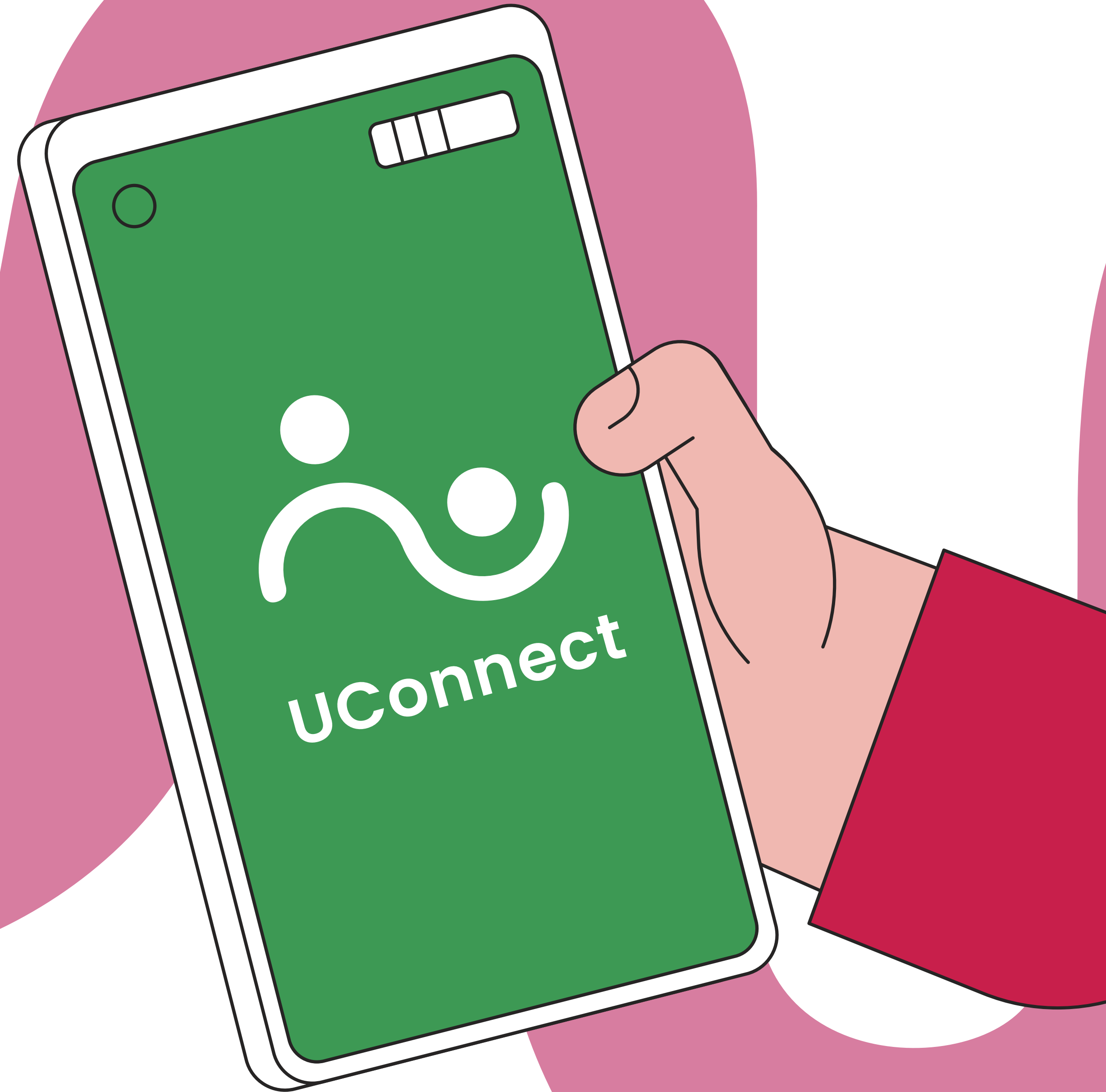
Course page



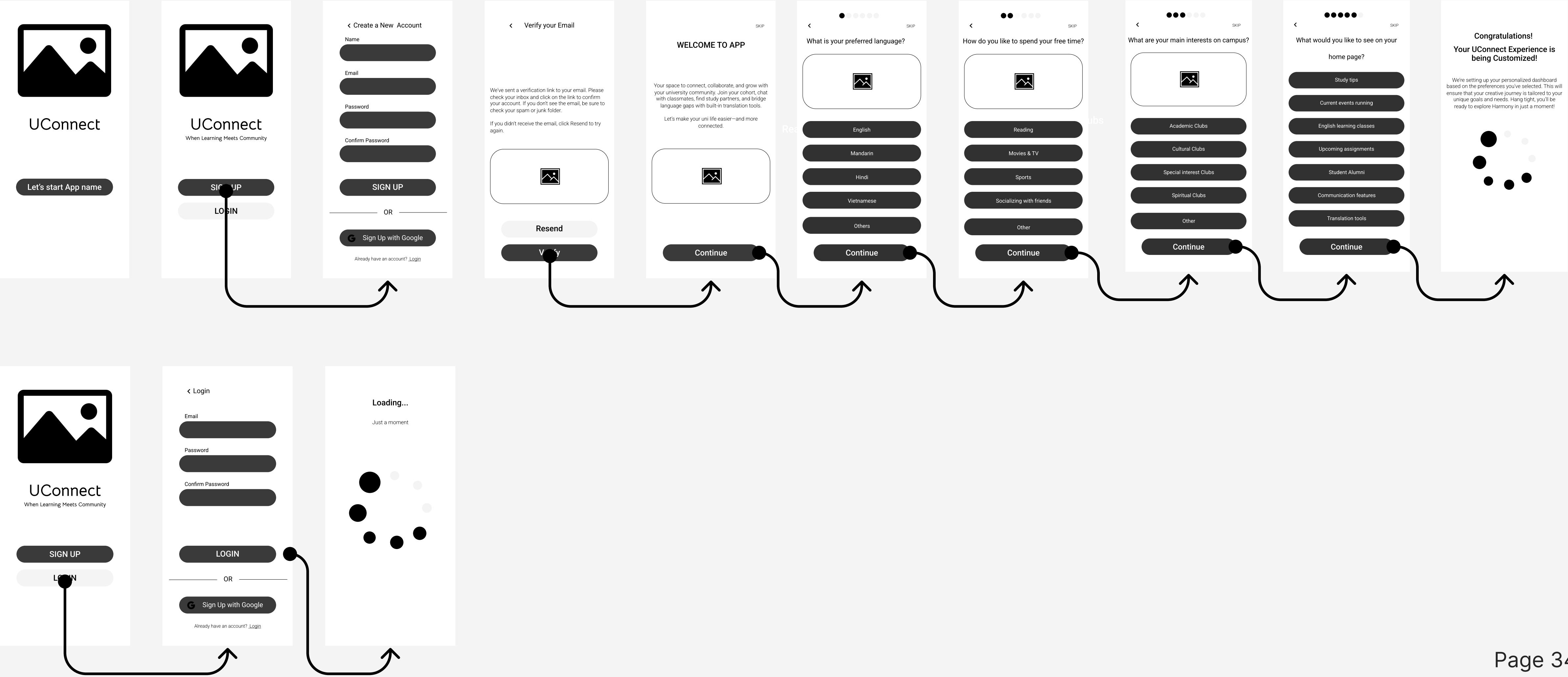
Profile



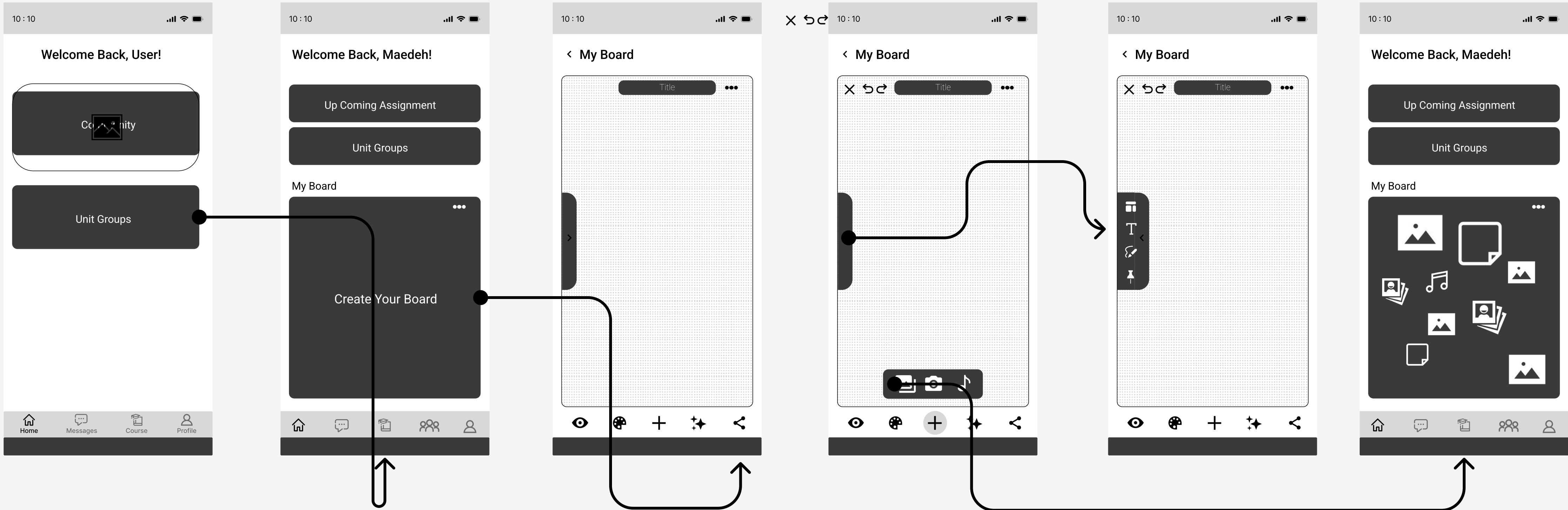
Wireframes



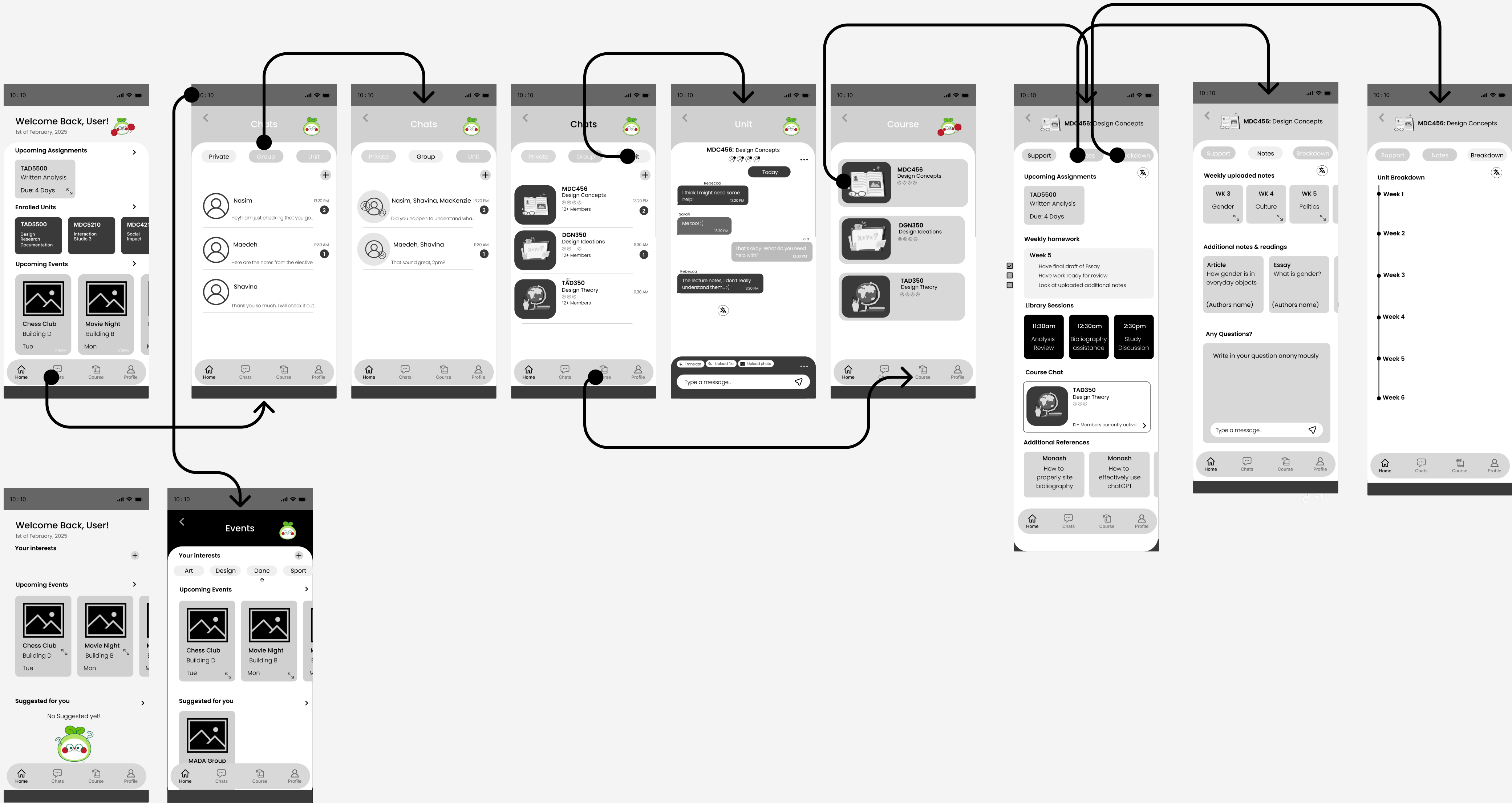
Low Fidelity / Sign up & Log in



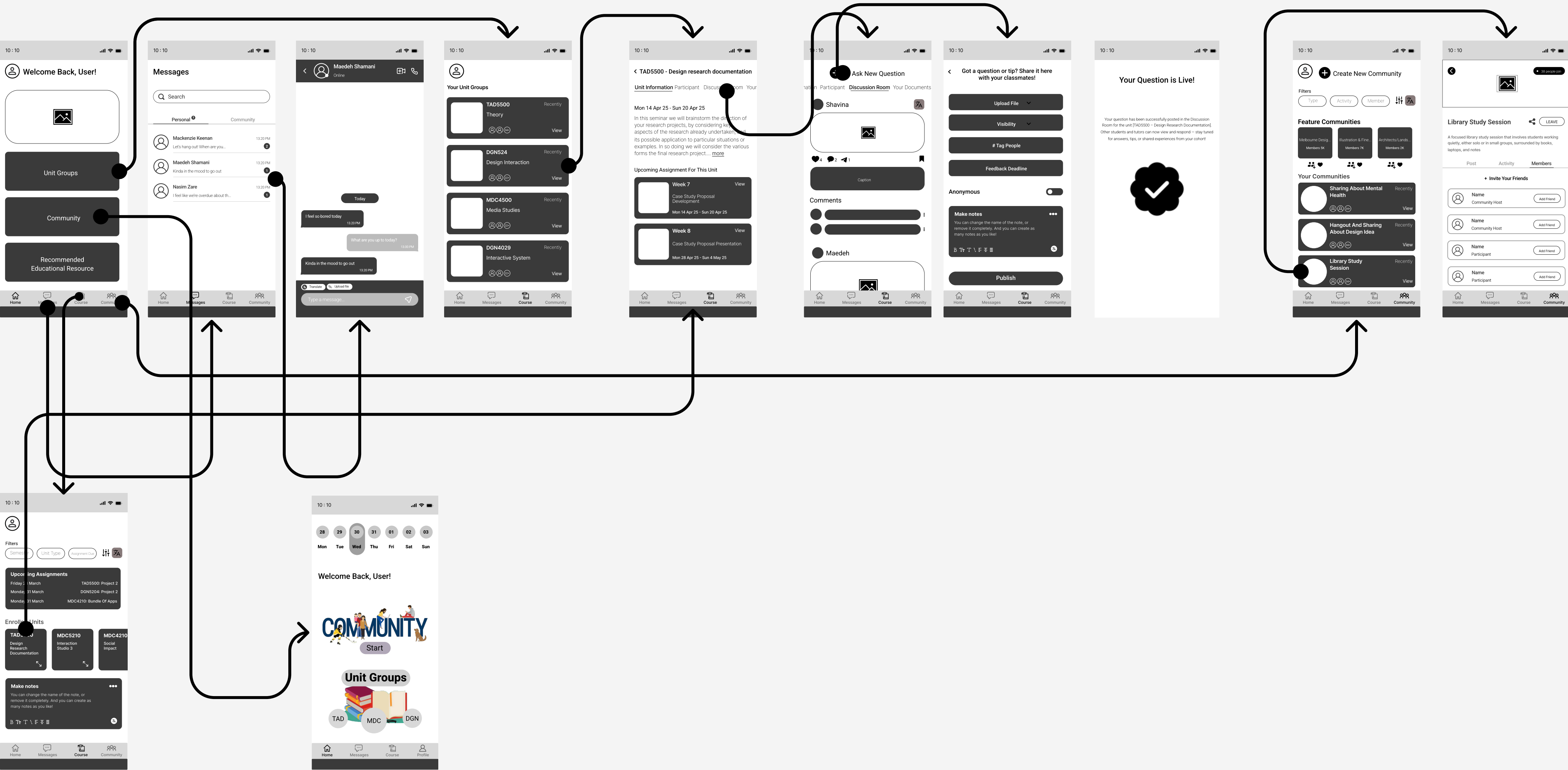
Low Fidelity / My Board



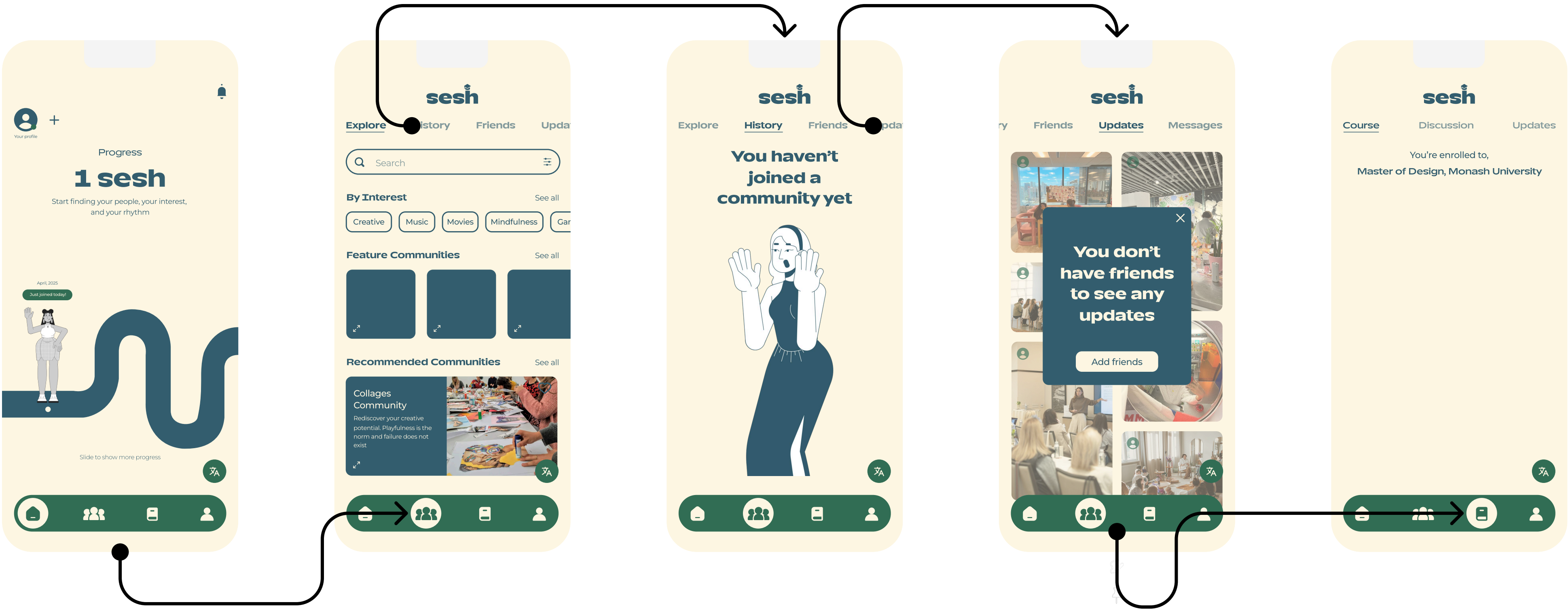
Low Fidelity / Chats, Course, Home



Low Fidelity / Ask New Question, Join Community



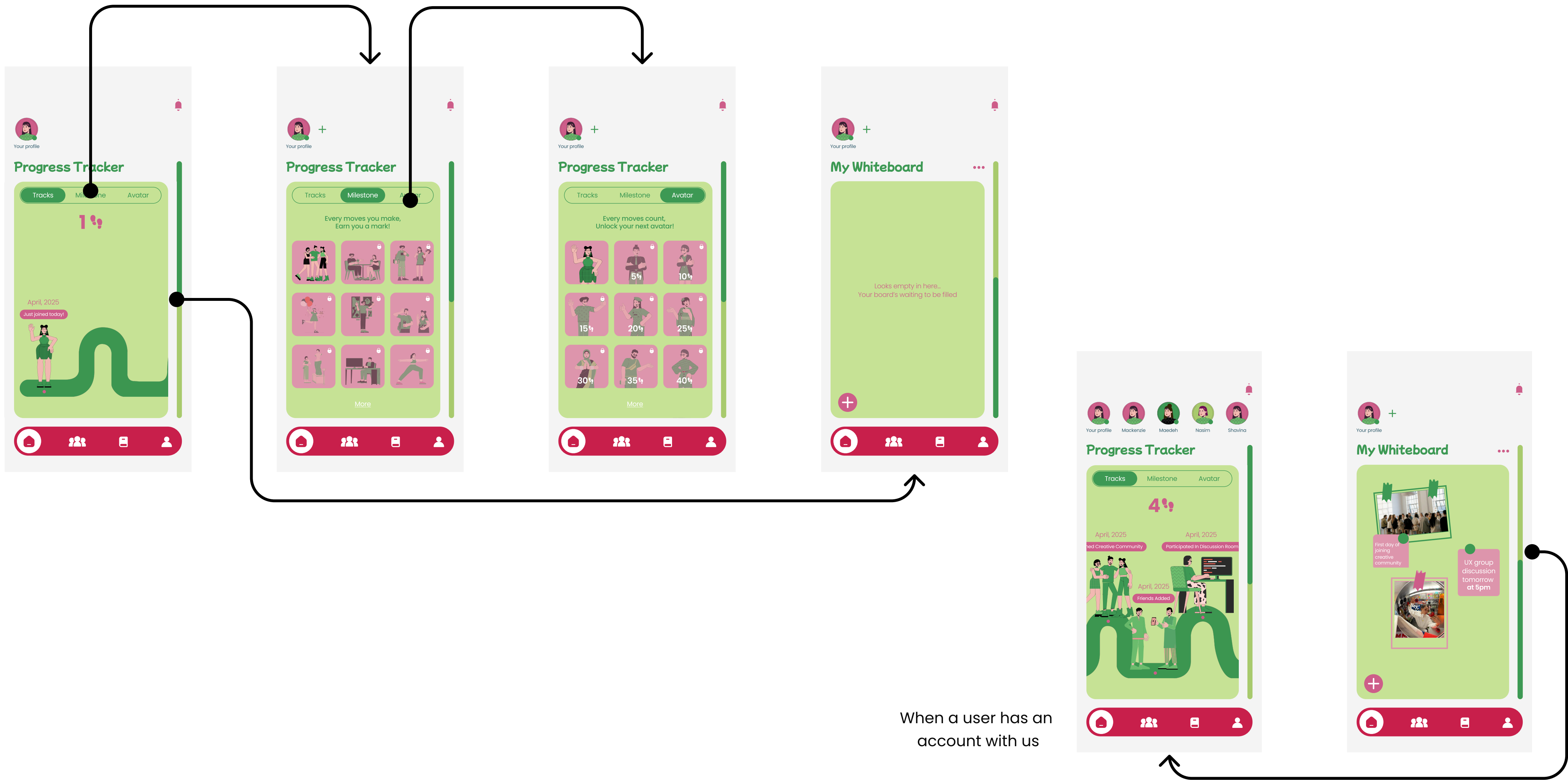
Low Fidelity / Homepage



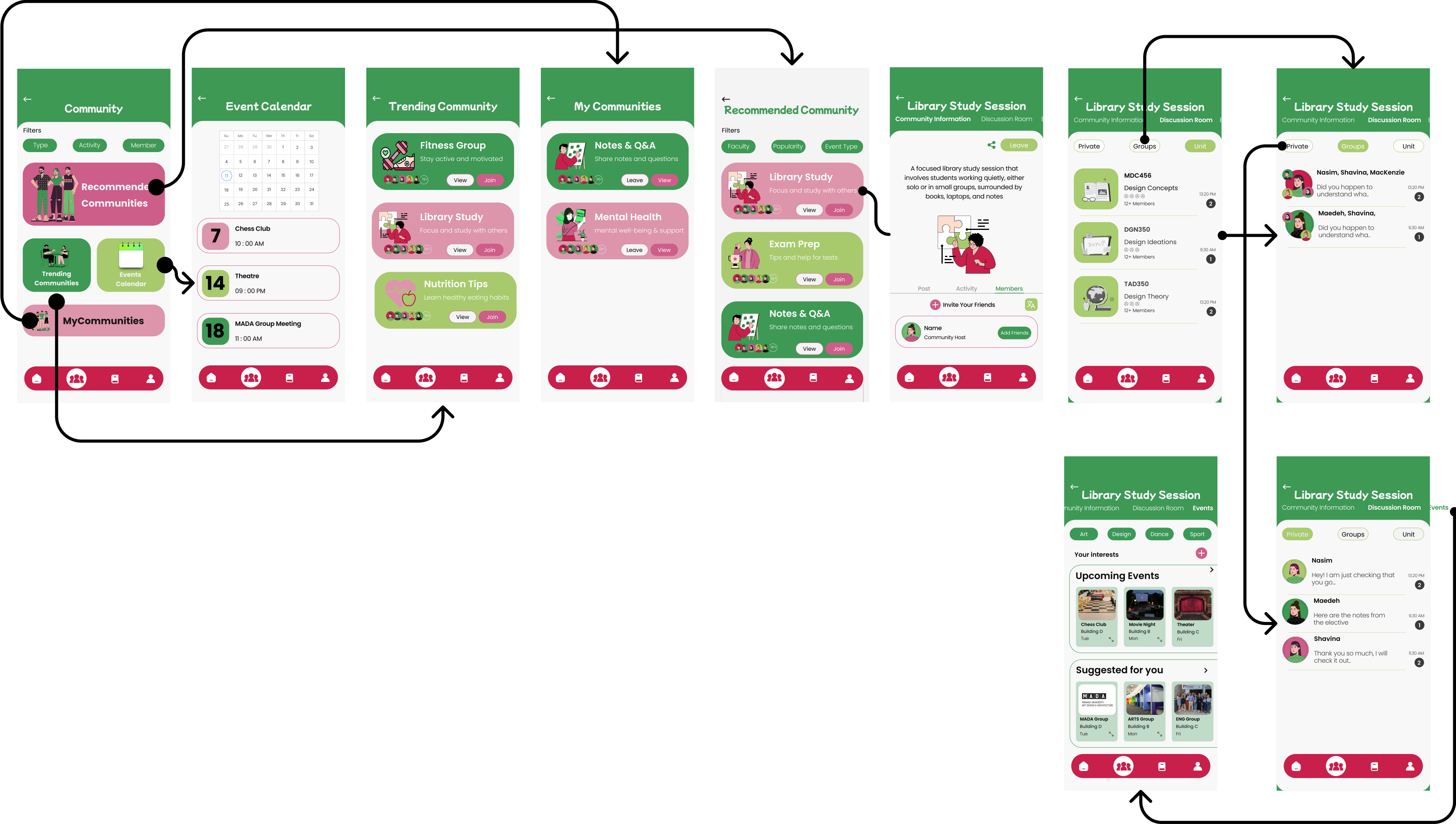
Medium Fidelity- Login / Signing up



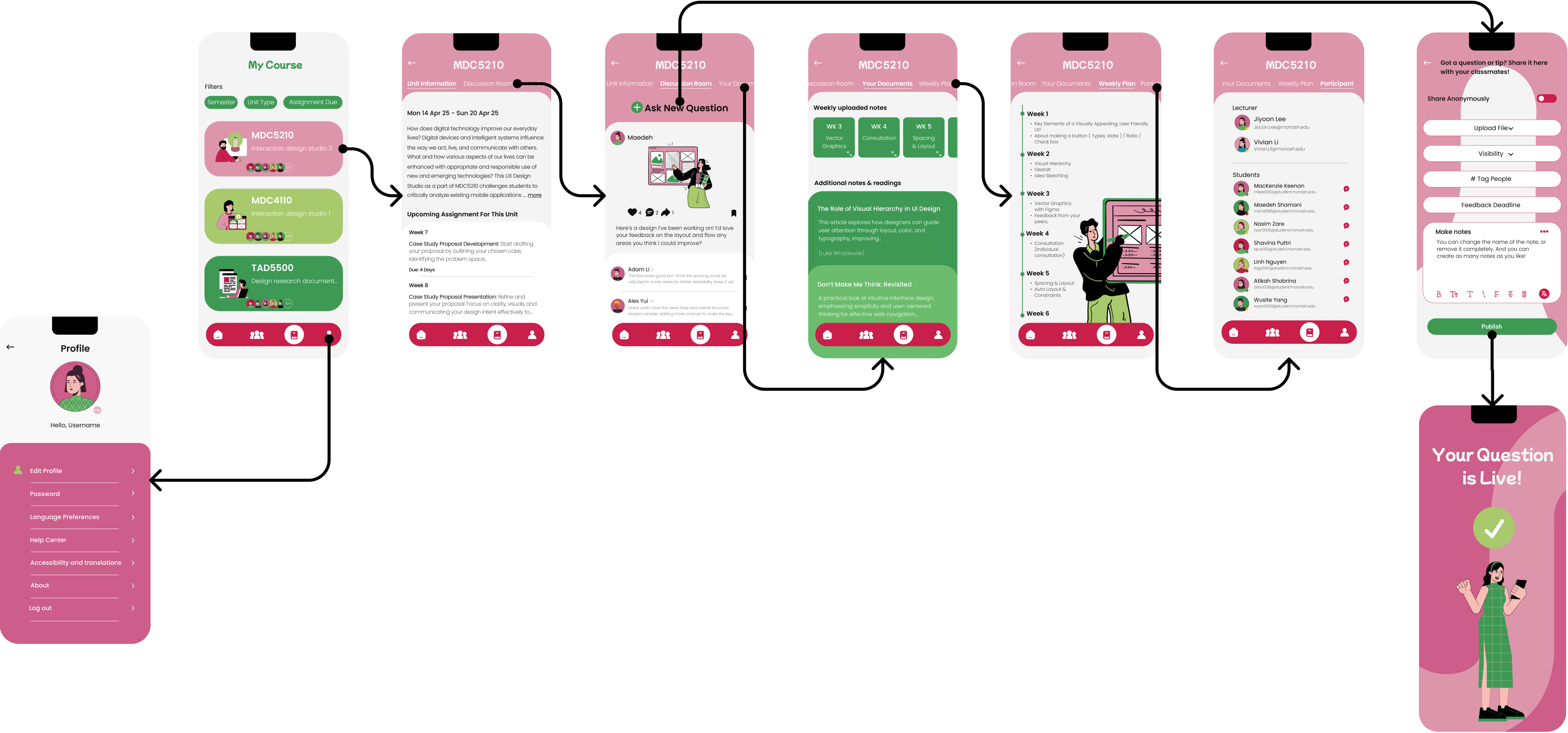
Medium Fidelity- Homepage



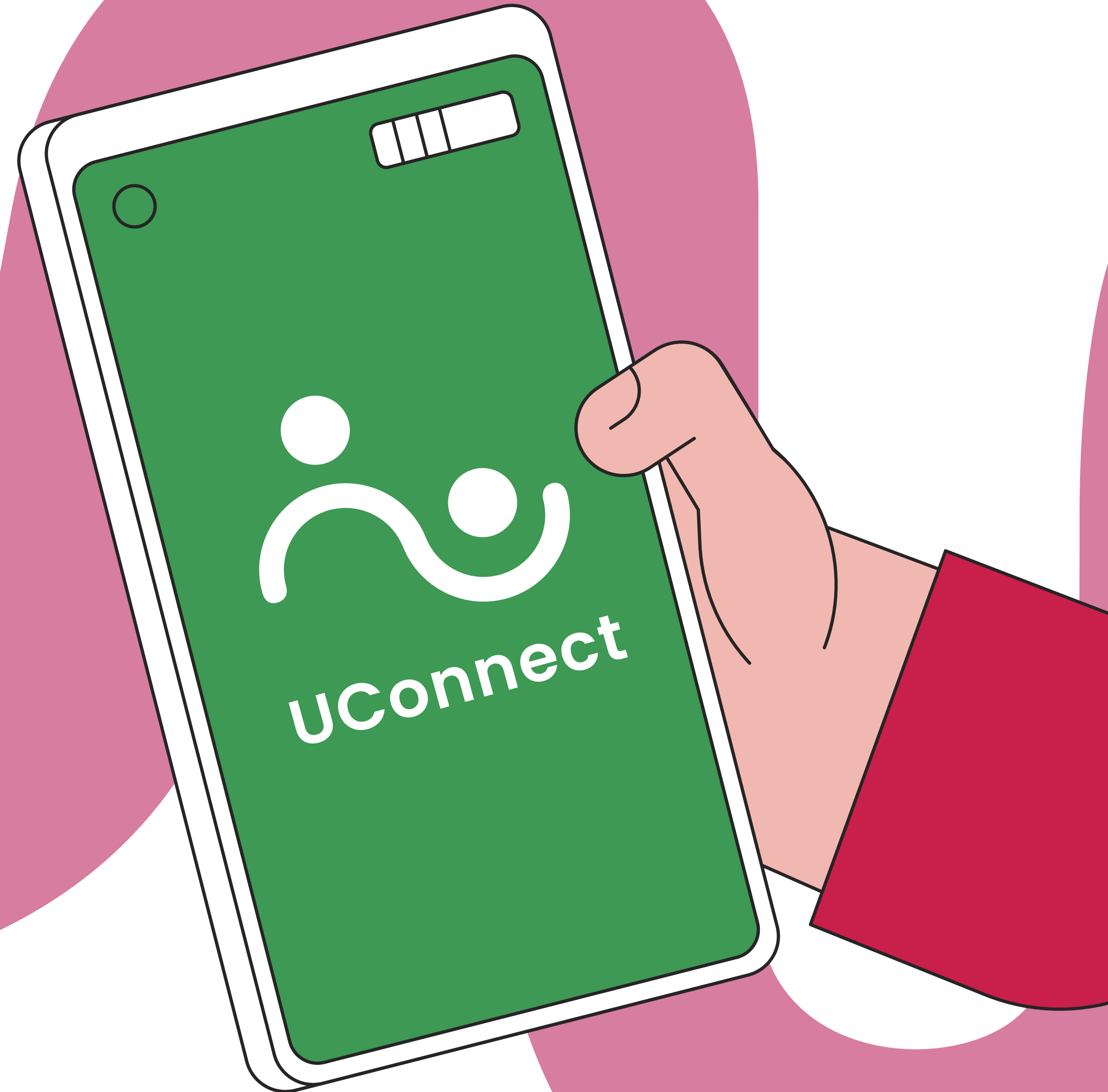
Medium Fidelity / Communities



Medium Fidelity- My Course / Profile



UI Designs



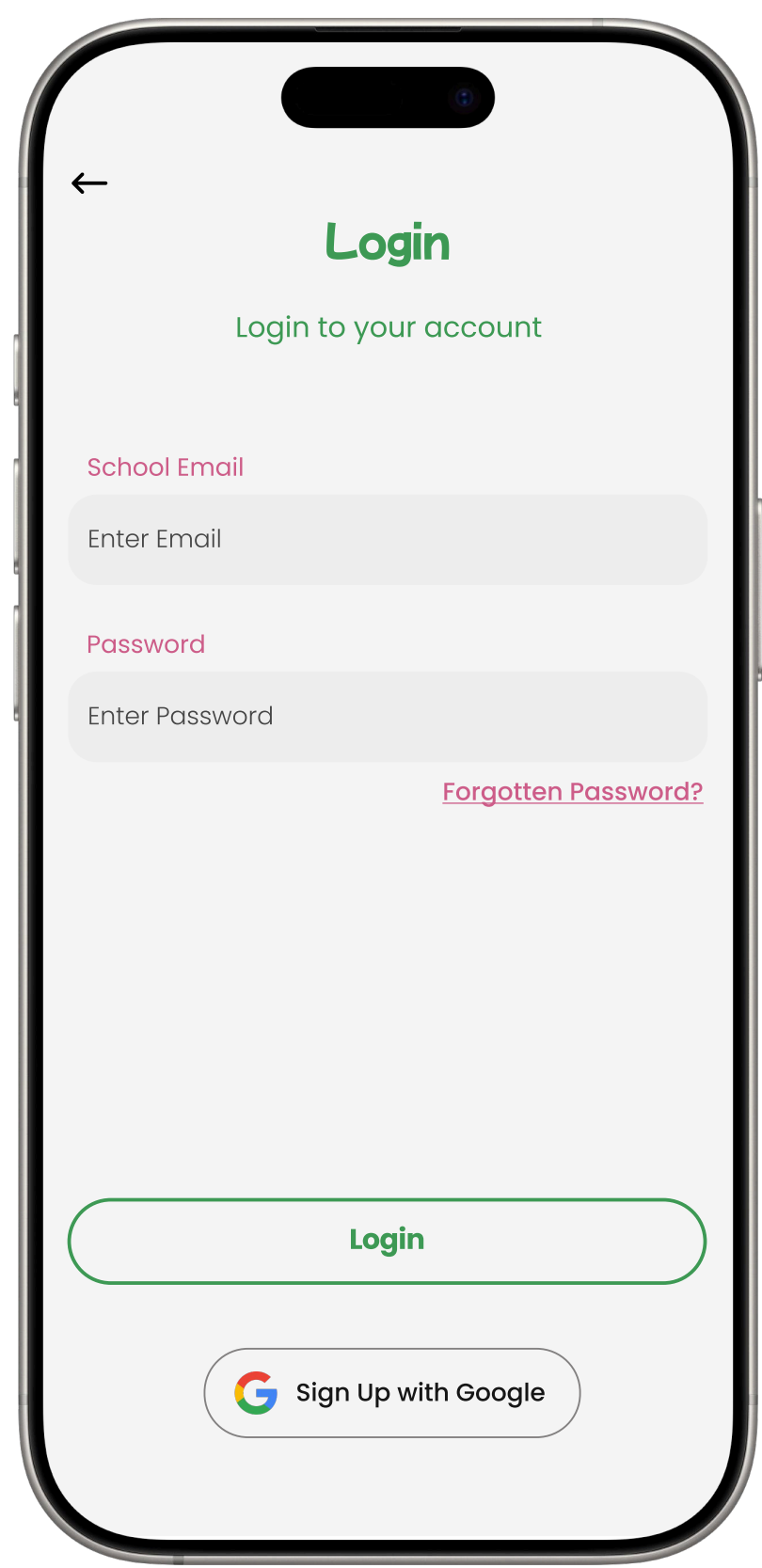
[Final Design Link](#)

Welcome Page

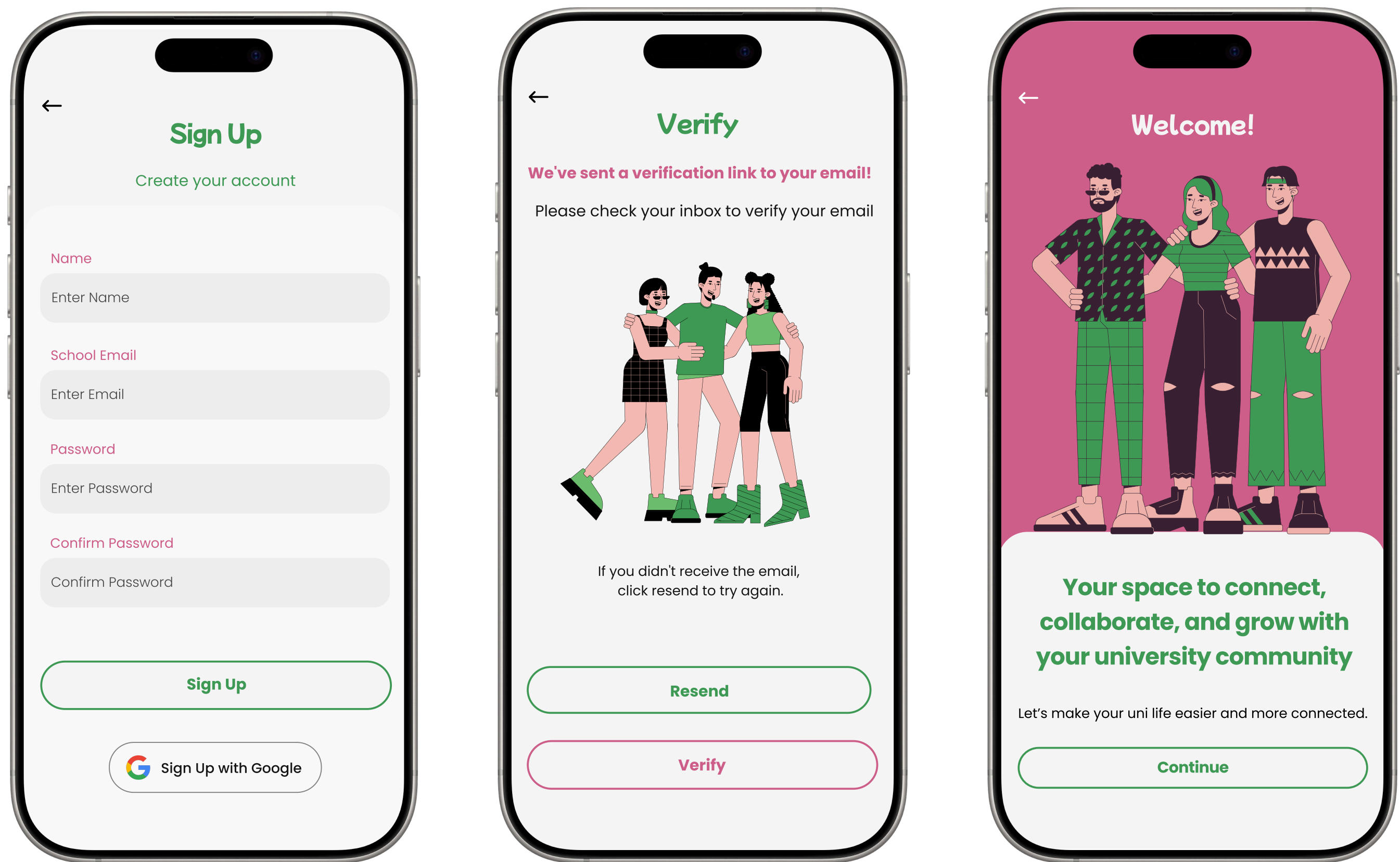
UConnect’s welcome page uses vibrant, friendly colors to create an inviting first impression that encourages students to engage. This approachable design supports students to feel included and ready to participate from the start.



Login

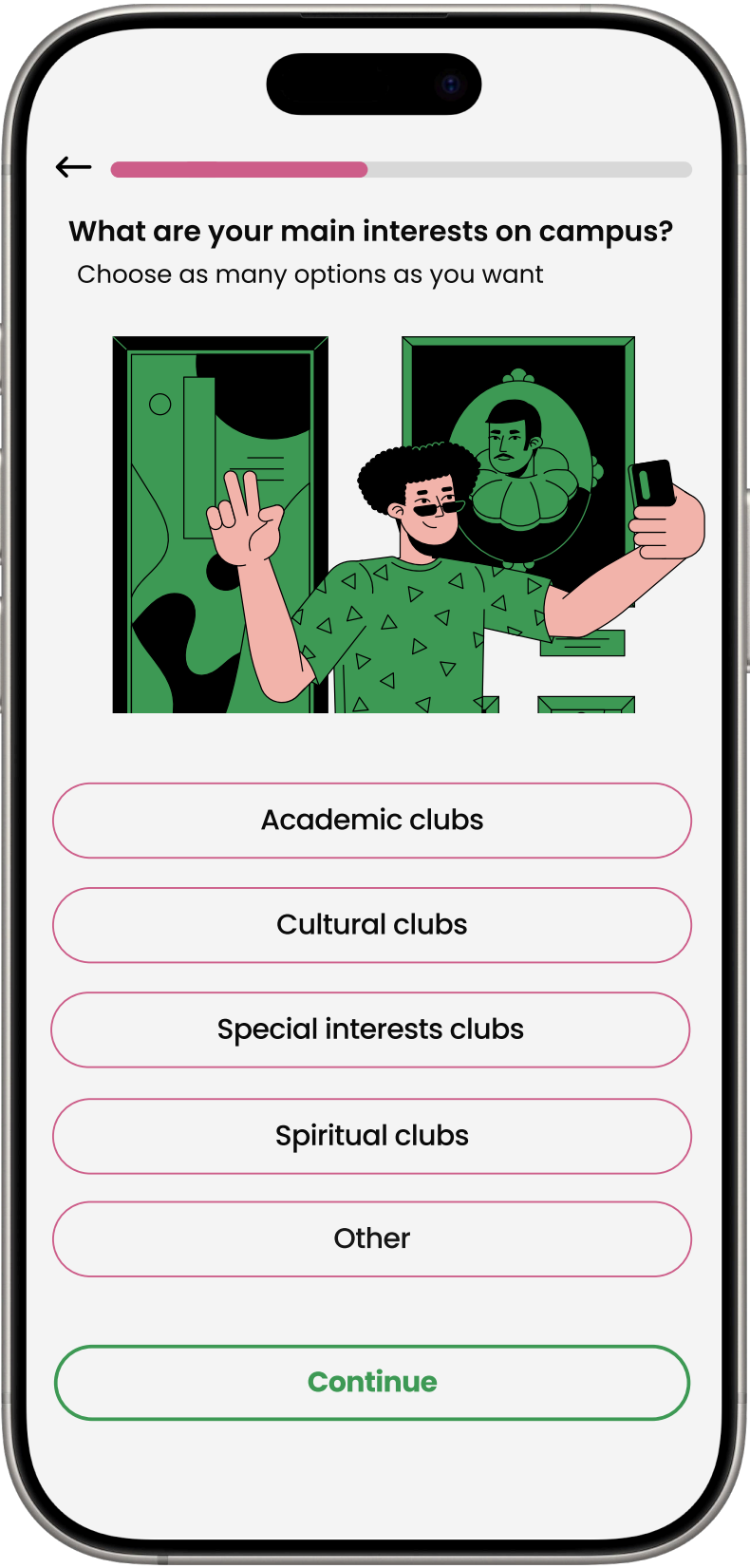
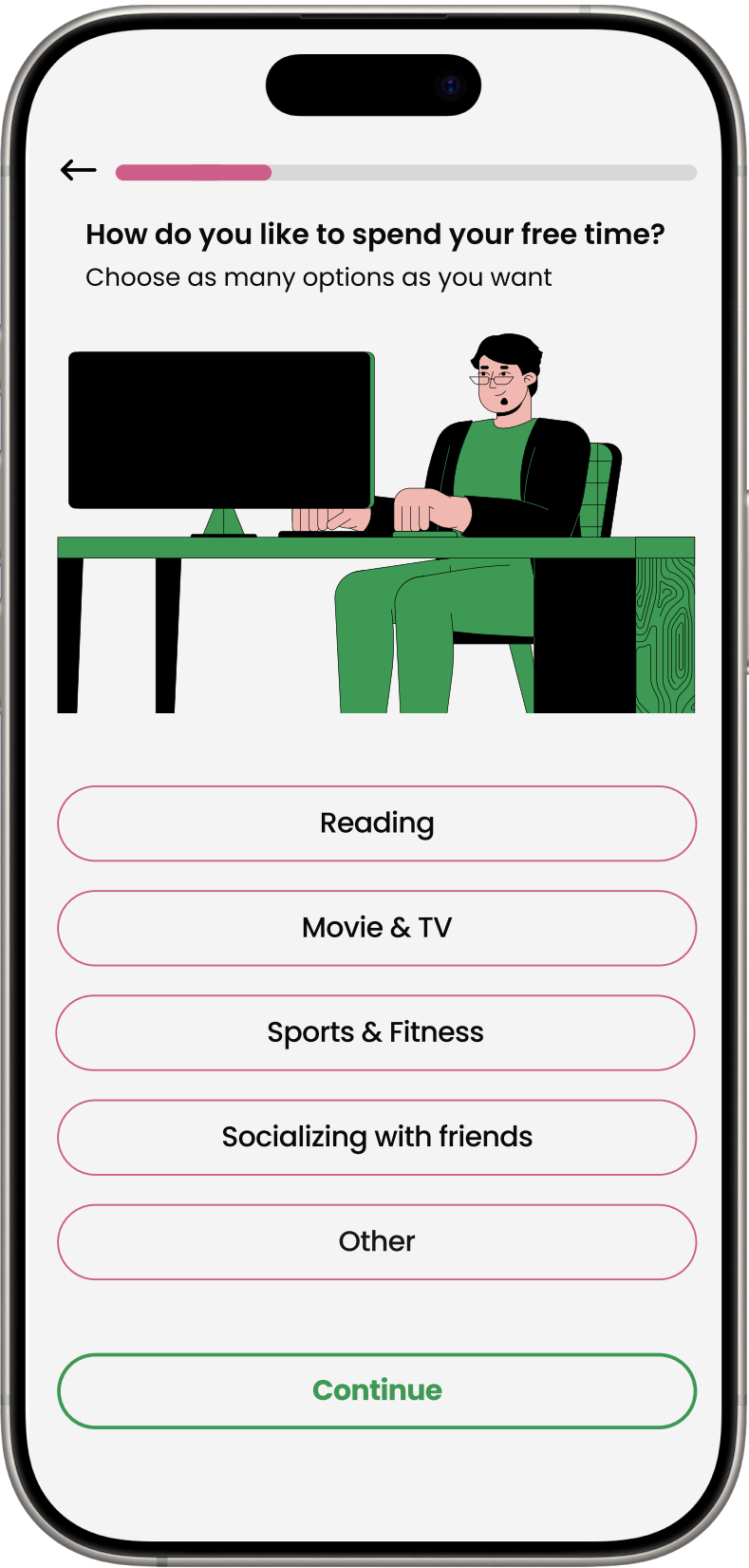
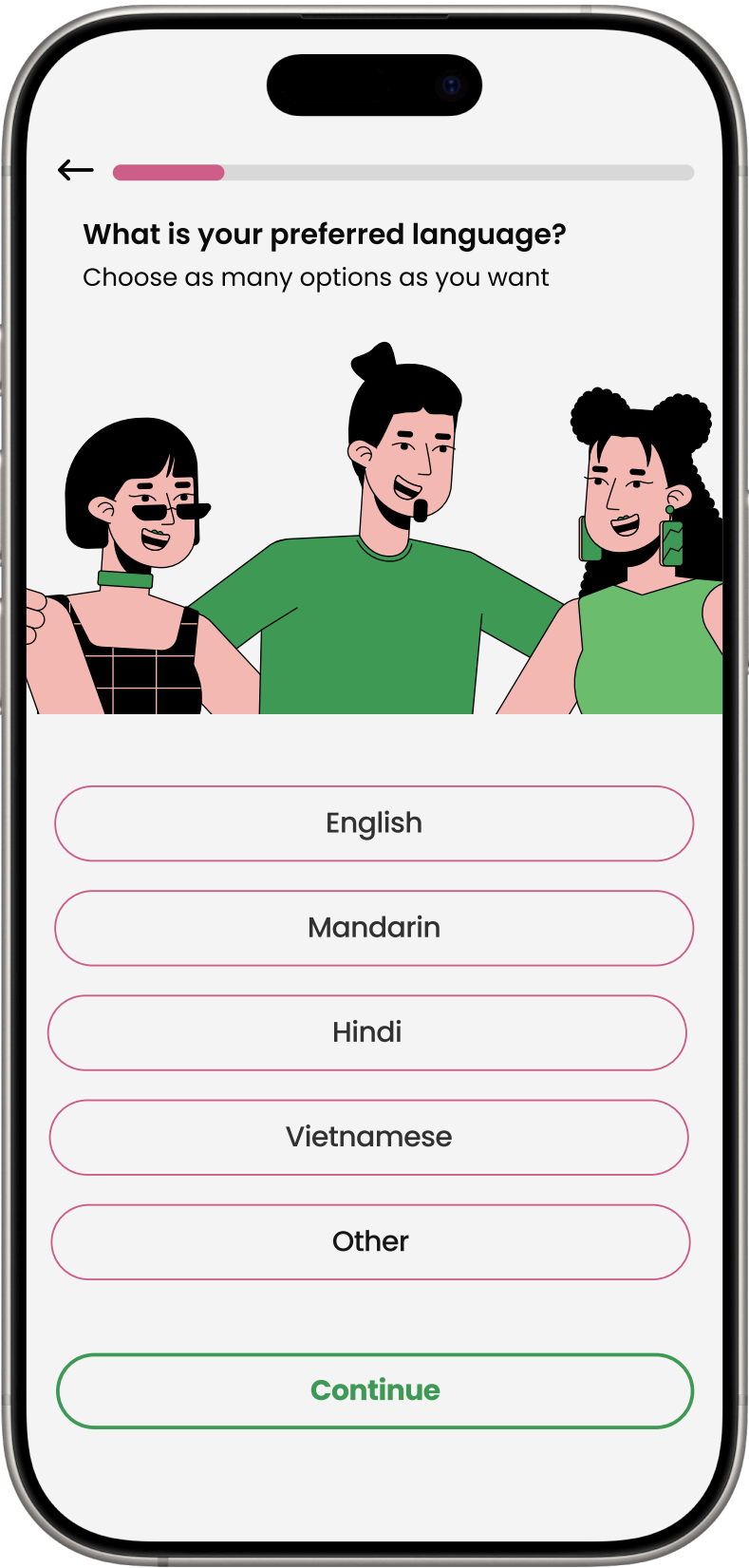


Signing Up



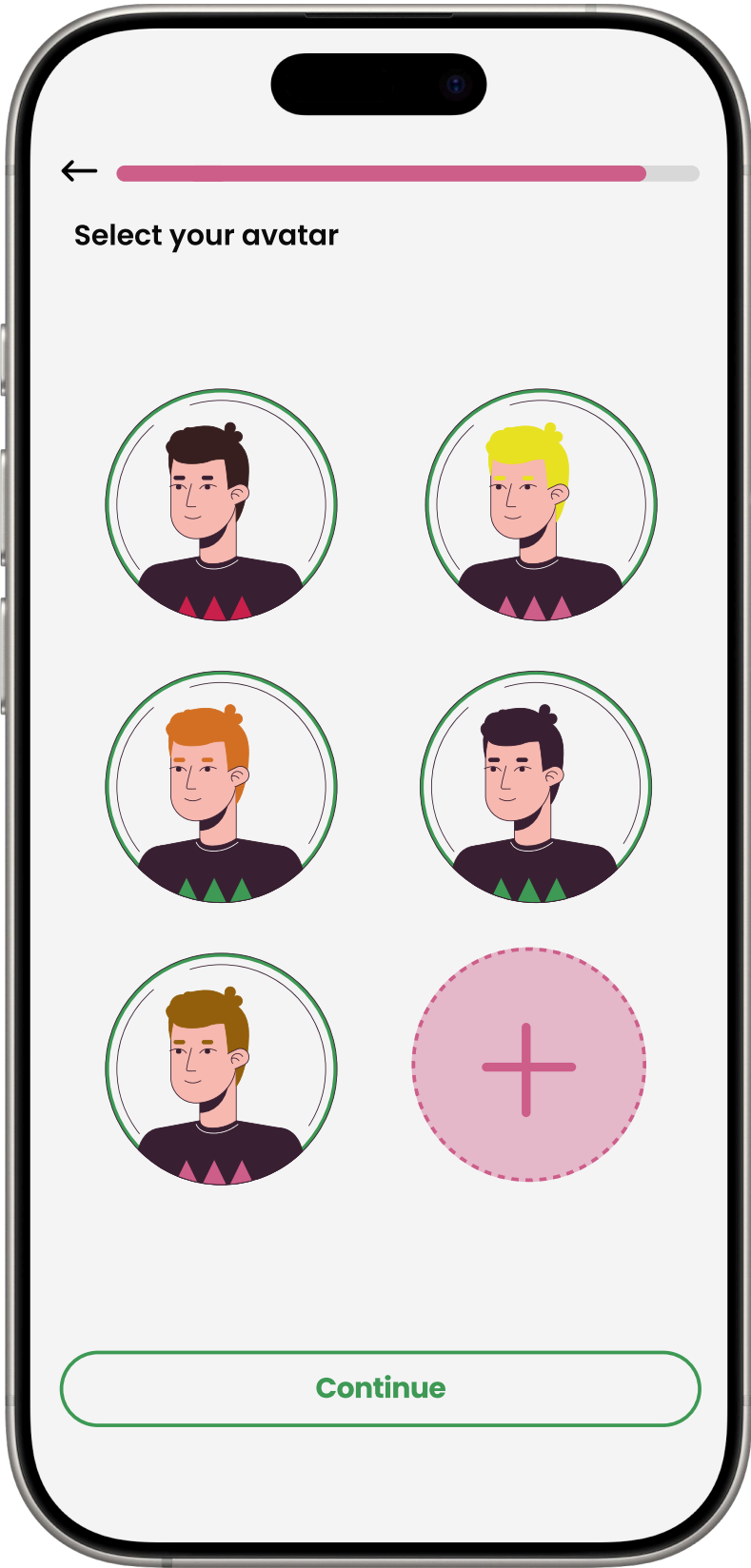
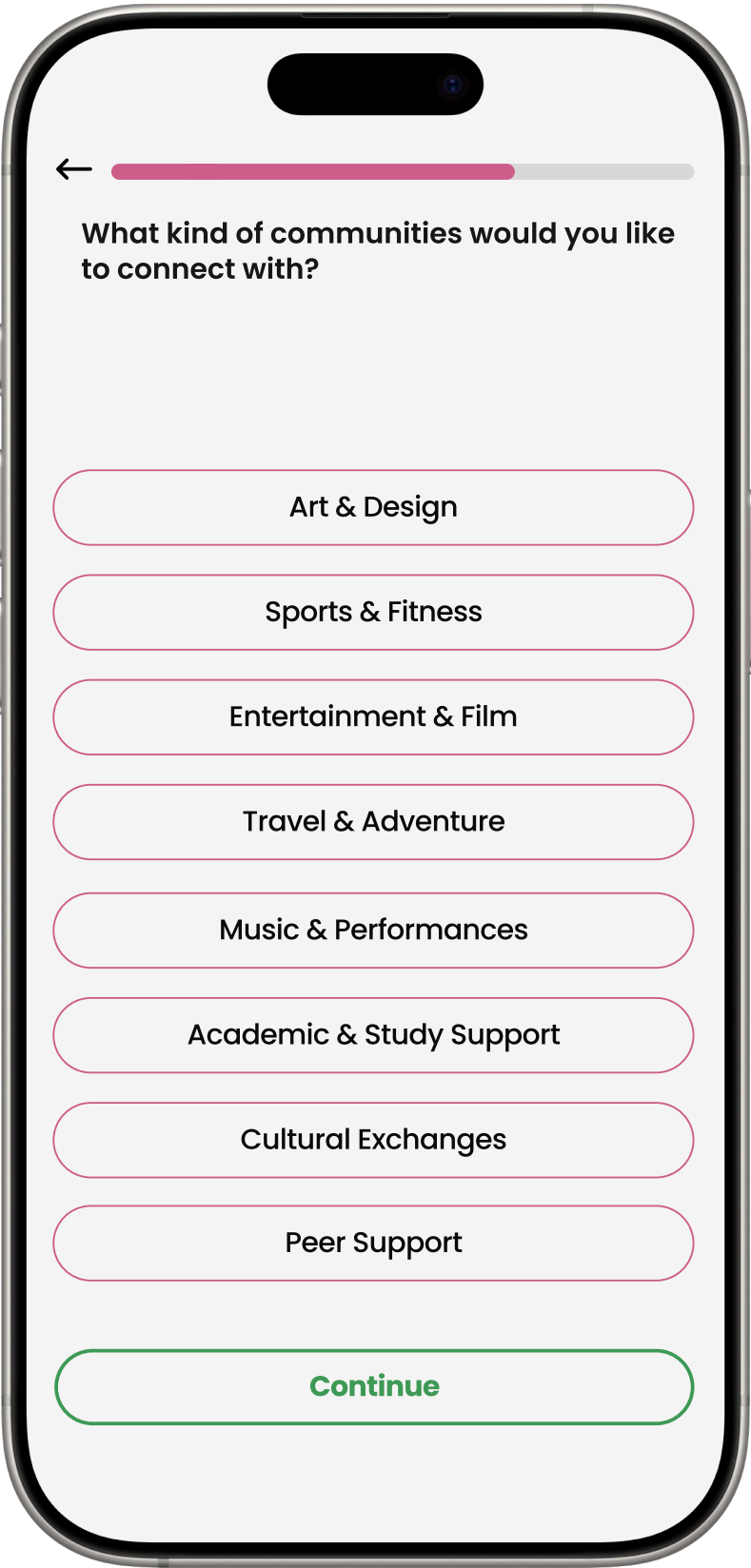
Onboarding

To ensure students feel supported in ways that matter most to them, UConnect features a **personalized onboarding process**. This allows users to curate their experience from the start, tailoring content, communities, and resources to better match their academic and social needs, helping them feel more confident and connected to their universities resources



Avatar Creation

To make UConnect more fun and engaging, we included an **avatar selection feature**. This adds a light element of gamification, helping students feel more immersed and **excited** as they begin their journey, making Uconnect not only feel supportive, but also **enjoyable to use**.



End of Onboarding



My Homepage

On UConnect’s homepage, we introduced two key features of the **Progress Tracker** and **My Whiteboard**.

These features are designed to **support** both students **motivation** and further their **peer connection**.

Progress Tracker allows students to **visualize their journey** of the milestones that they have achieved with Universities as well as within the Uconnect app, helping them to feel **accomplished** and **encourage inner confidence**.

The **My Whiteboard** feature offers a personalized space where students can post their own images, notes, and updates allowing them to view others students whiteboards.

This aims to **encourage student interaction**, **self-expression**, and **deeper social connection** within the universities community.



My Homepage

The **Progress Tracker** feature allows users to unlock achievements based on their individual engagement and activity.

Designed to **motivate** students to participate more actively in both university life and within Uconnect, the tracker includes interactive elements such as tracks, milestones, and avatar upgrades.

As students involve themselves more into their campuses community and Uconnect whether by sharing resources, attending events etc, users gain access to new features and can view their friends progress as well.

This aims to creates a sense of **accomplishment** and **encourages friendly connection** between students using the Uconnect app.



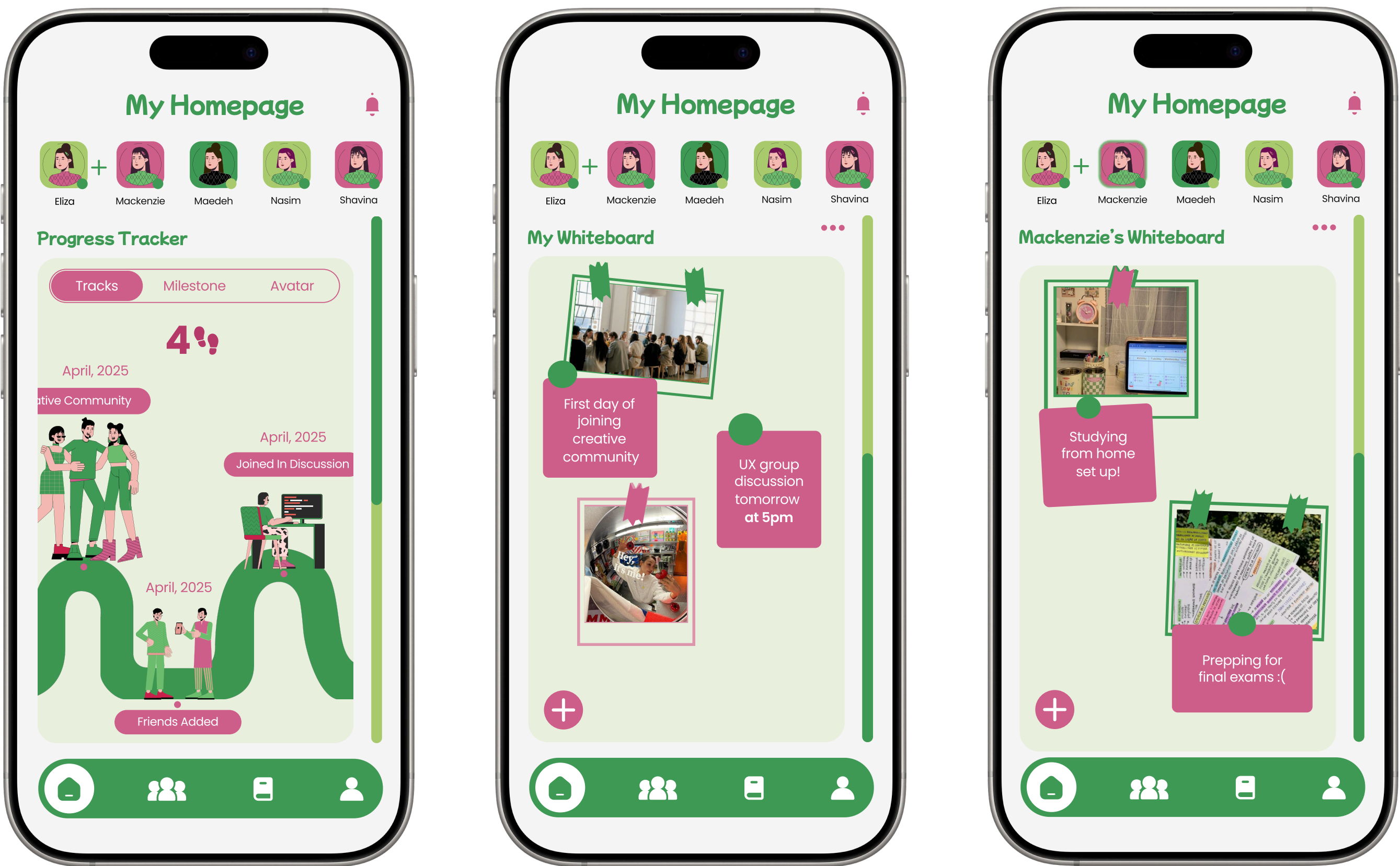
My Homepage

On our U-connects homepage, we added the interactive feature **My Whiteboard**

We incorporated this feature to help encourage users feel **motivated** to become more involved within their campus community and to have the option for students to form **deeper connections** with their ability to see ones anther's progress and personalized feeds.

The **My Whiteboard** feature creates a space for users and students to share posts, stories and connect with one another, **strengthening their connection** and relationship between their peers.

Within our **My Whiteboard** interface, students are able to see one another's posts and photos, hoping to **bring students together** through similar interests and experiences

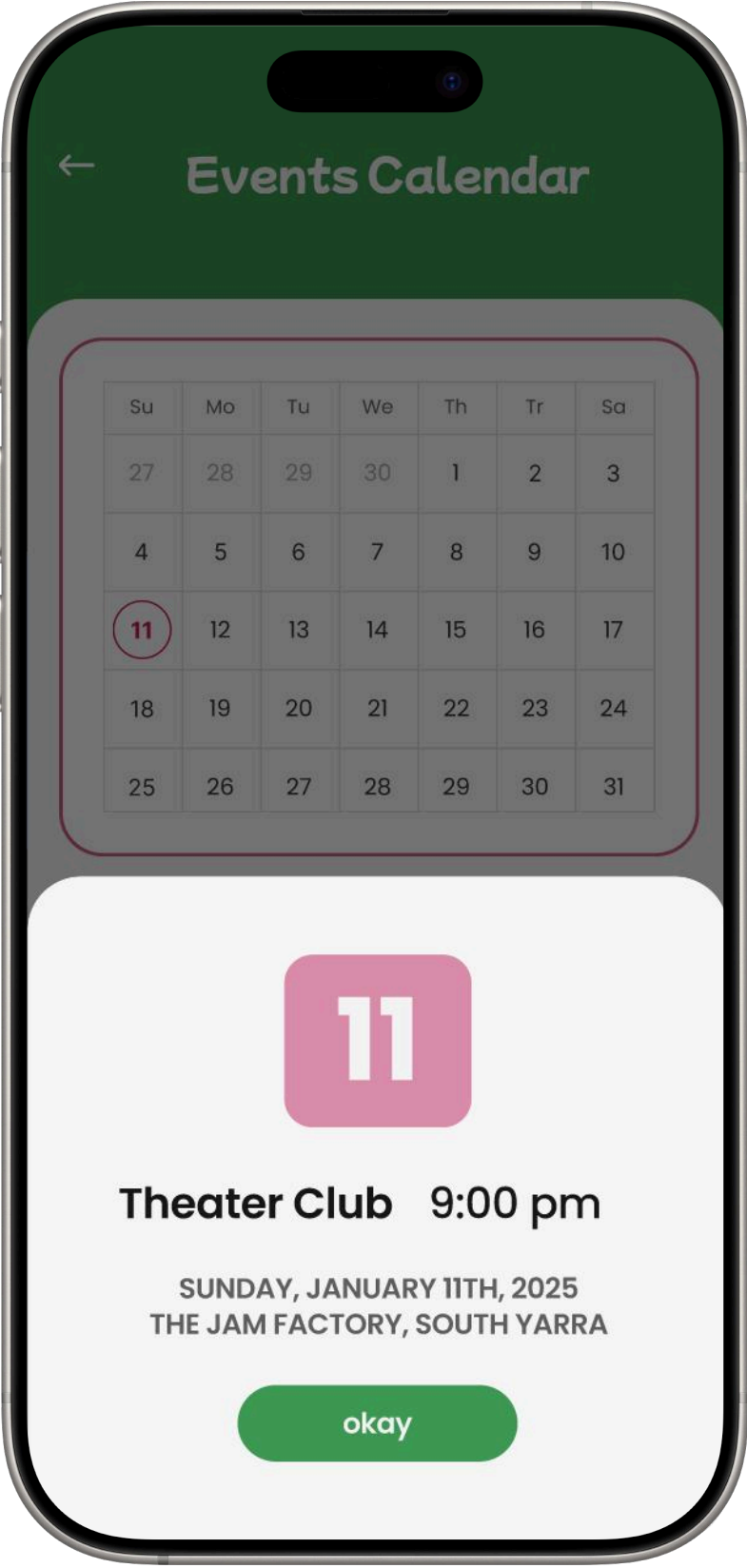
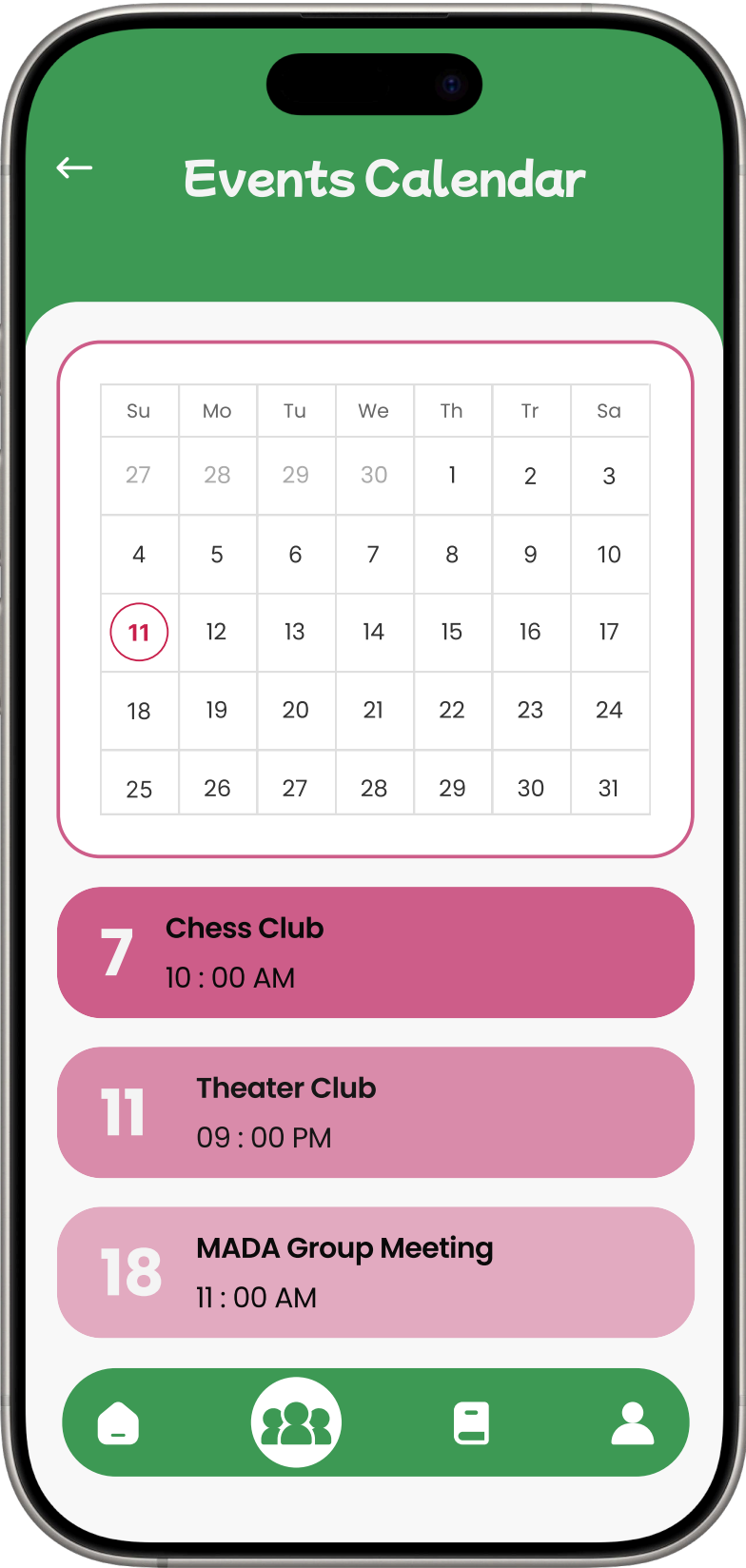


Community Page

UConnect’s My Community page is designed to help students discover and join campus groups or events that align with their own interests and needs.

Key features include My Communities for easy access to joined groups, Recommended Communities tailored to the user’s interests, and Trending Communities that highlight popular campus groups.

An integrated Events Calendar keeps students informed about upcoming social events, aiming for users to feel more involved, supported, and connected within their University



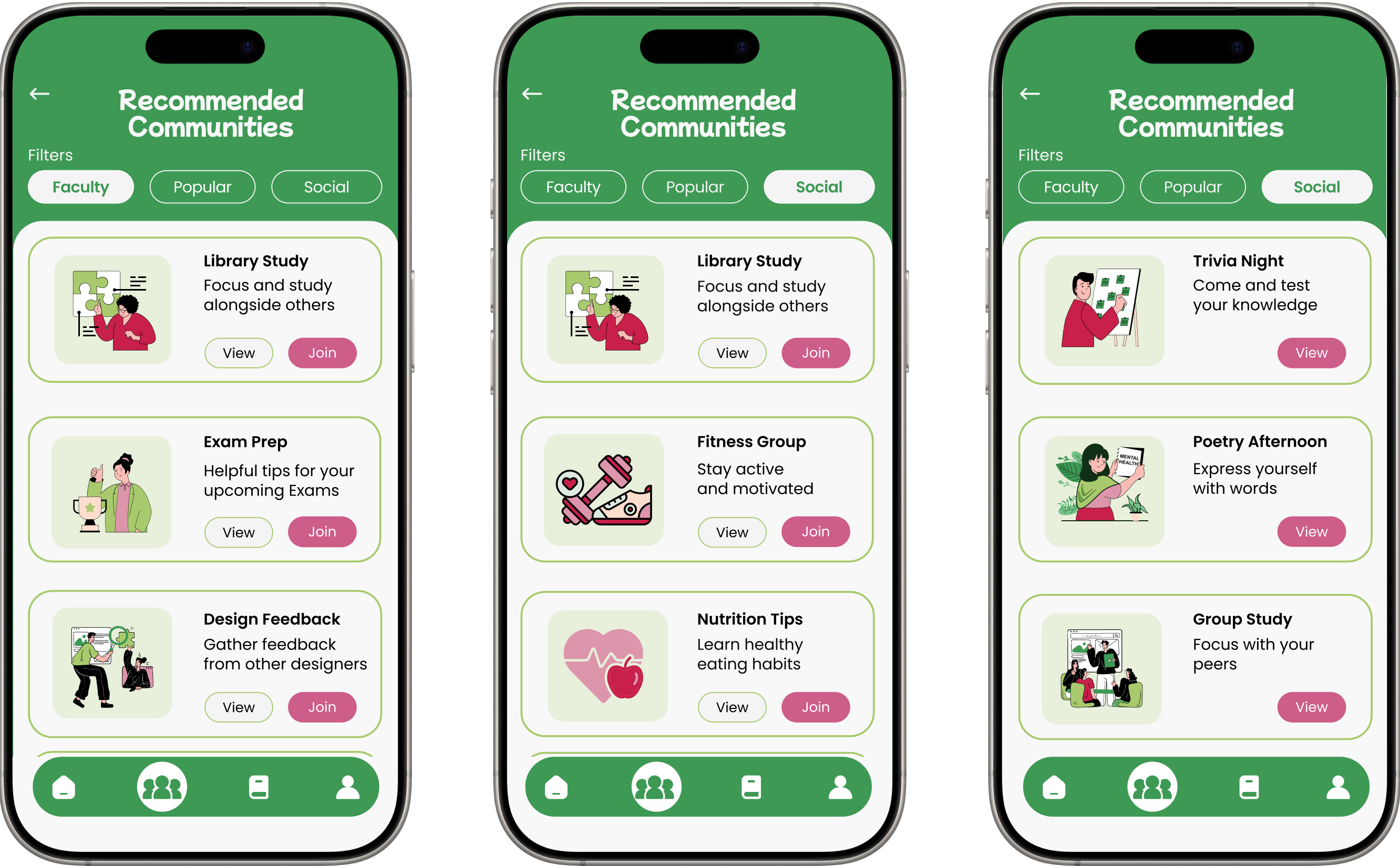
Community Page

Within the Community page, the Recommended Community page offers students tailored group suggestions based on their interests suggested from their personalized onboarding .

UConnect’s filter options Faculty, Popular, and Social, gives users multiple options to help their academic or social needs.

The Faculty filter shows students support based groups such as Library Studies, Exam Prep, and Design Feedback, encouraging collaborative learning and peer support.

Each suggestion includes a clear View and Join button, making it easy for students to explore, connect, and get involved in communities that connect to their own goals and interests.



Community Page

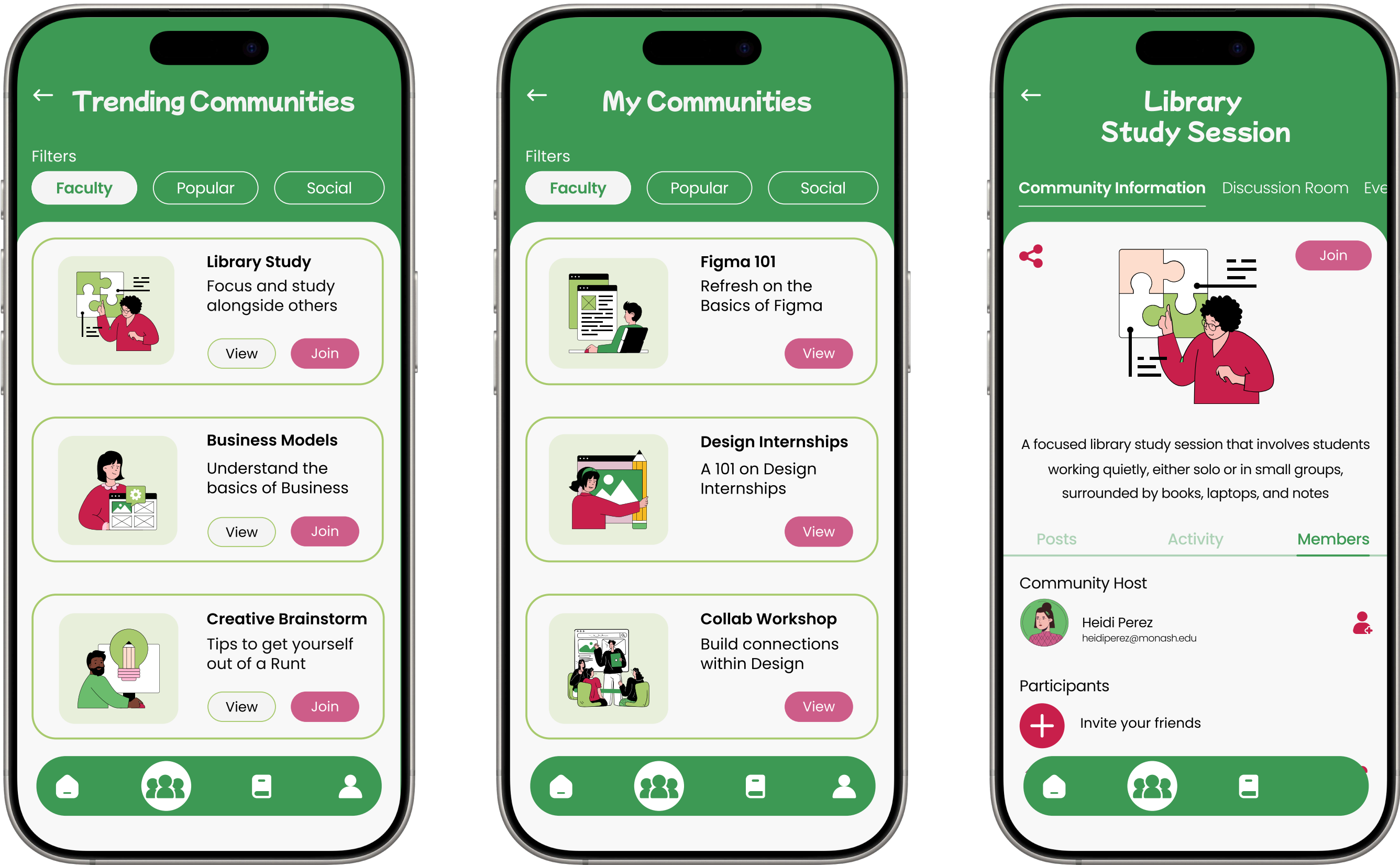
The Trending Communities and My Communities pages work together to help students explore active groups and stay connected to the ones they’ve joined.

Trending Communities highlights popular and active campus groups, encouraging students to discover what their peers have been accessing the most, which also aims to encourages users to engage with other peers.

With filter options like “Faculty” “Popular” and “Social” students can easily tailor their exploration based on what they might need most at University.

My Communities serves as a personalized hub, curating all groups the user has already joined.

This offers quick access to group details and supports ongoing engagement, while also allowing users to leave or join new groups freely.

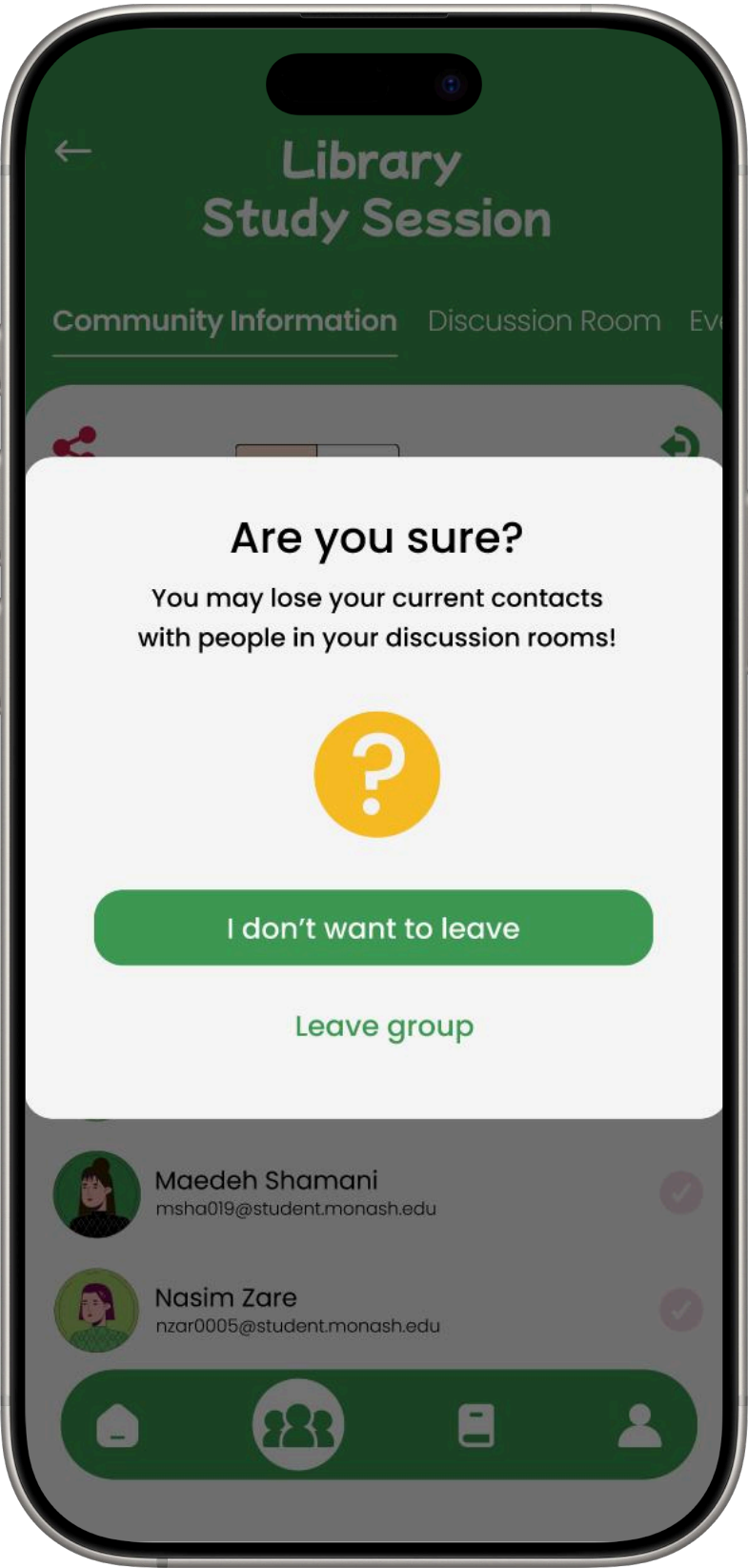
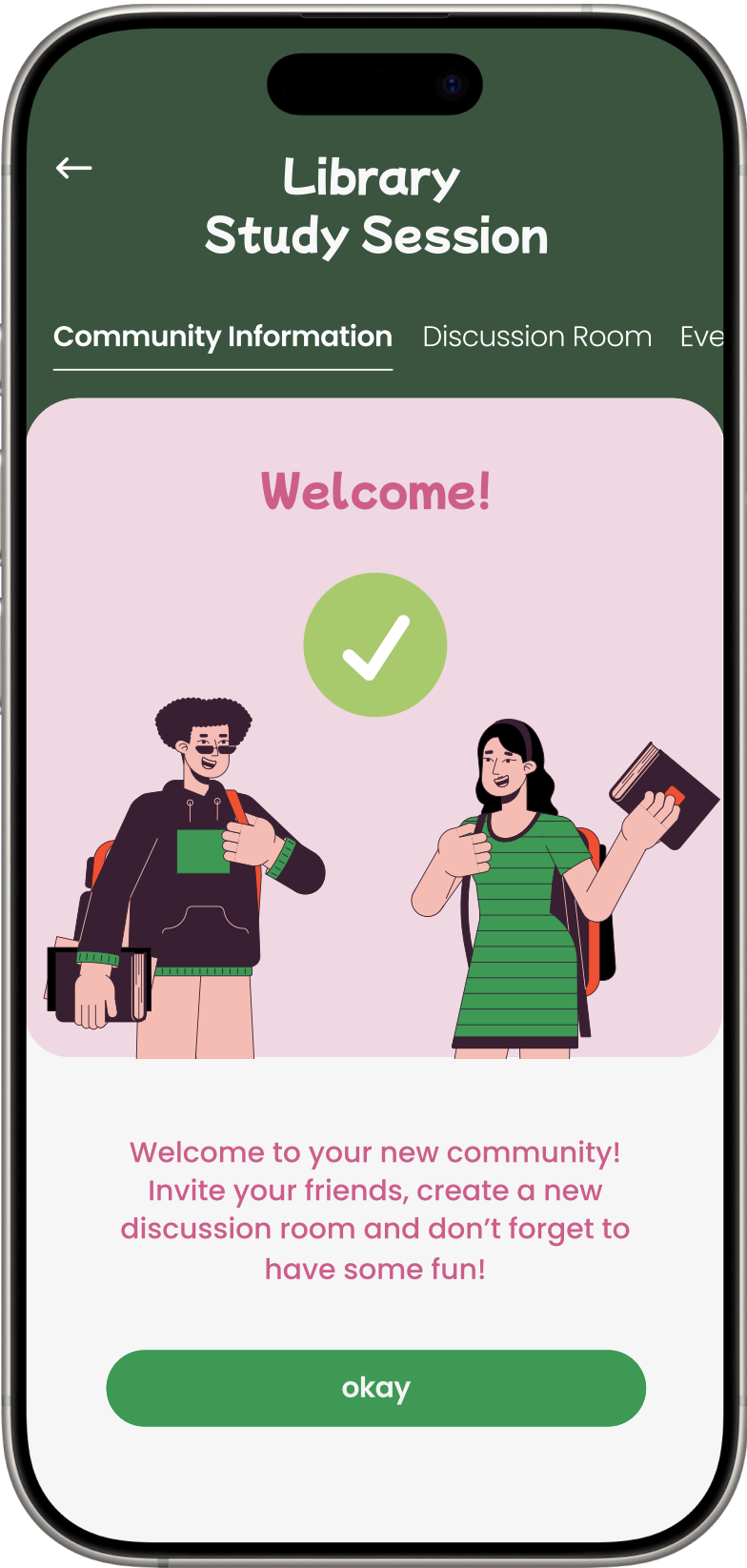
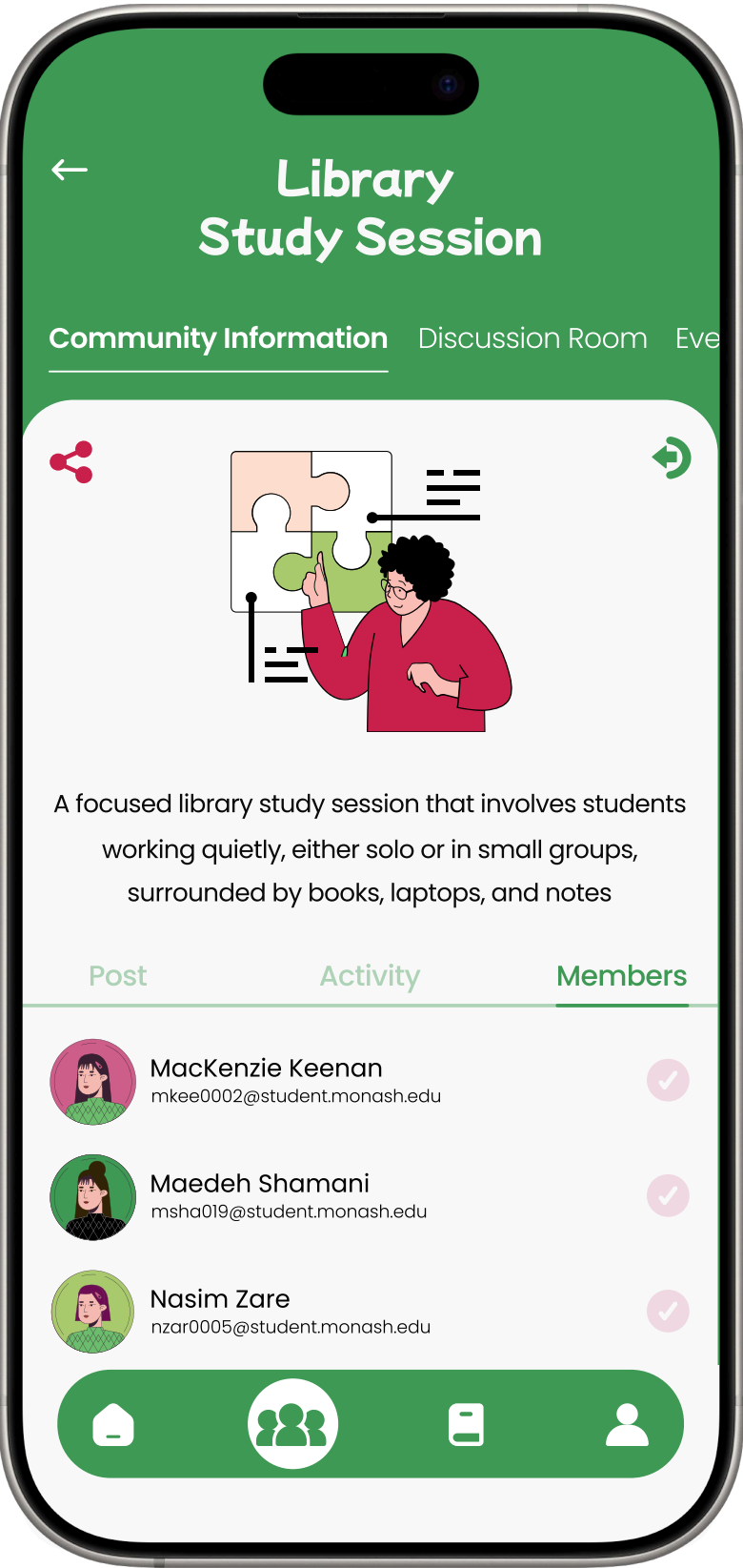


Community Page

The **Community Information** section, found within each group space, provides a clear overview of the communities purpose, members, posts, and activities.

This transparency helps students feel **informed and confident** before joining.

By making each space approachable and easy to understand, UConnect aims to **reduce social anxiety** and support students in feeling prepared, welcome, and ready to engage.

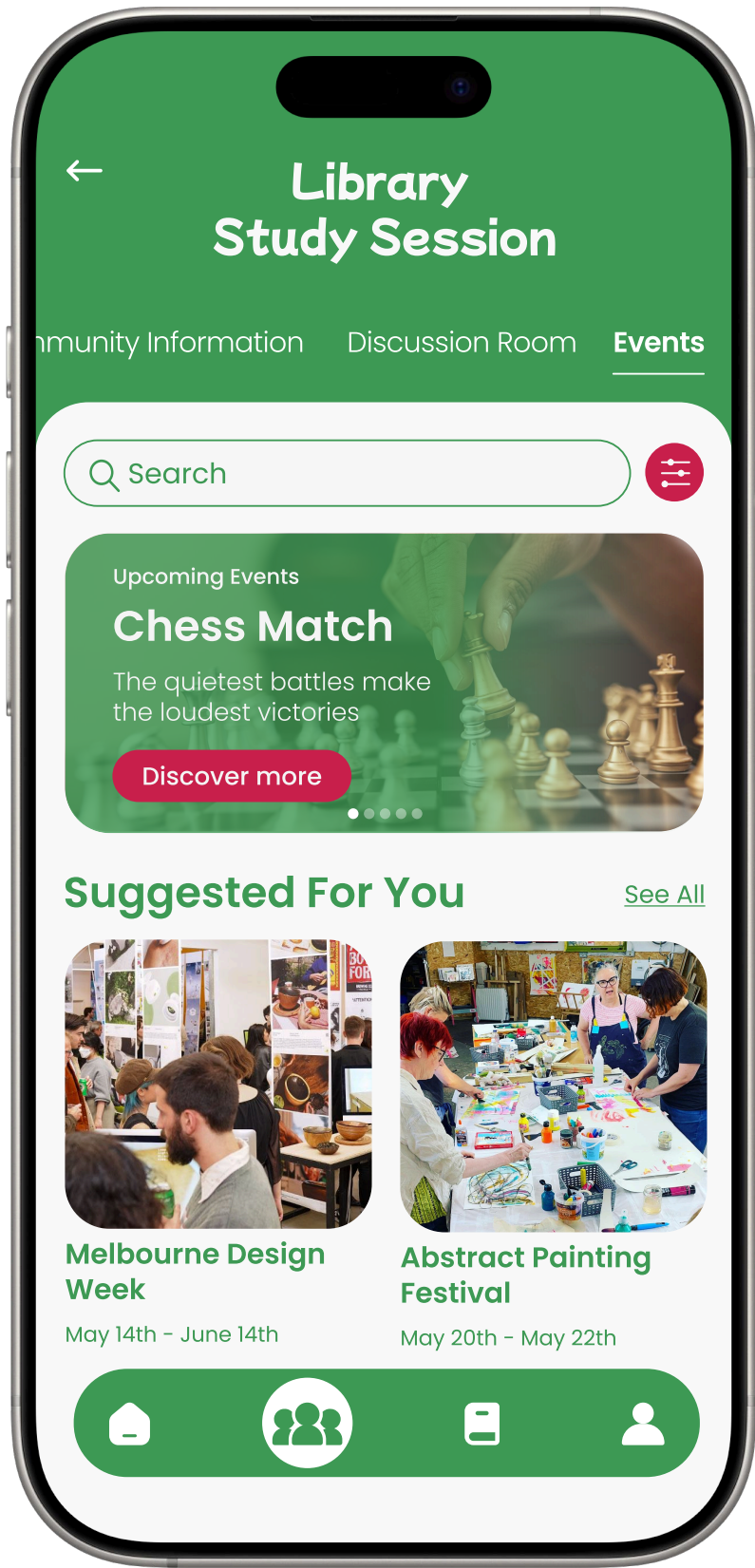
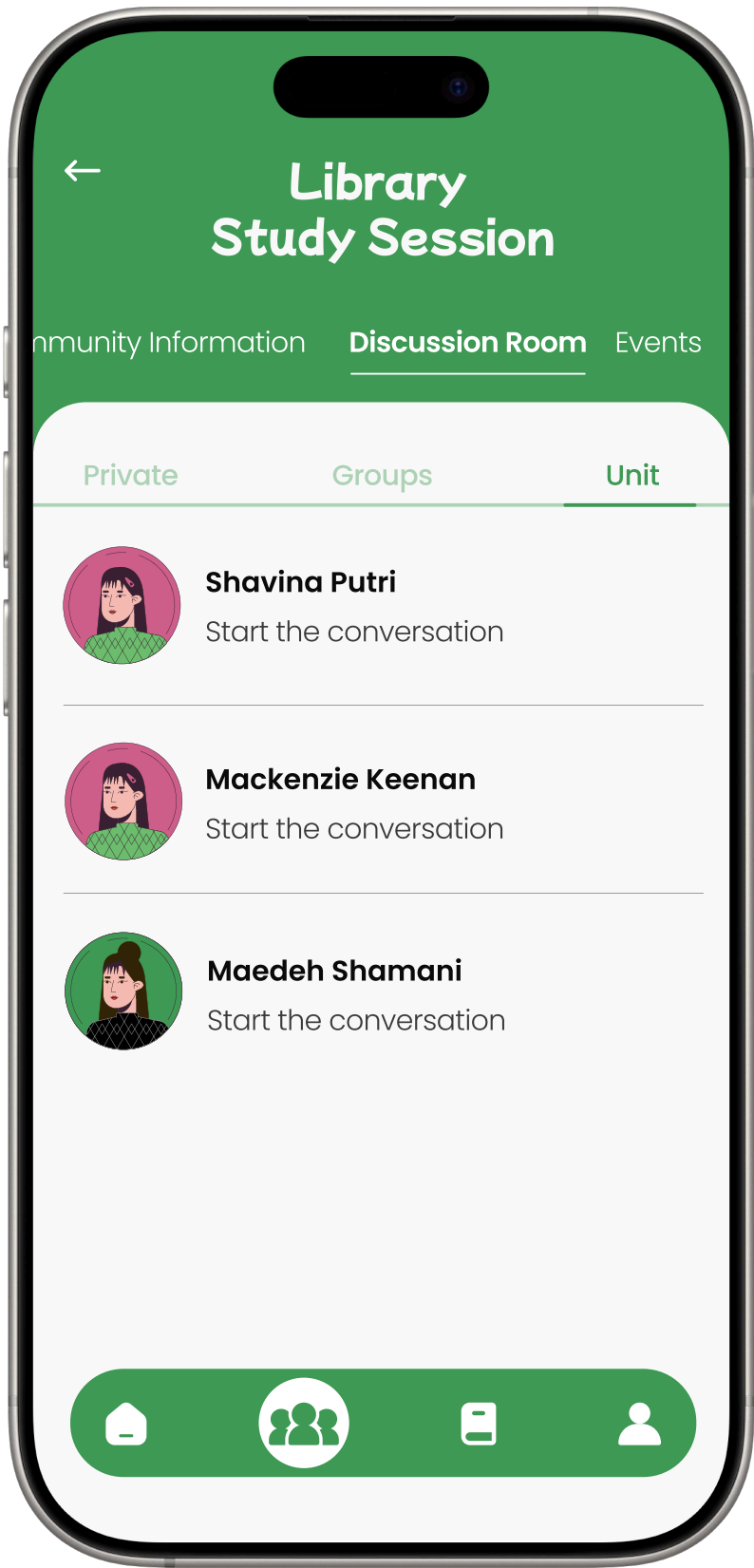
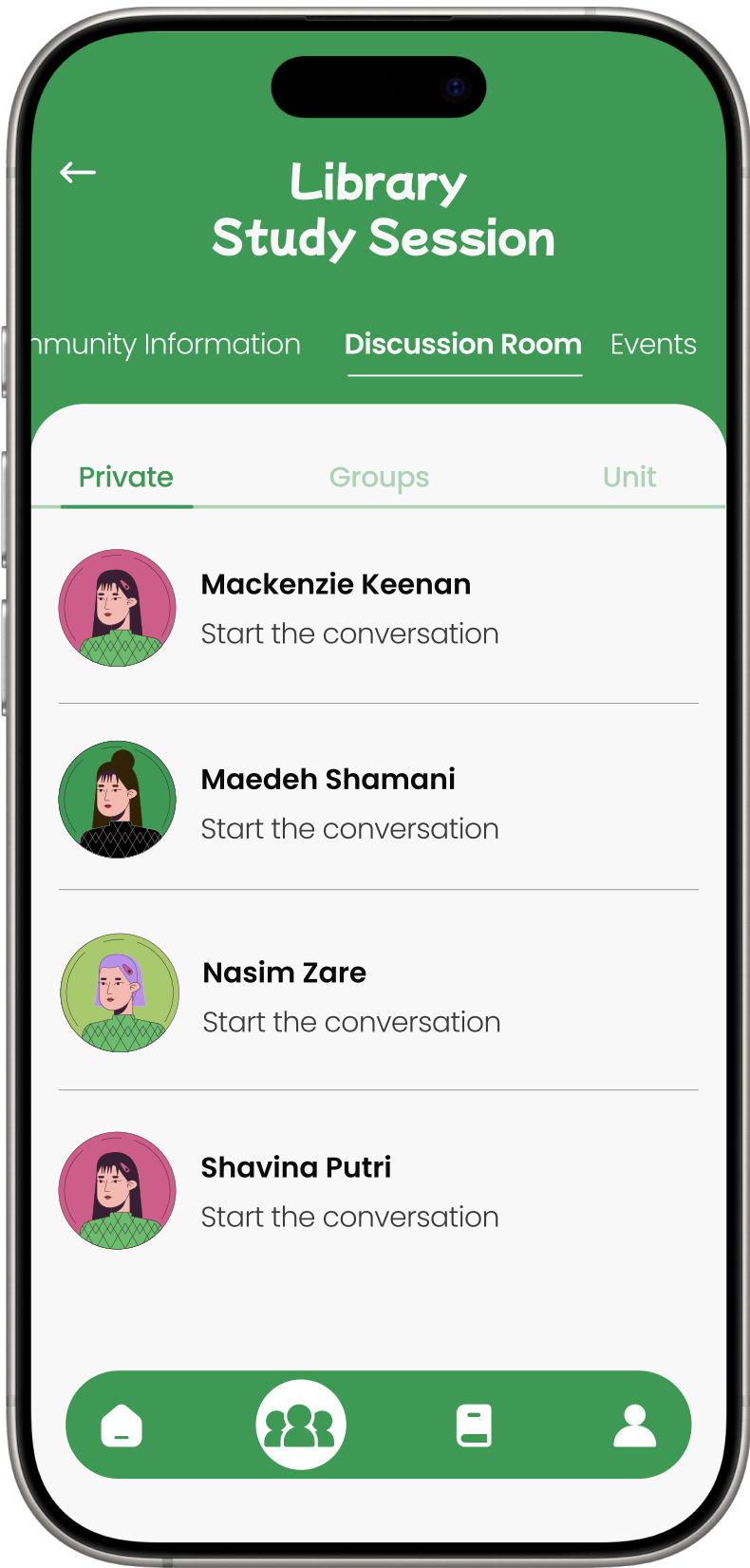


Community Page

UConnects Discussion Room supports student communication, collaboration, and peer to peer learning.

Once a student joins a community, they gain access to a shared space for messaging, discussions, event updates, and resource sharing.

With group chats, private chats, and unit-focused threads, this feature ensures students have constant, accessible channels to connect, ask questions, and build meaningful relationships within the spaces they're part of, extending support beyond the classroom.



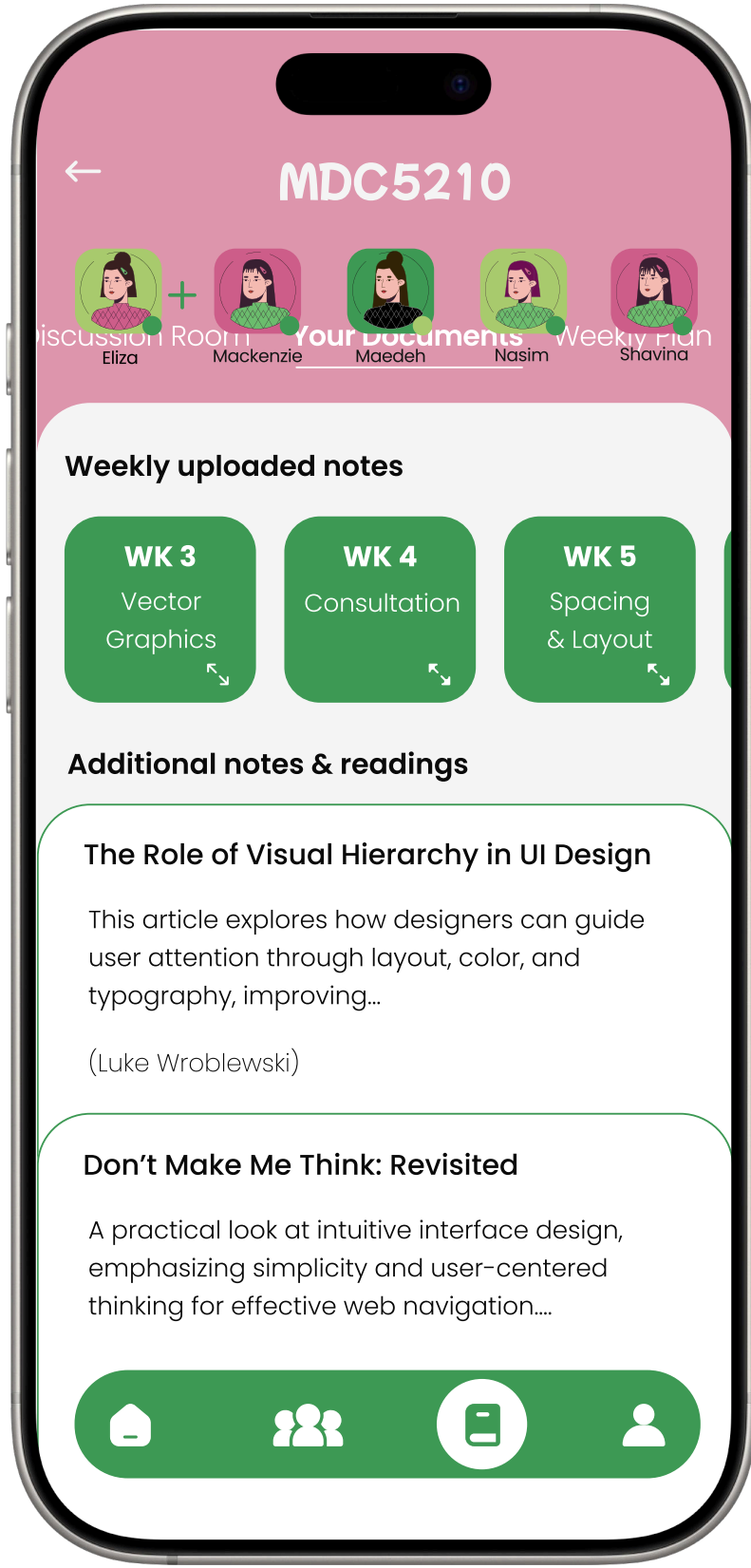
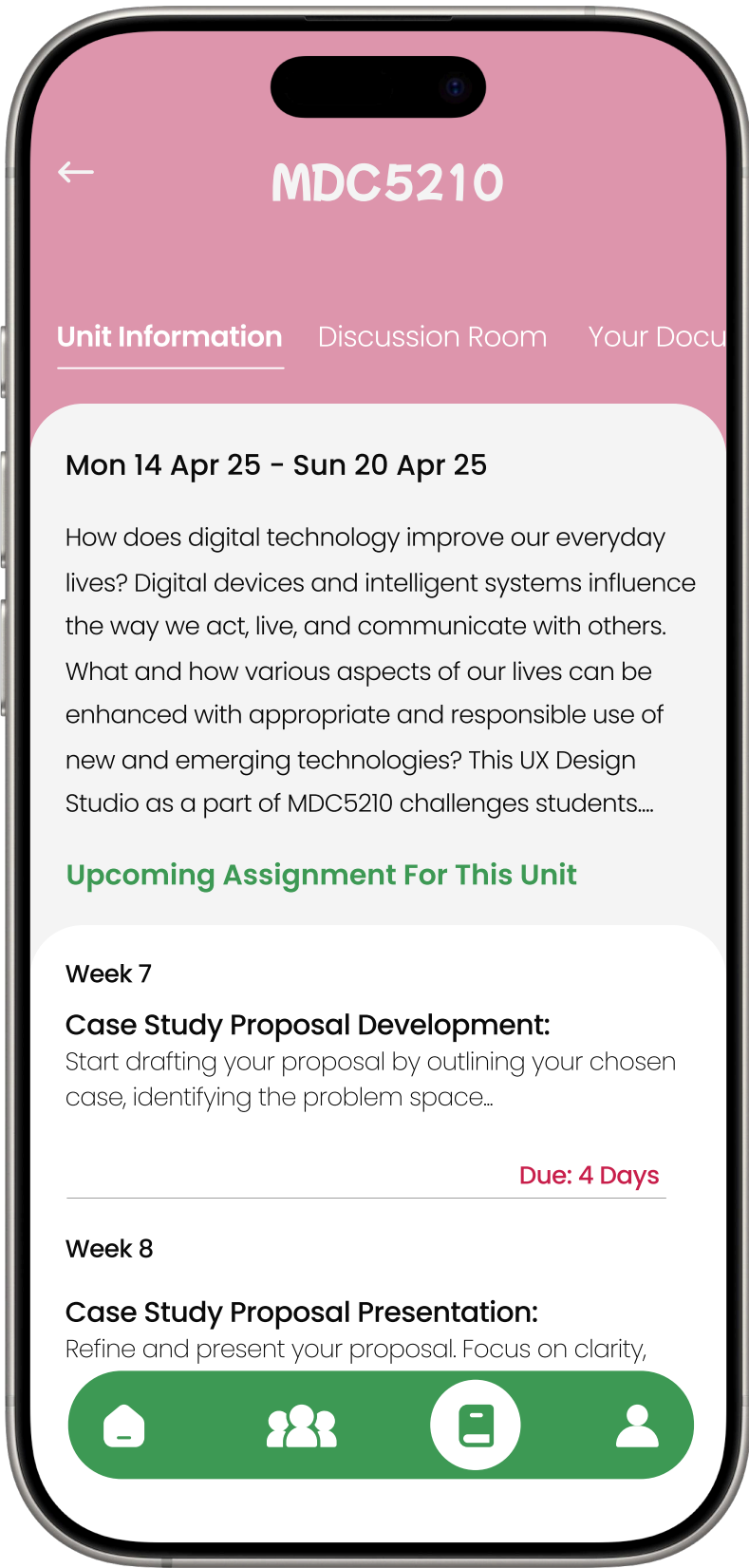
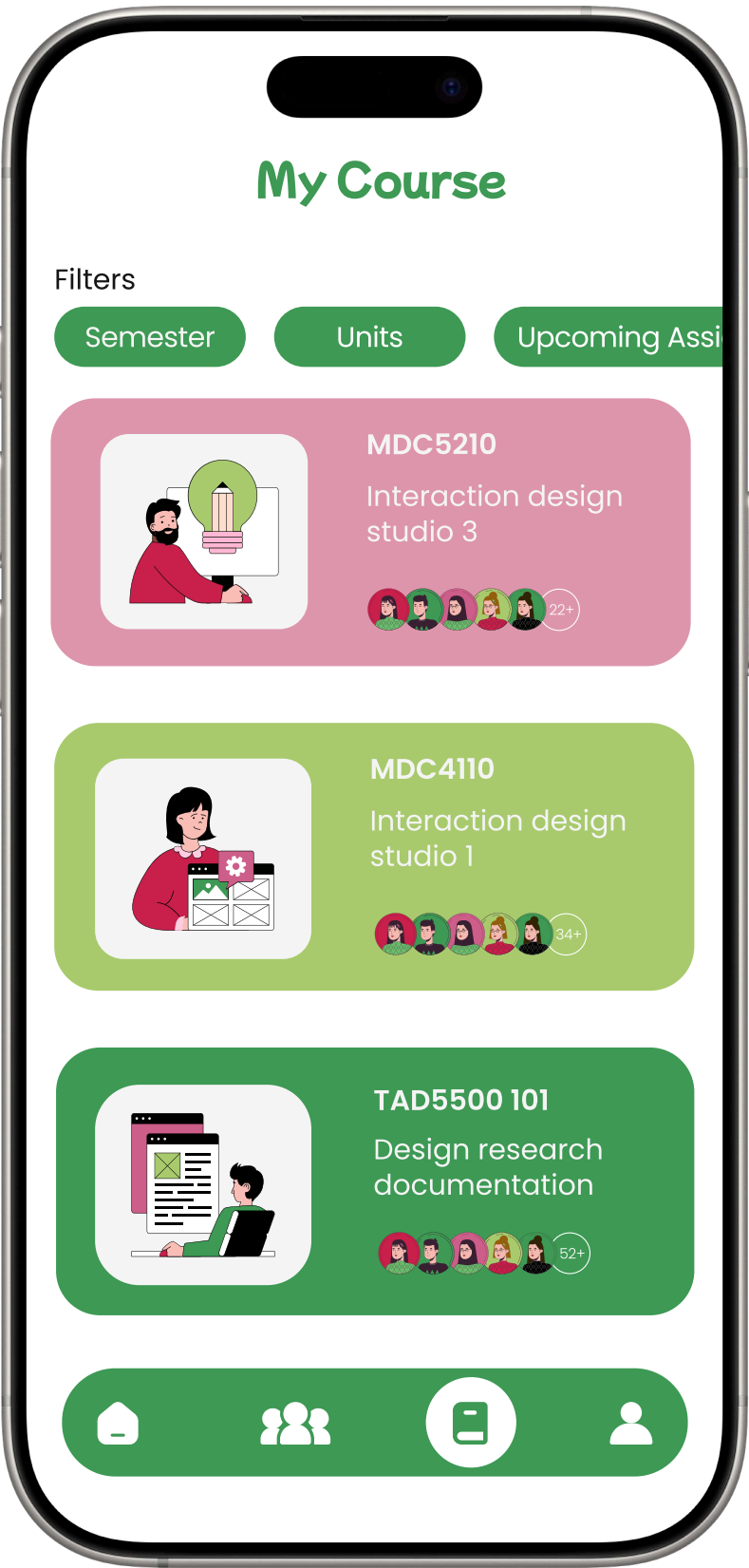
My Course

The My Course page gives users **direct access to information** related to their enrolled units, offering **continuous and readily accessible educational support**. This feature helps students **stay organized, feel more confident in their studies, and connect directly with peers in the same units** further creating both **academic understanding and collaborative learning**.

Within each My Course Unit, Users are able to filter their needed information in regards to Unit Information, Discussion Room, Your Documents and Weekly Plans

Unit information is an extended breakdown for users to **understand their Units structure more effectively, encouraging students to feel more confident and have a more clearer understanding for their upcoming classes**.

Your Documents offers students **additional academic resources to help assist students feel more confident with what they're learning within their unit, aiming to give them further educational assistance**



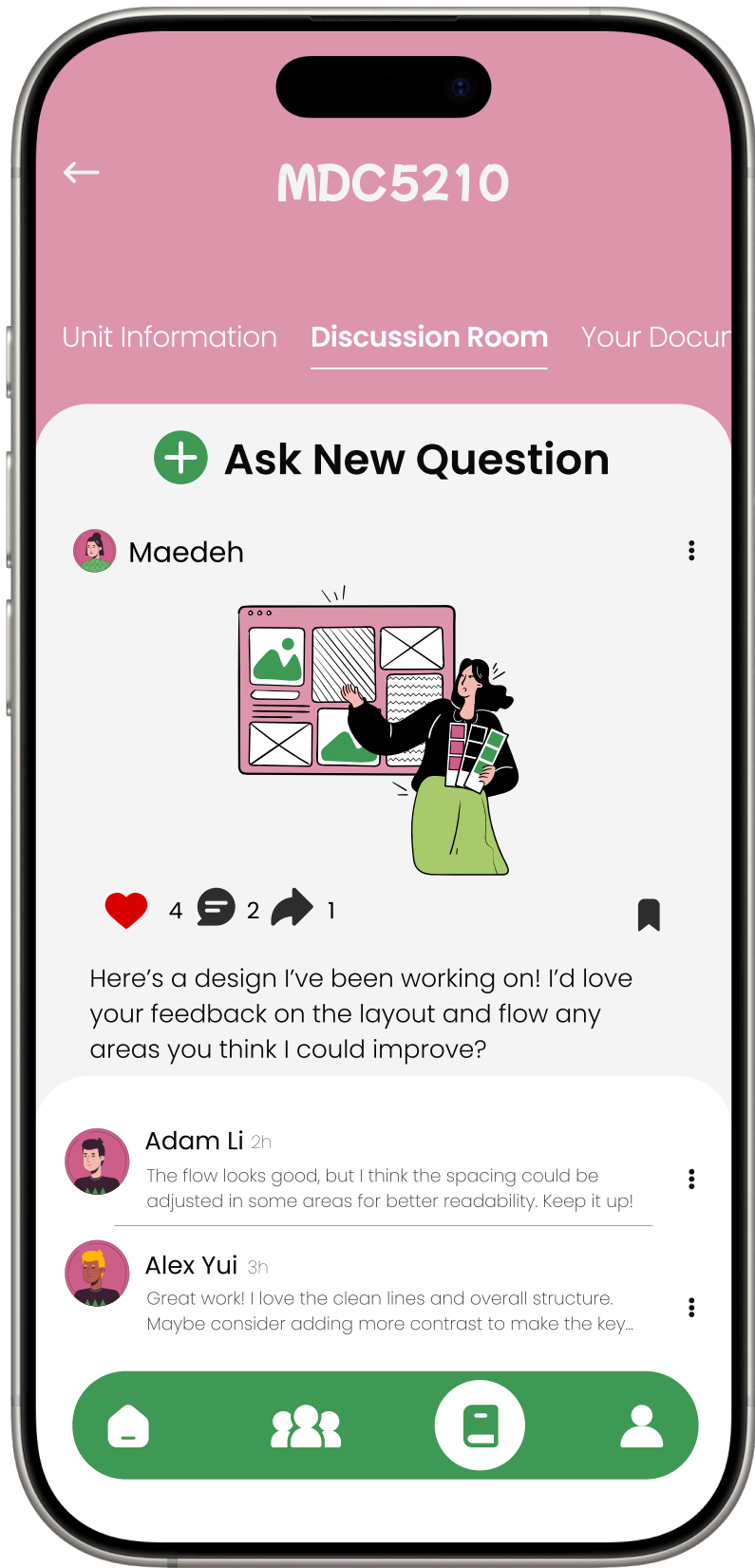
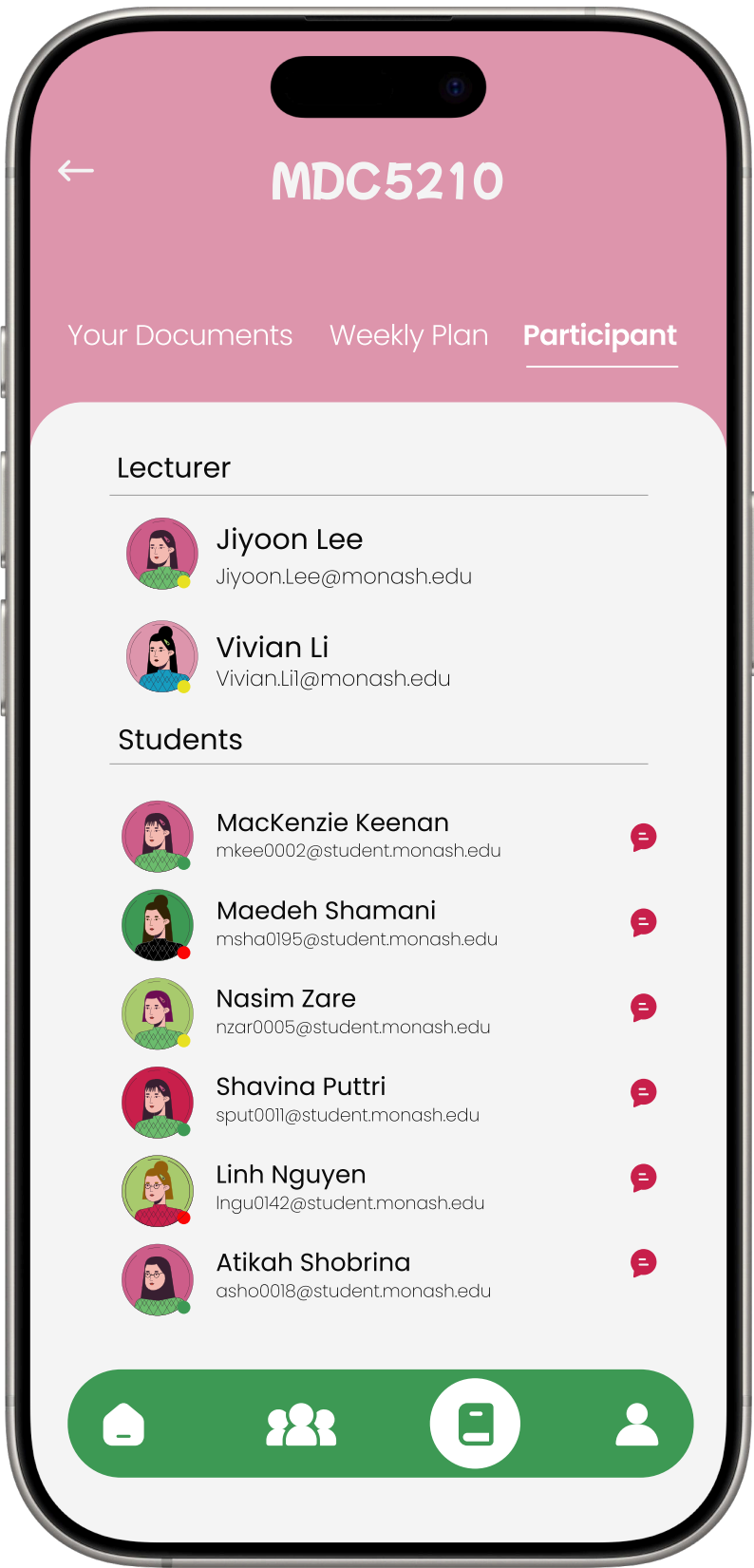
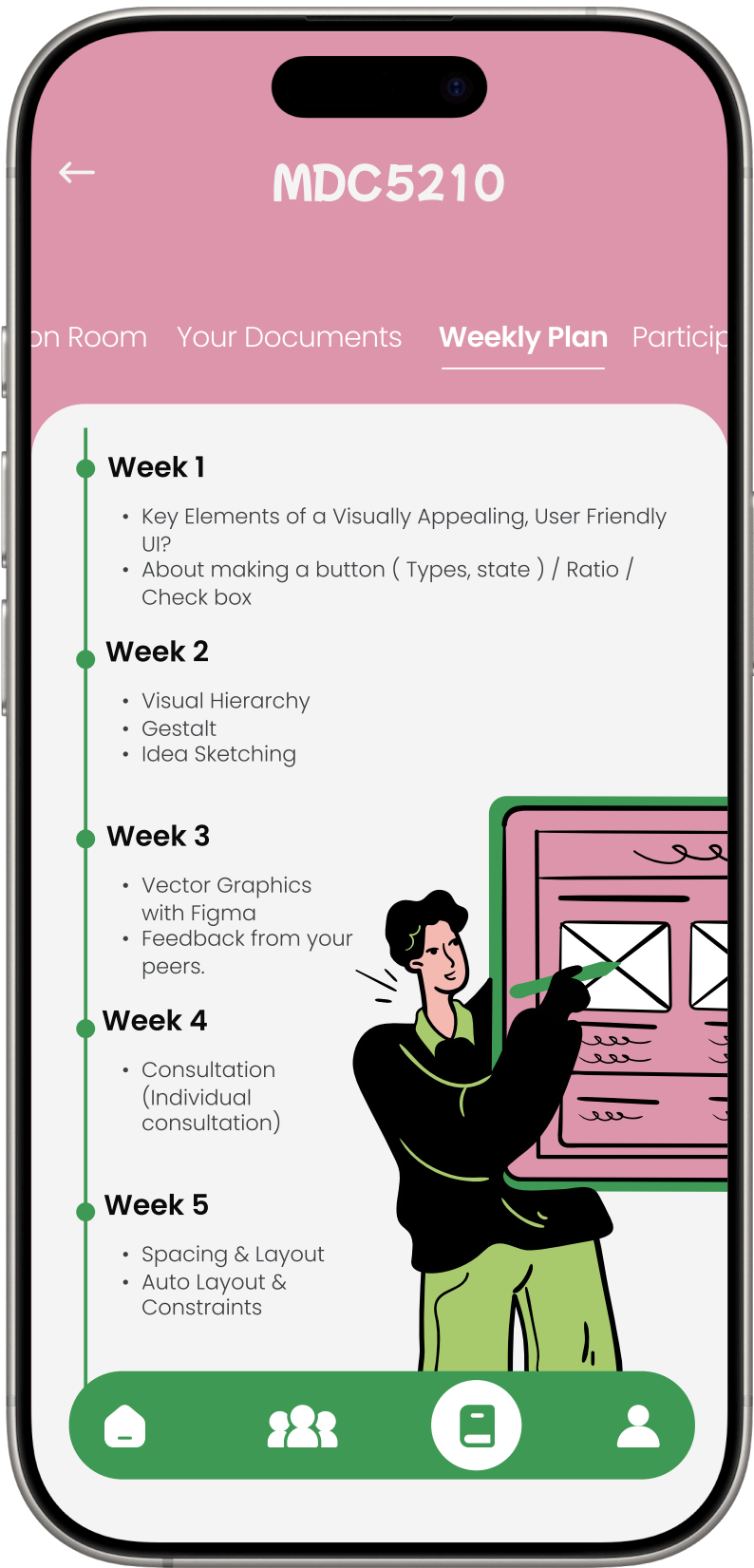
My Course

The **Weekly Plan** section gives users a **clear and direct weekly breakdown** of the units content, aiming to give students more **clarity** to understand key themes or topics within their Unit This aims to gives students a more **clearer understanding** of their units expectations and an **additional guideline** to follow if they are ever feel lost within their studies.

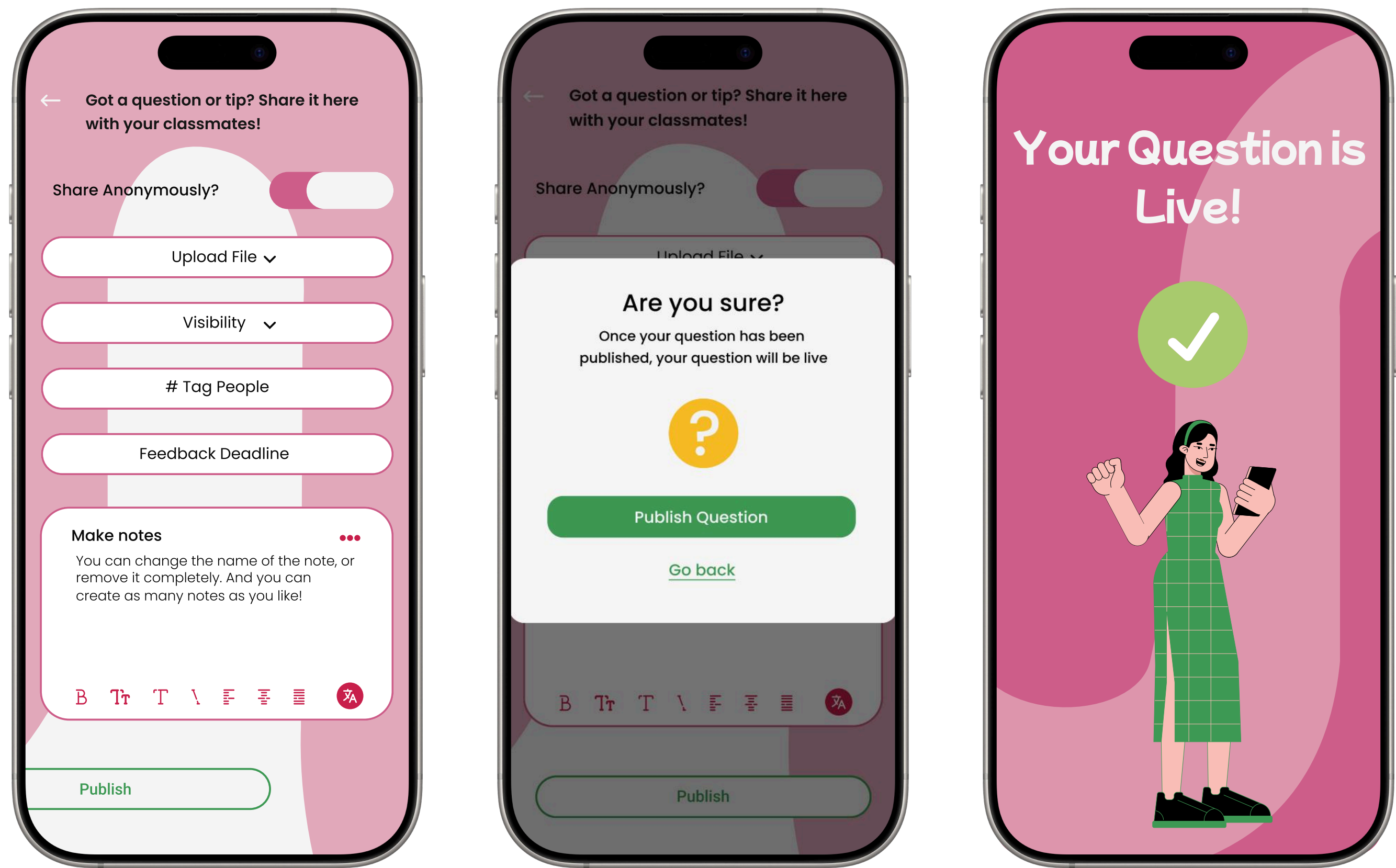
The **Participant** section allows students to **view and connect with others** enrolled in their units as well as their teachers. By offering a **direct line of communication**, this feature supports **direct peer discussions**, especially during times of uncertainty or confusion around course content.

Uconnect encourages students to reach out, build confidence, and engage more actively in their academic community. The **Discussion Room** offers students a **dedicated space to ask for advice, share ideas, and collaborate** on academic work.

Aimed at **bring students together**, this feature encourages students to engage in **meaningful educational conversations** and feel supported throughout their studies.



My Course



Profile

Recognizing that students come from a wide range diverse backgrounds, UConnect offers customizable language settings within a users profile page.

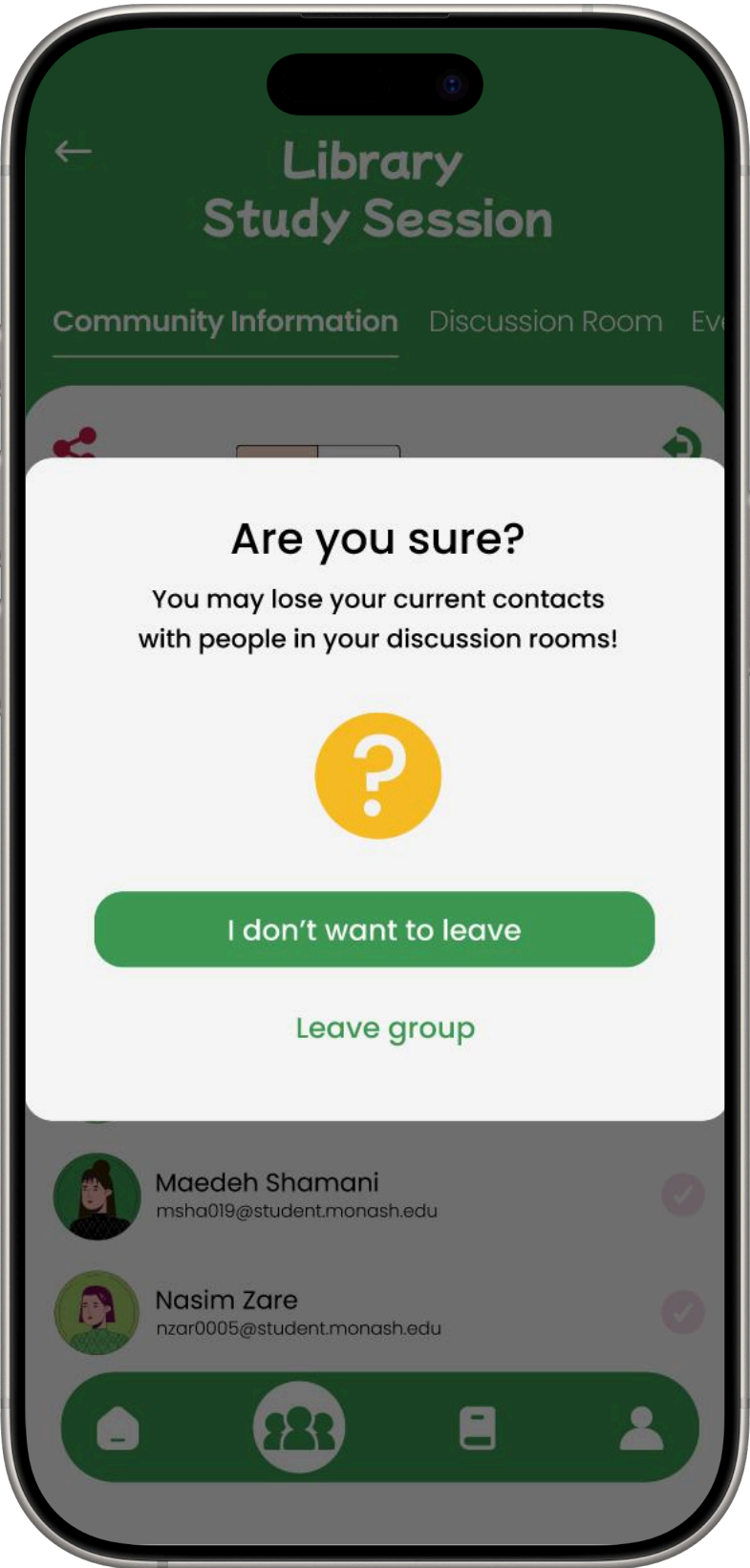
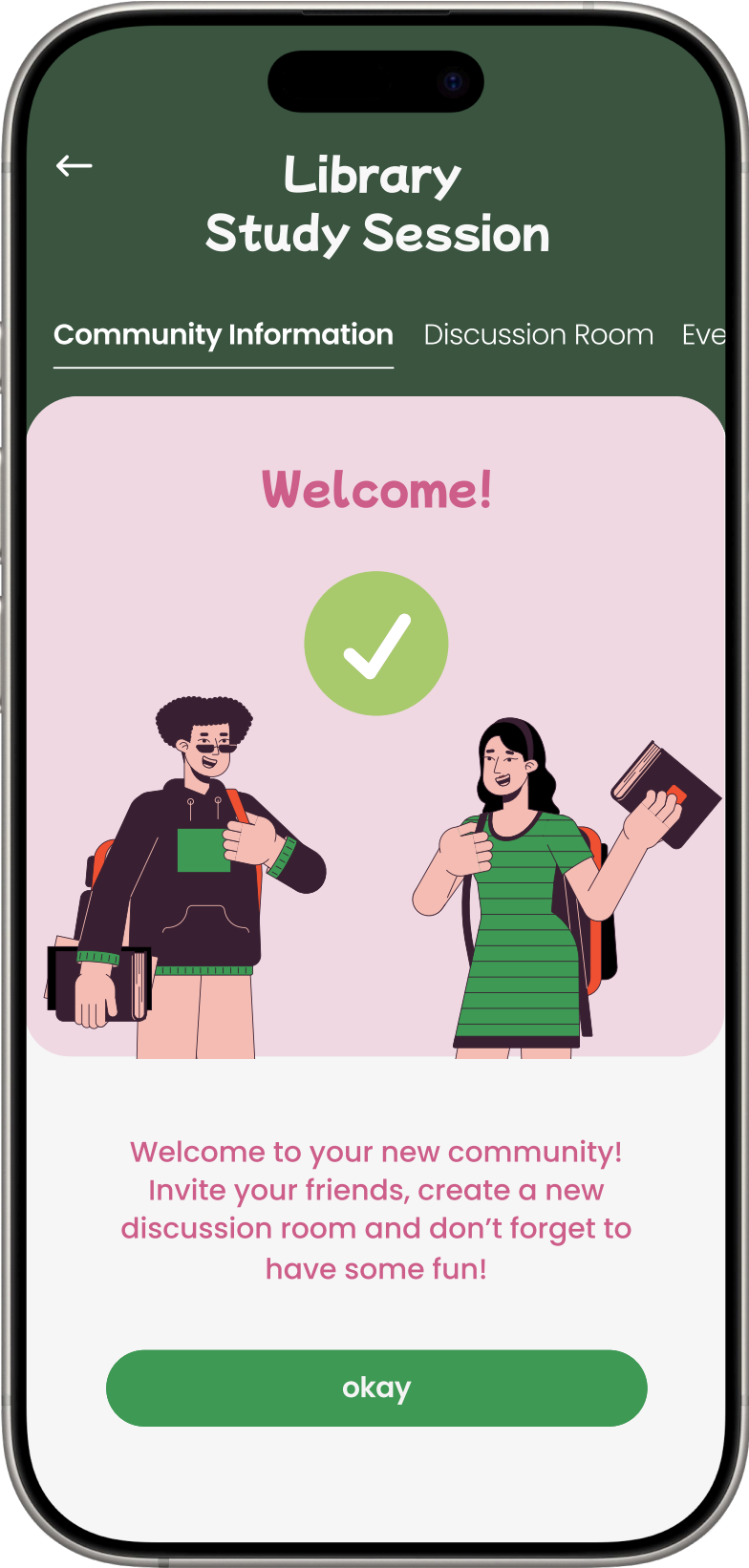
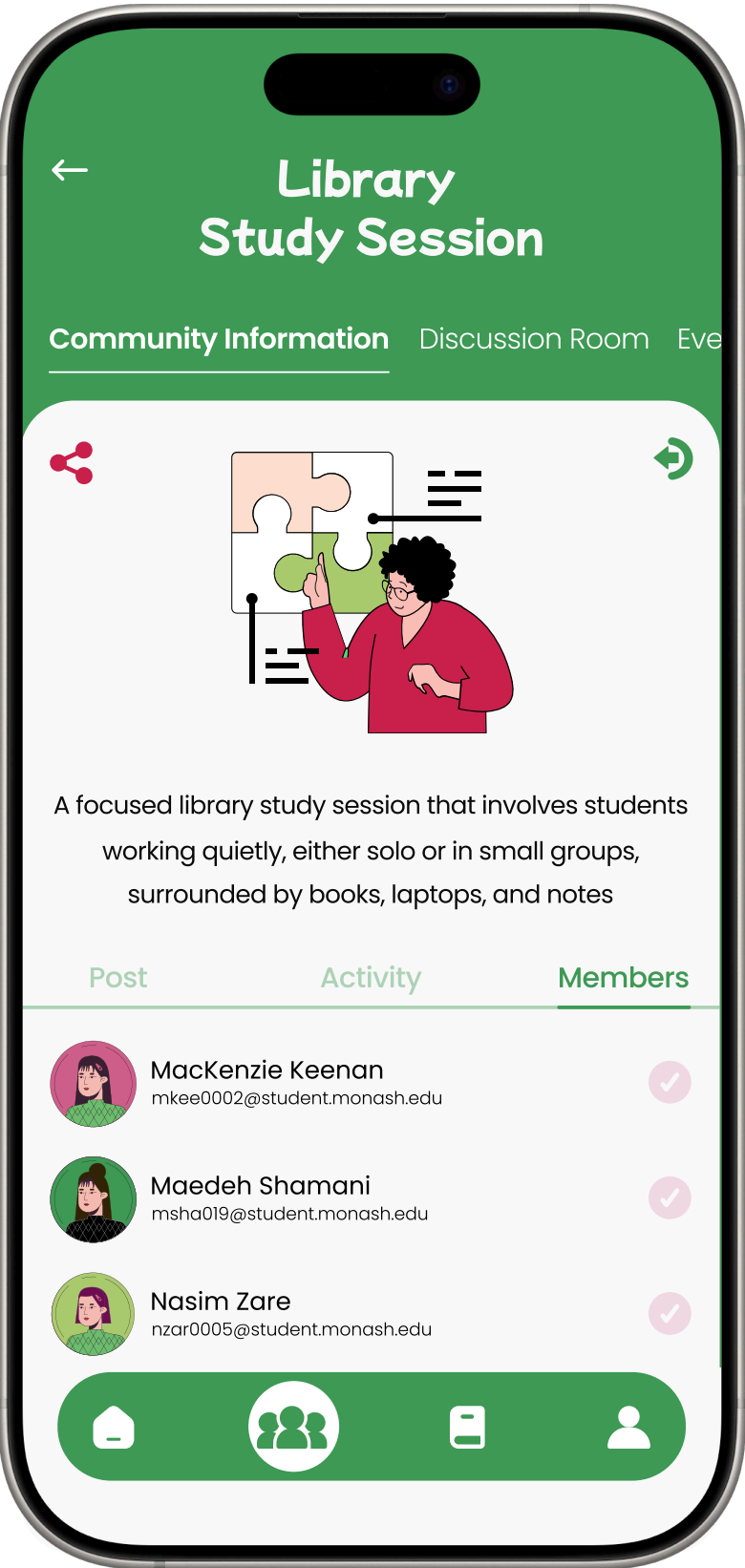
This helps students feel more comfortable and confident when reading resources, participating in discussions, and navigating through Uconnect, ensuring everyone feels supported in their preferred language and included within their university.



Community Page

The **Community Information** section, found within each group space, provides a clear overview of the communities purpose, members, posts, and activities. This transparency helps students feel **informed and confident** before joining.

By making each space **approachable** and easy to understand, UConnect aims to **reduce social anxiety** and **support students** in feeling prepared, welcome, and ready to engage.

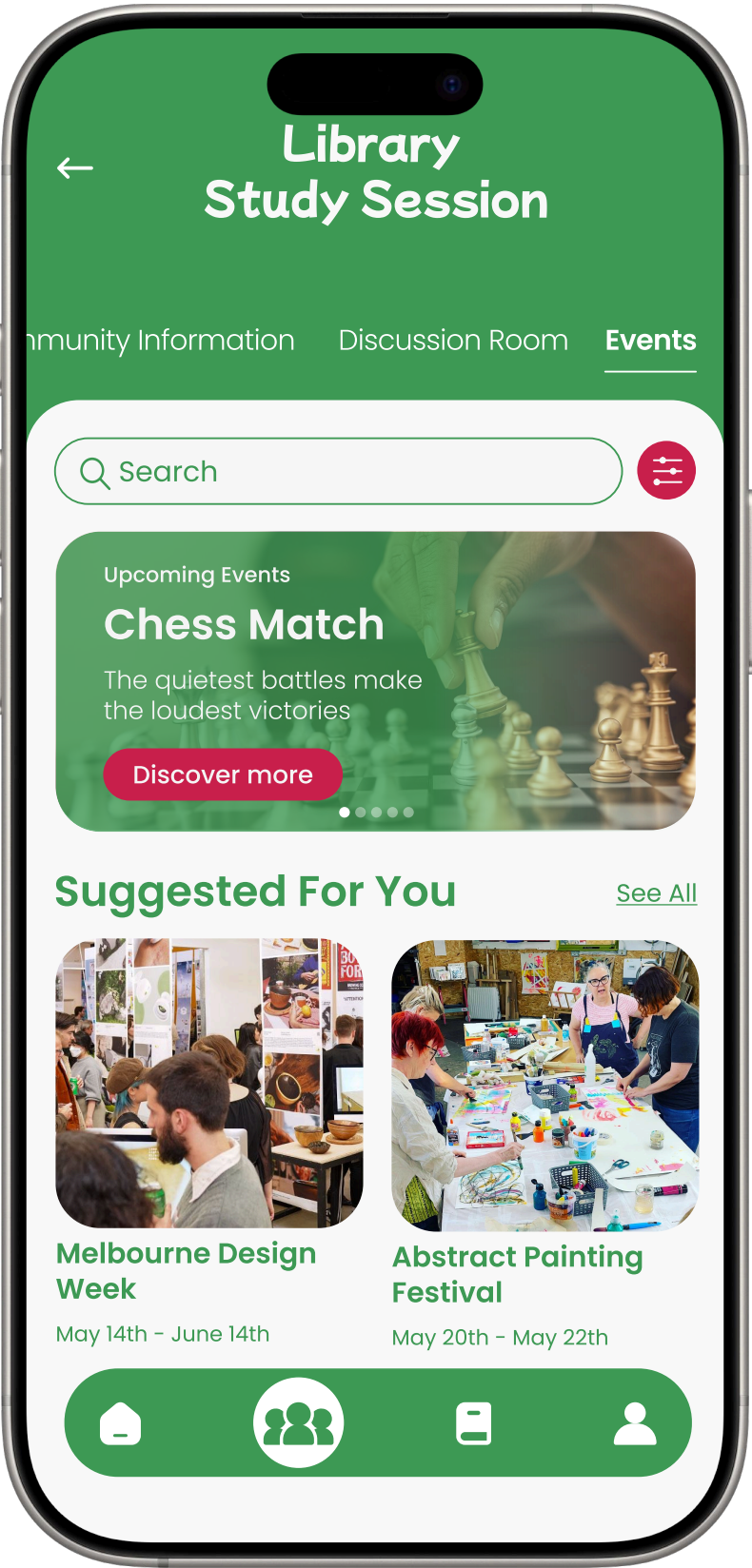
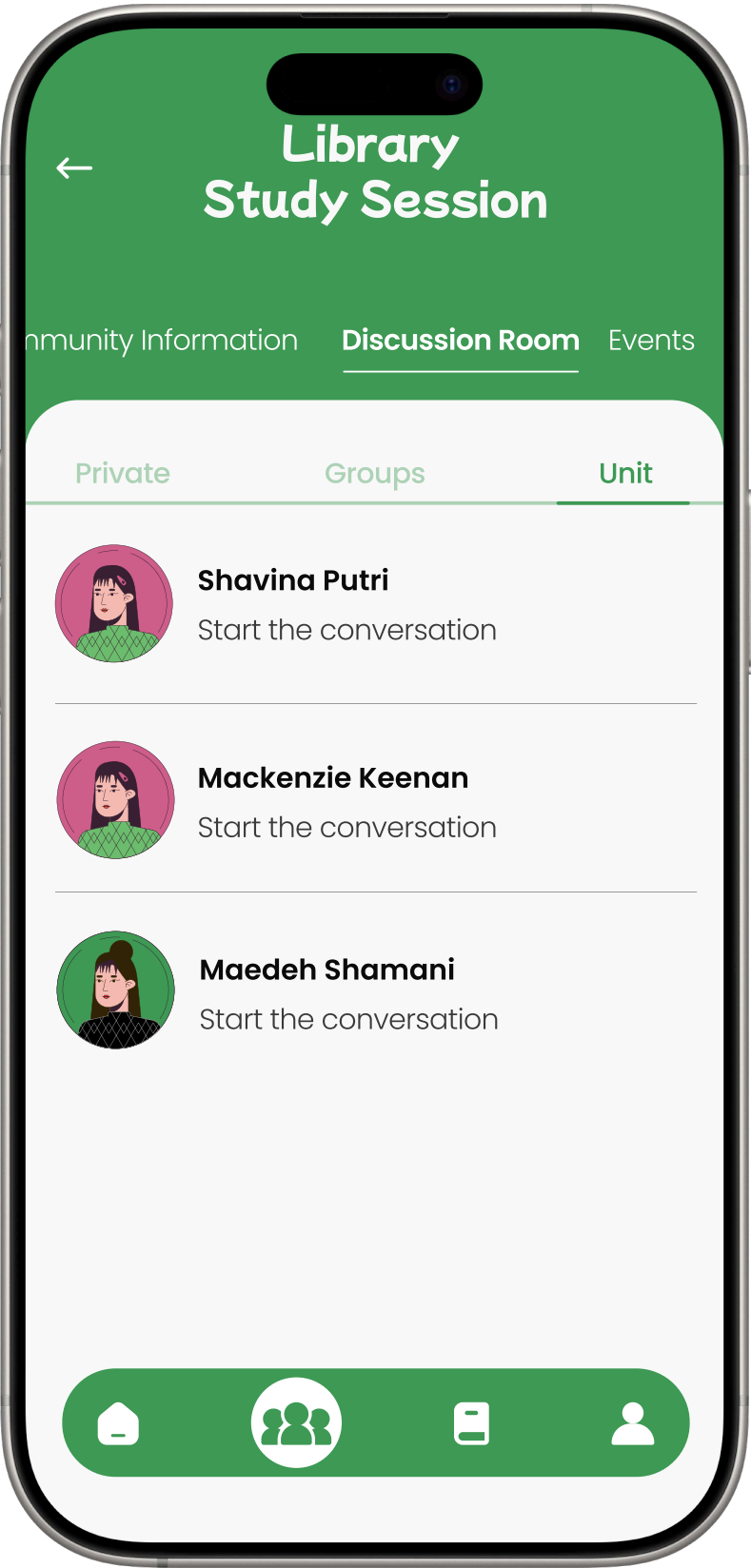
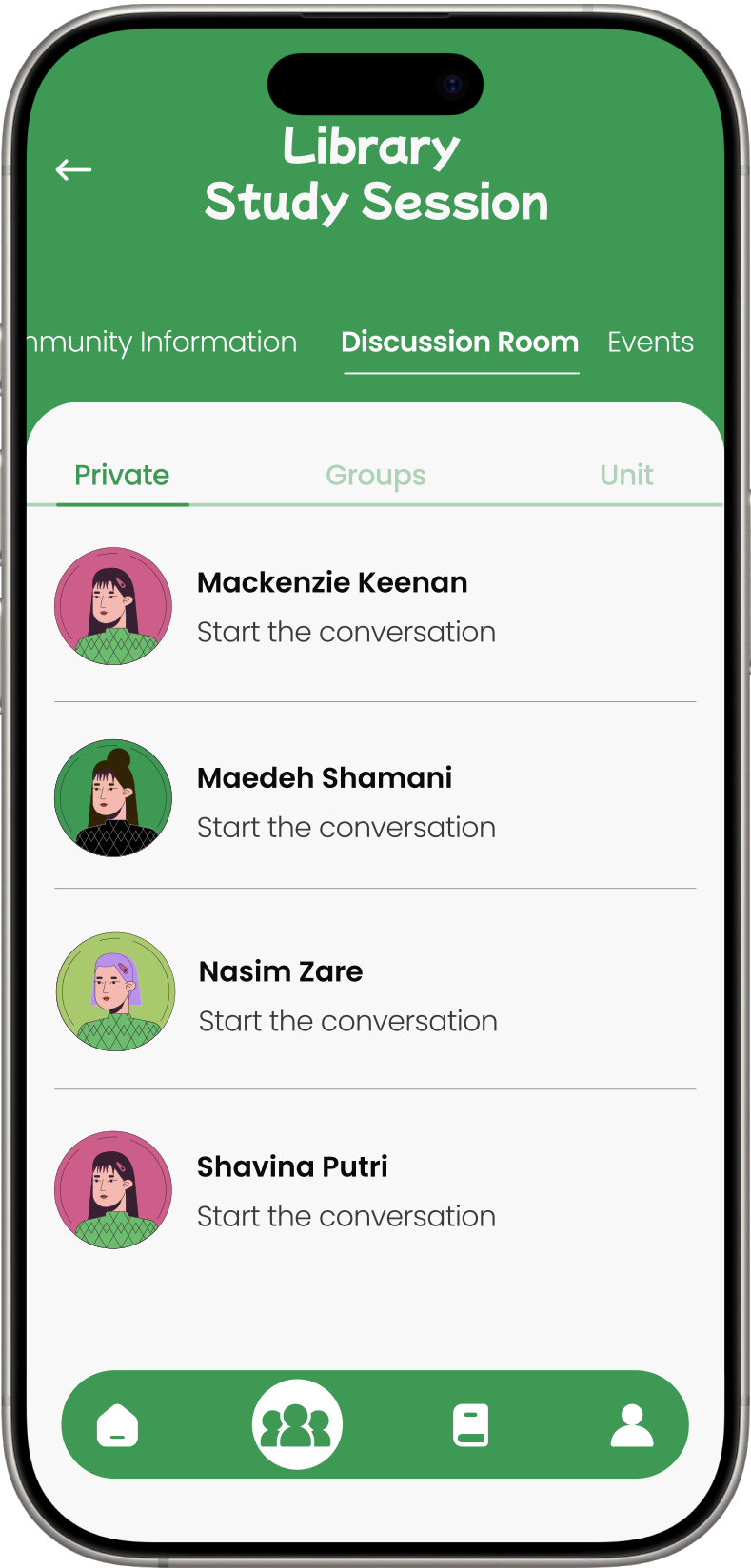


Community Page

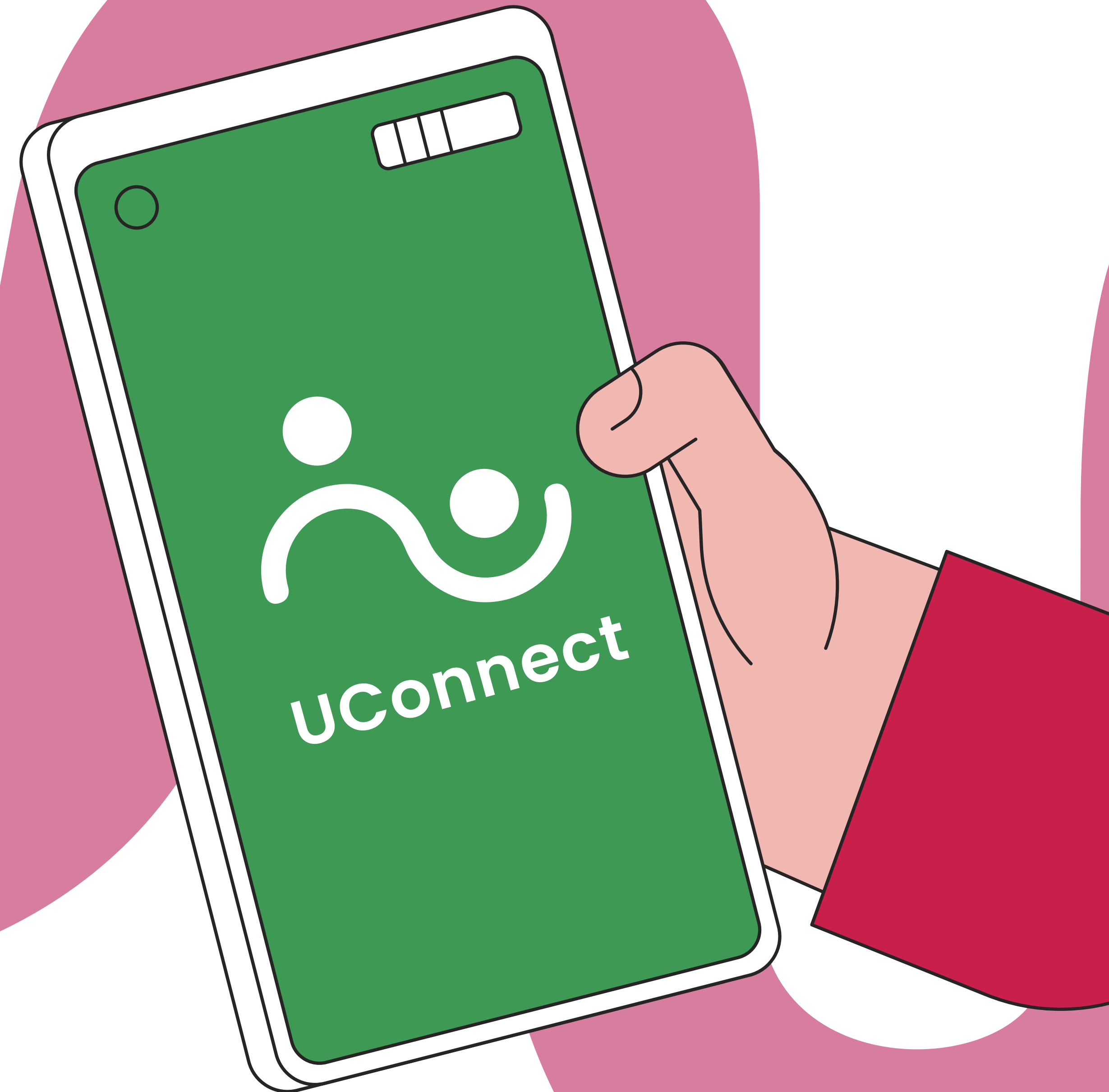
UConnects Discussion Room supports student communication, collaboration, and peer to peer learning.

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Design System



Colour palette

As UConnects concept was centered around **conne-ction and growth**, we aimed to reflect this through a **friendly, vibrant**, and **engaging** interface. To support this, we carefully selected a bright and welcoming color palette that promotes **positivity** and **approachability**. We also use three neutral colors ,white, light gray, and black to keep everything clear and easy to read. These neutral tones help **balance** the design and make sure our texts stands out.

CMYK 78 17 89 3
RBG 62 153 84
HEX #3E9954

CMYK 15 100 65 3
RBG 201 32 75
HEX #C9204B

CMYK 10 48 15 0
RBG 222 150 172
HEX #DE96AC

CMYK 0, 0, 0, 90
RBG 23 23 23
HEX #171717

CMYK 38 3 74 0
RBG 168 203 109
HEX #A8CB6D

CMYK 17 77 22 0
RBG 205 94 137
HEX #CD5E89

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RBG 244 245 249
HEX #F4F5F9

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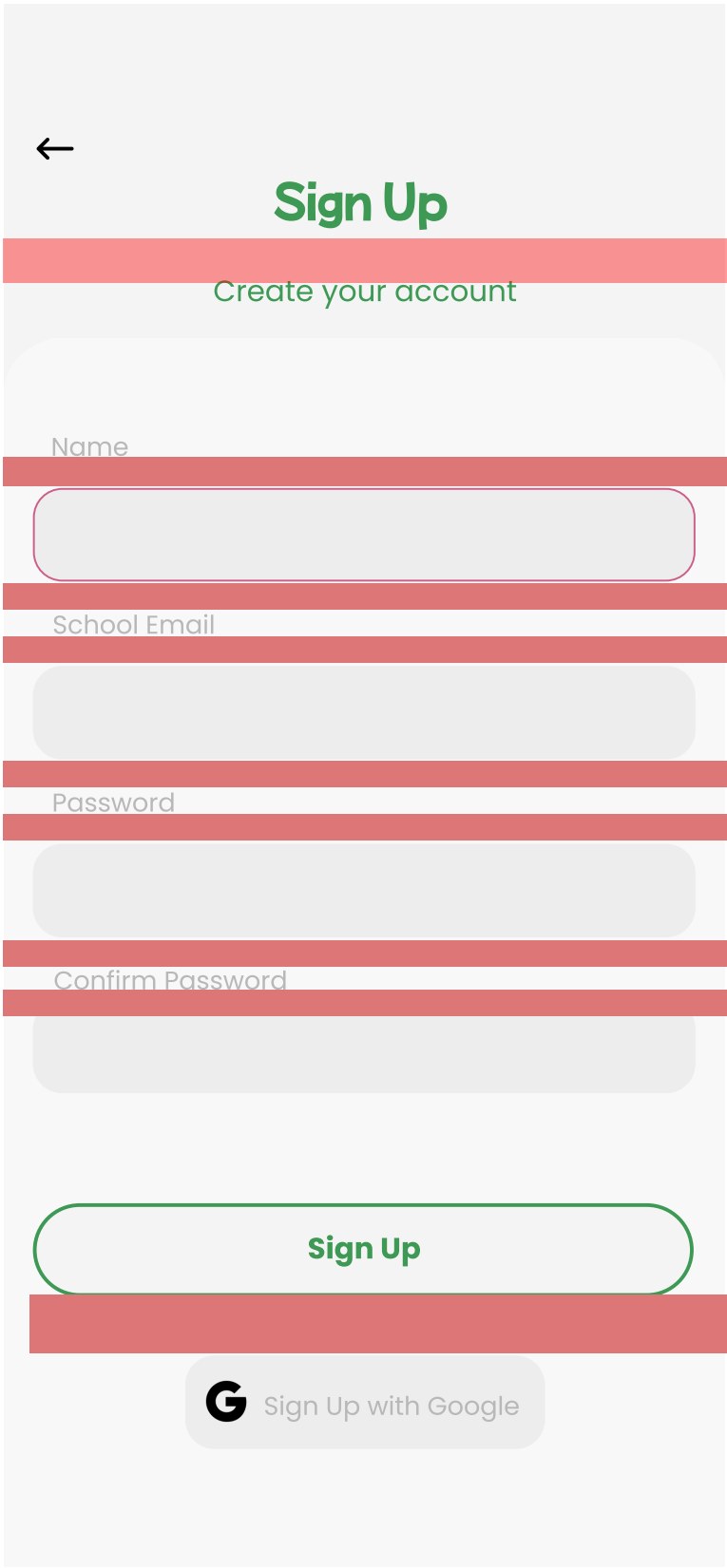
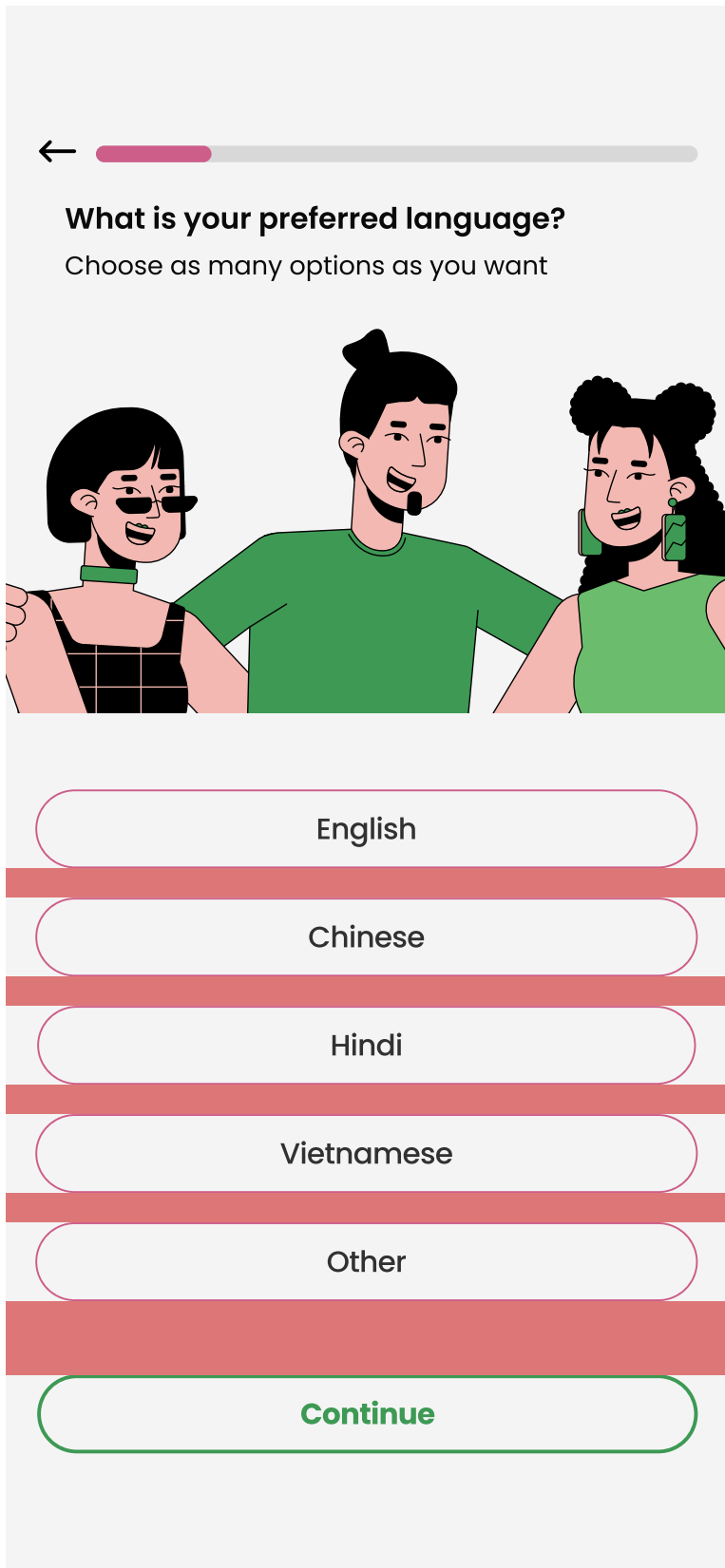
Typography

For our app’s typography, we use Mochiy Pop P One for titles to give the interface a fun, bold, and friendly look that grabs attention. For all other text elements like buttons, labels, and body content, we use the Poppins font in various weights (from ExtraLight to SemiBold) to keep the design clean, modern, and easy to read. With this combination, we try to balance personality with clarity across the user interface.

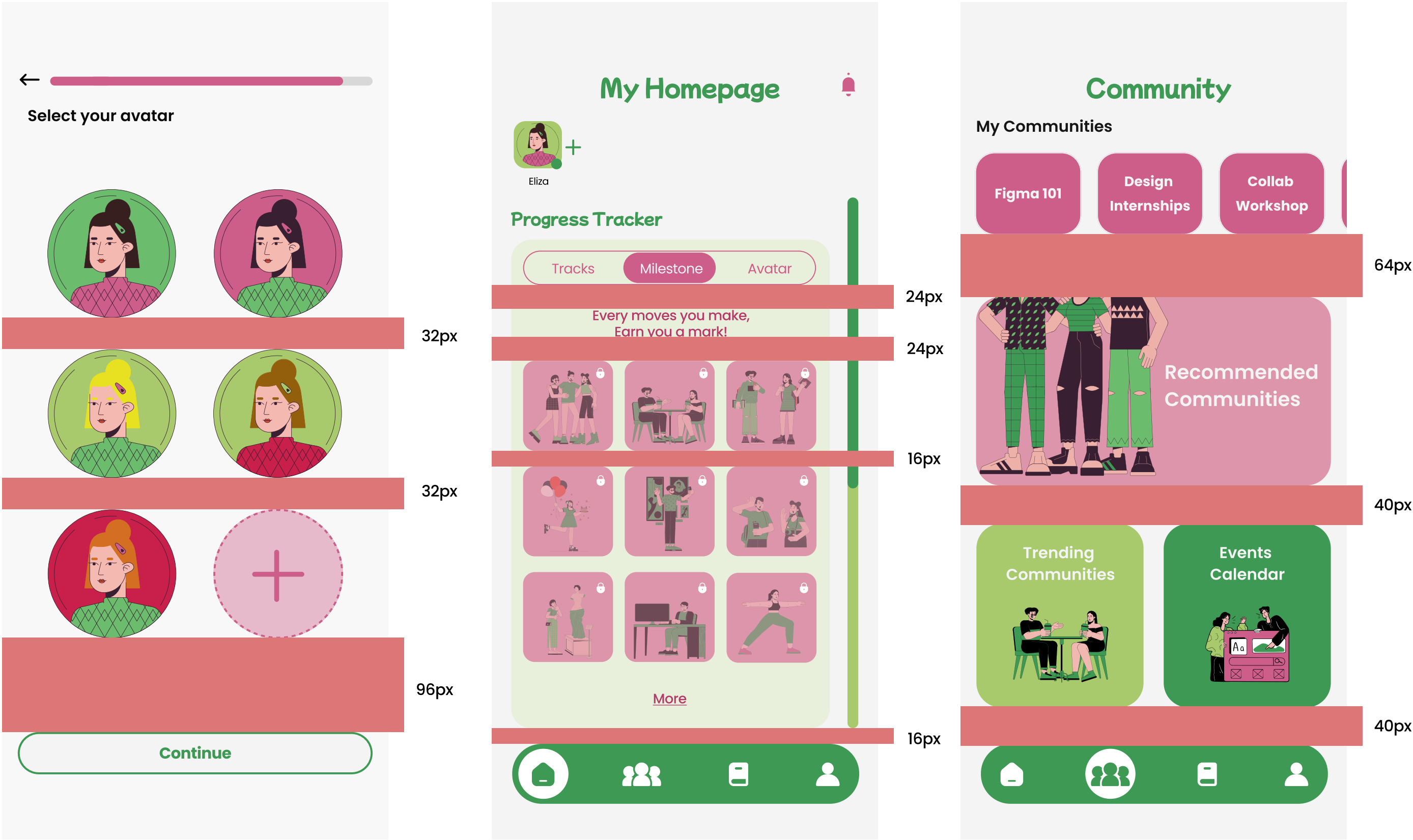
Scale Category	Weight	Size	Line Height	Letter Spacing
Mochiy Pop P One	Regular	24 px	27	0.0px
Poppins	semi bold	24 px	18	0.0px
Poppins	SemiBold	20	27	0.0px
Poppins	Bold	16	20	0.0px
Poppins	Medium	14	18	0.0px
Poppins	Light	14	18	0.0px
Poppins	Extra Light	12	15	0.0px

Spacing

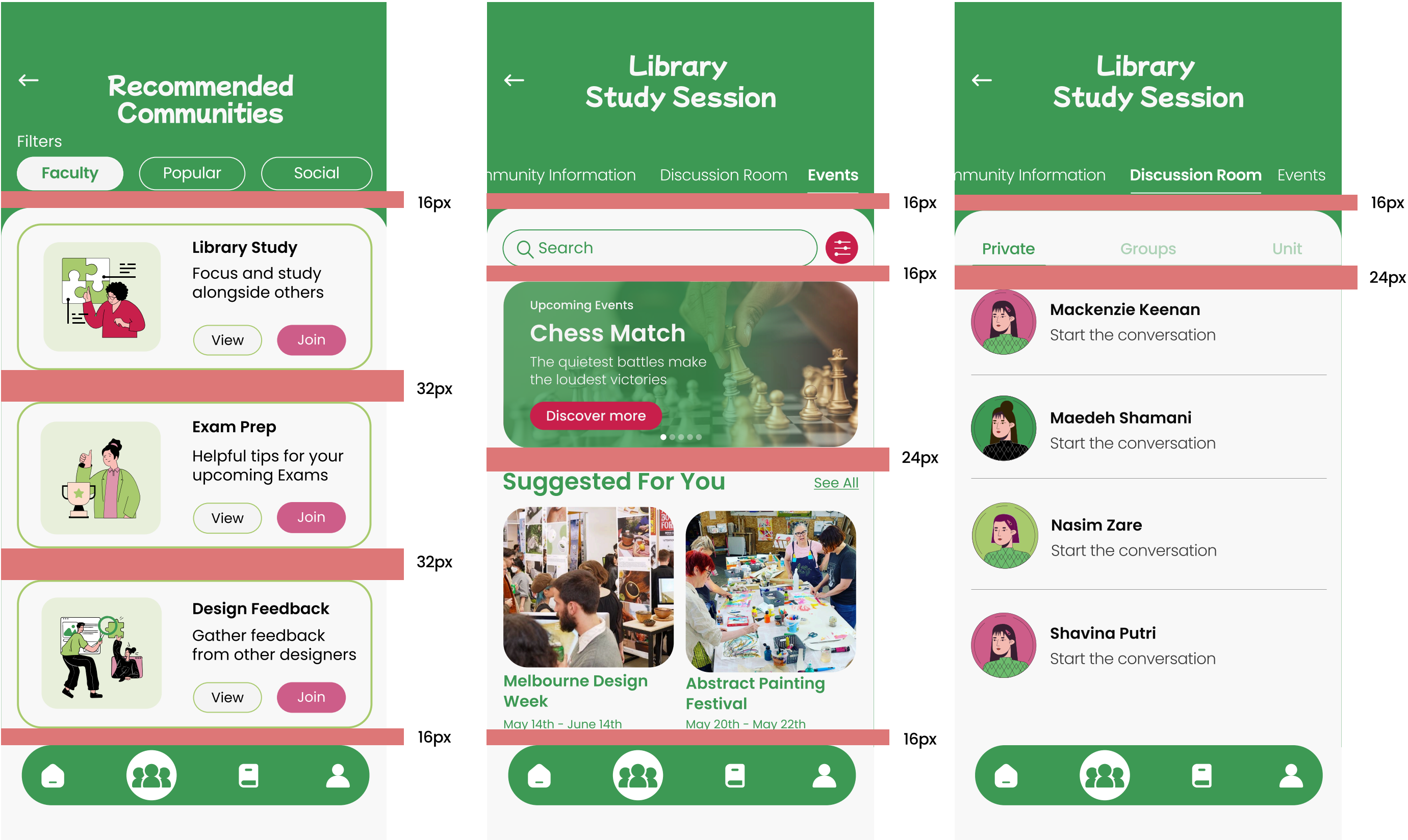
We used **clear and consistent spacing** in our design to make everything easy to read and well organized. Common spacing sizes like 16px, 24px, 32px, 40px help separate different parts of the screen. Small spaces are used between text and buttons, while bigger spaces are used to divide sections. This makes the app look **clean** and helps users **find information more easily**.



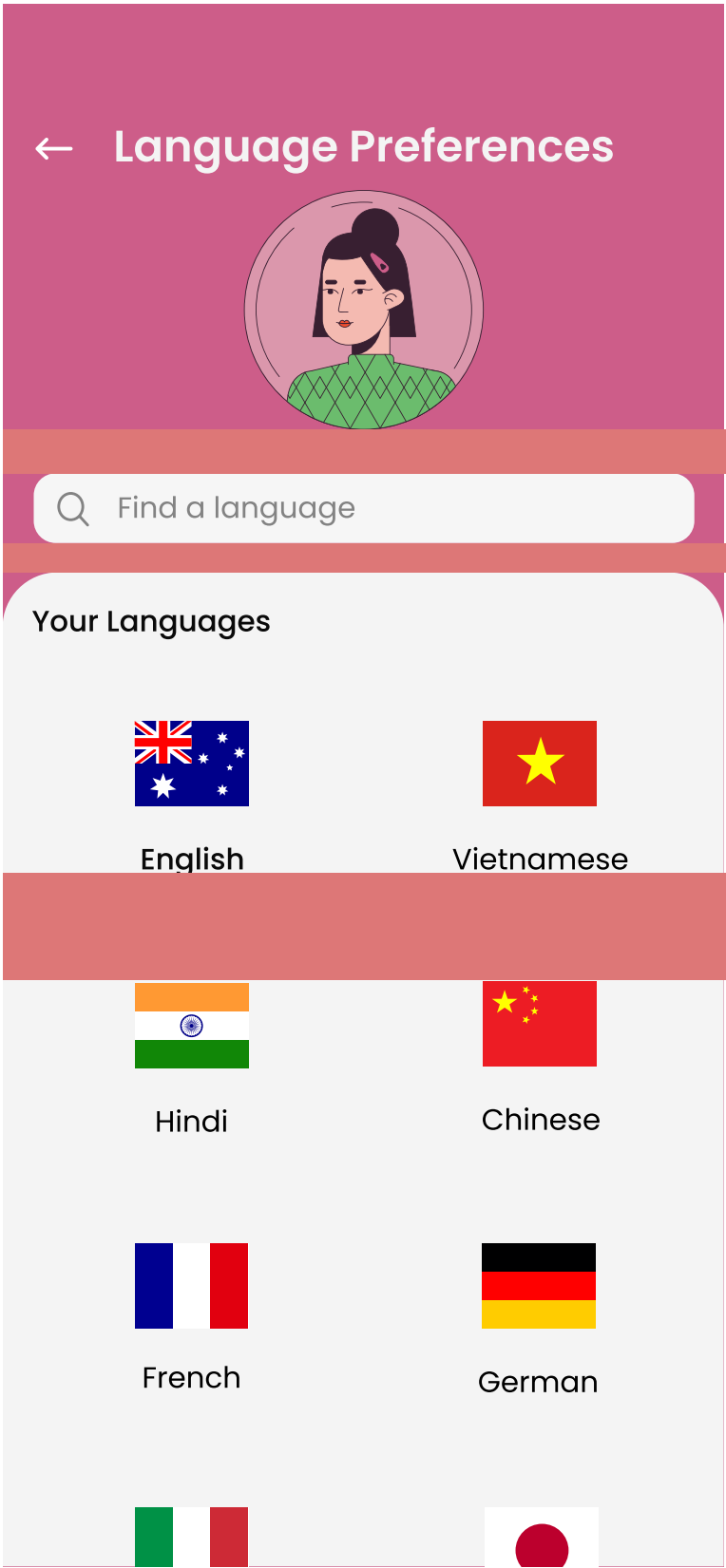
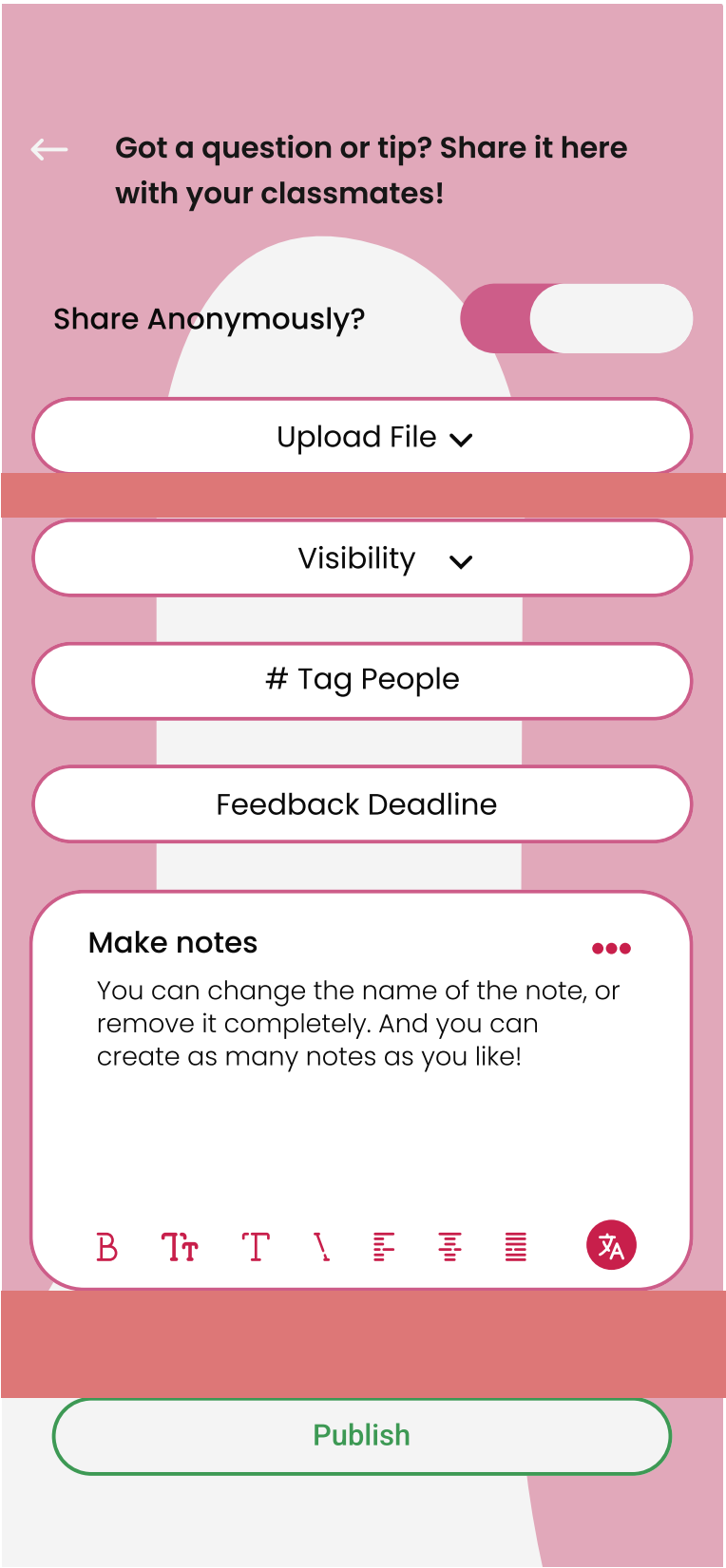
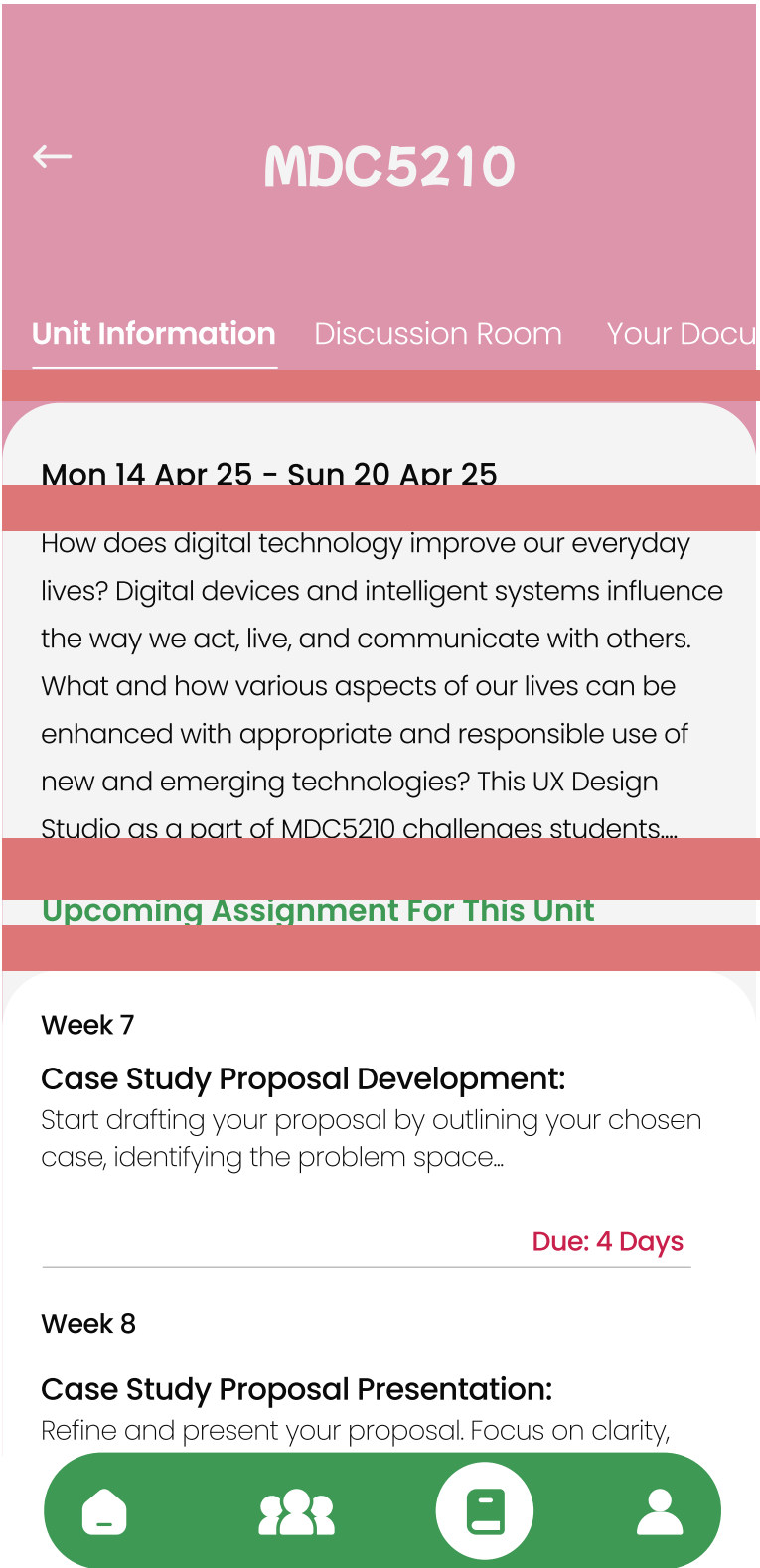
Spacing



Spacing

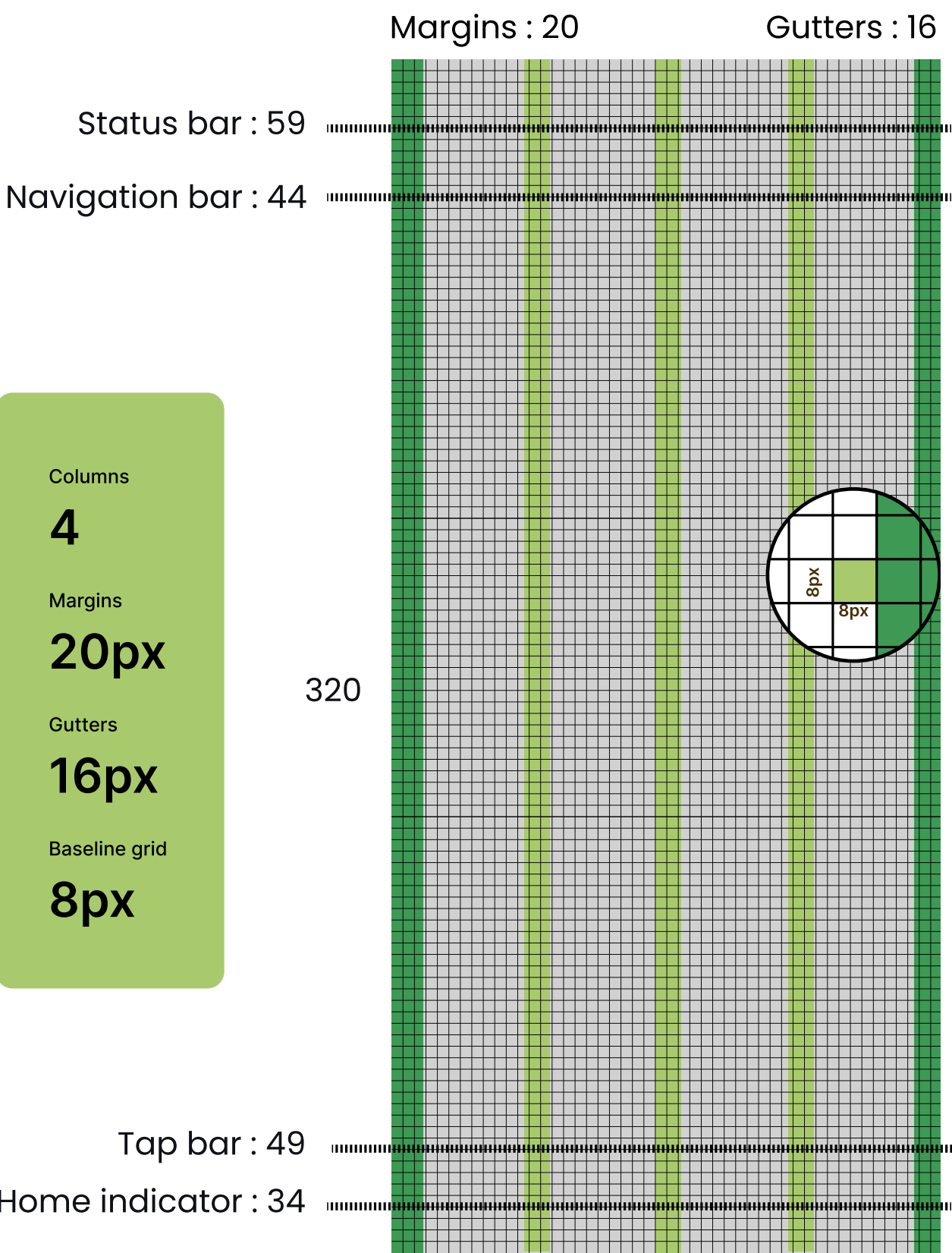


Spacing



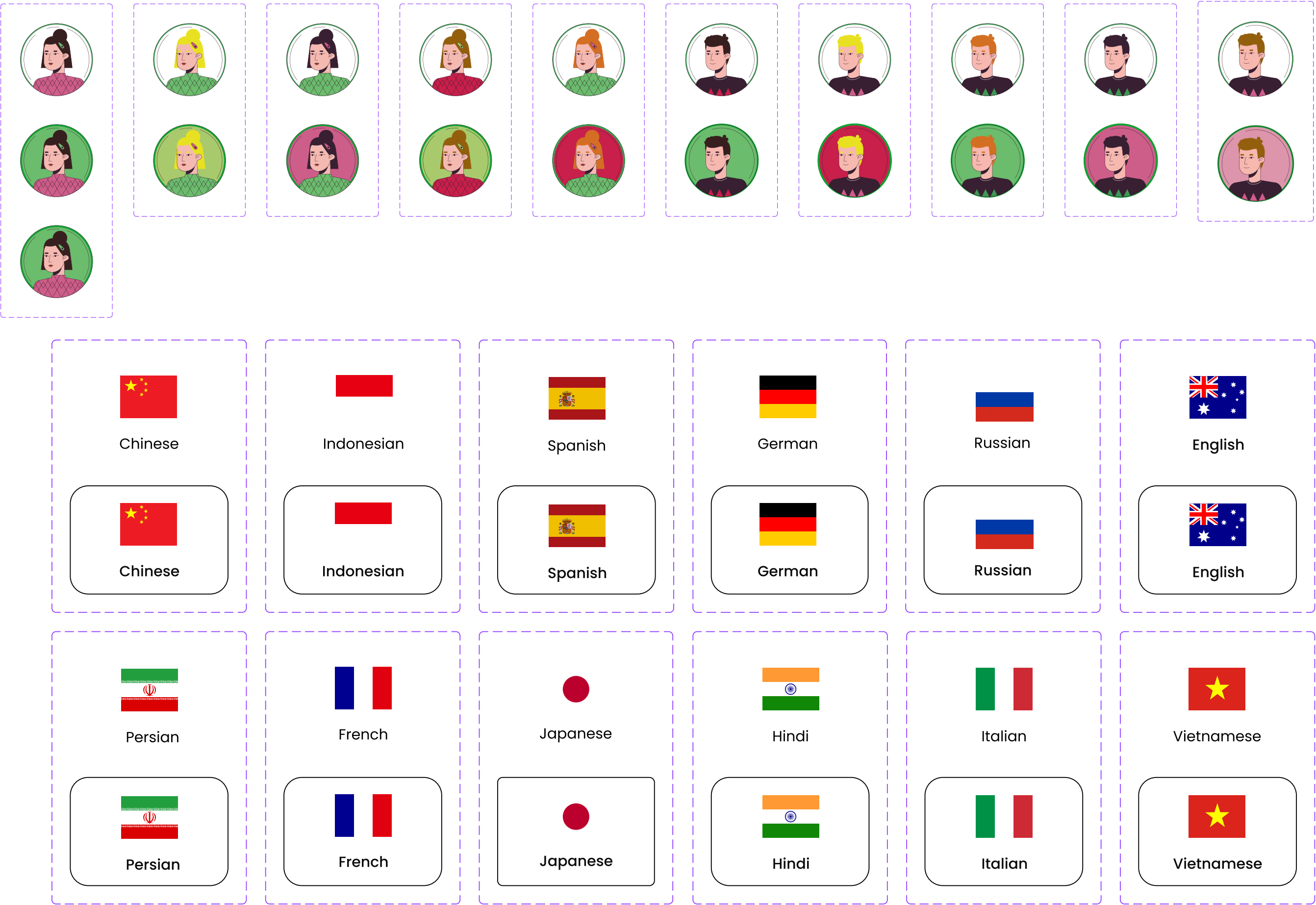
Grid and Margin

We used a 4-column grid with 20px margins and 16px gutter between columns to keep everything lined up and easy to read. An 8px baseline grid helps us space text and elements evenly, so nothings feels too crowded. This layout helps the app look clean and easy to use on any screen.



Components

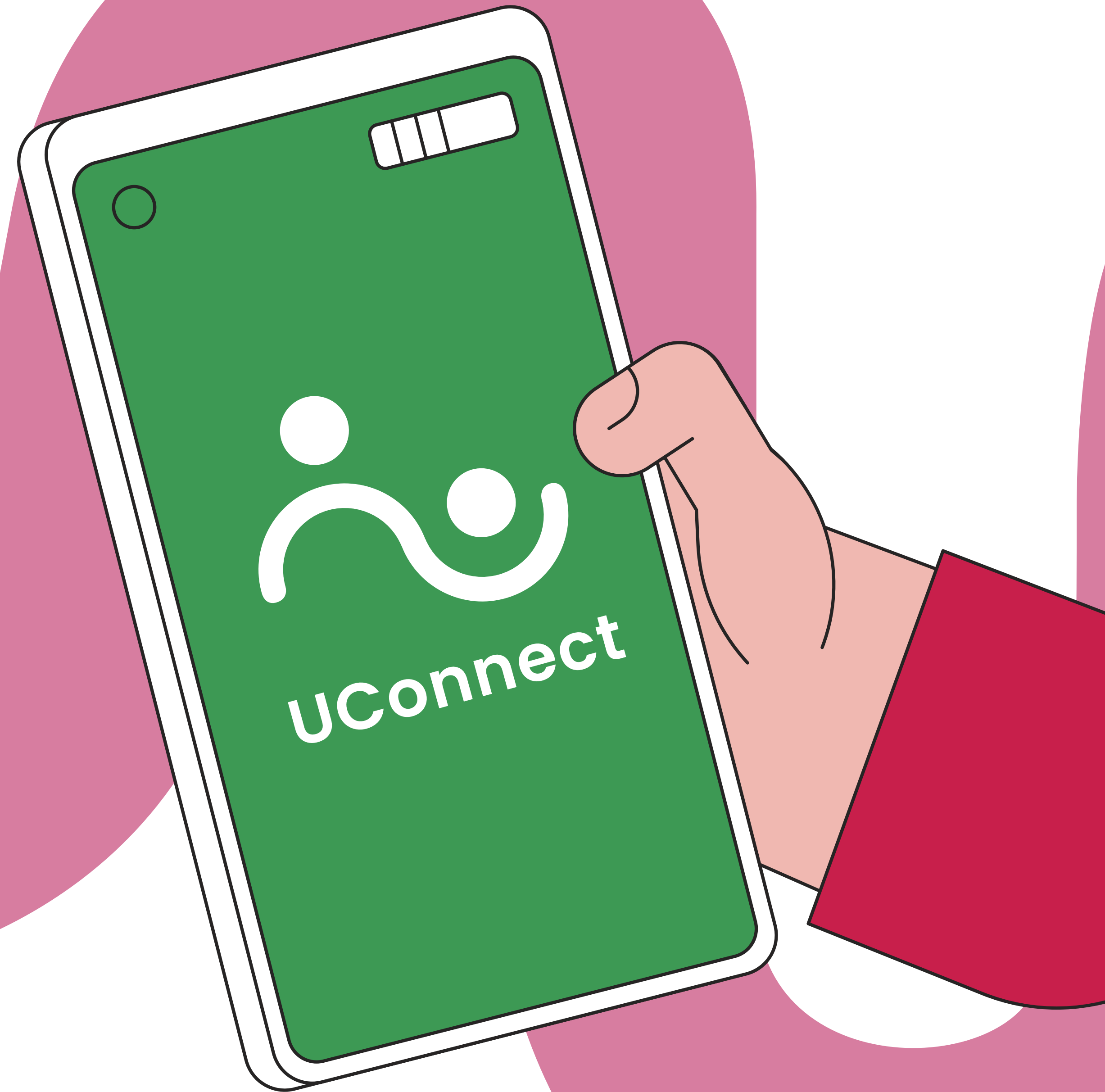
We designed a set of UI components to keep the app **consistent, clear, and easy to use**. This includes user avatars, language cards, interest tags, buttons, and input tools like note boxes and file uploads. The green buttons are used for main actions like login and signup, while pink buttons help with categories and filters. Language options and interest tags **support user personalization** and help onboarding process. By using these components, the app becomes more **accessible, organized, and quicker to navigate** for both local and international students.



Spacing



Usability Testing



User testing

In order for us to progress our initial design concept, we conducted usability testing to analyze a potential users experience whilst using our design



Phase One



Phase Two



Test overview

Task based Usability testing with open dialogue discussion

Method

Conducting during class with our assessor

Participants

- Class assessor (Phase One)
- Student (Phase Two)

Process

Participant was given prompted scenario where they were encouraged to speak out loud for us to monitor their experience interacting with our design

Scenarios



“You have been struggling to connect with your classmates at University and figuring out your current Units. You overheard from other students that they have been using the Uconnect app and decide that you would like to create an account

Create an account

“You have been feeling a bit lonely at University and you decided that you would like to use your Uconnect account to join a community in the “Recommend Community” page”



Tasks

Join a community in the Recommended community page

“You have been struggling with understanding your upcoming assignments in your MDC510 class. You decide that you would like to go on the “My course” page and publish a question you have in the discussion room”

Go on the My course page and publish a question in the discussion room

Insights



Refinement in Spacing and text size

Some text and spacing were too small in order for a user to navigate fluently within our interfaces

Hierarchy in call to action features

Specific important features were not highlighted enough, user found it easy to miss

Adjustments with content readability

With our info loaded screens, some cards needed to be more distinct in order for a user to understand their different context and content



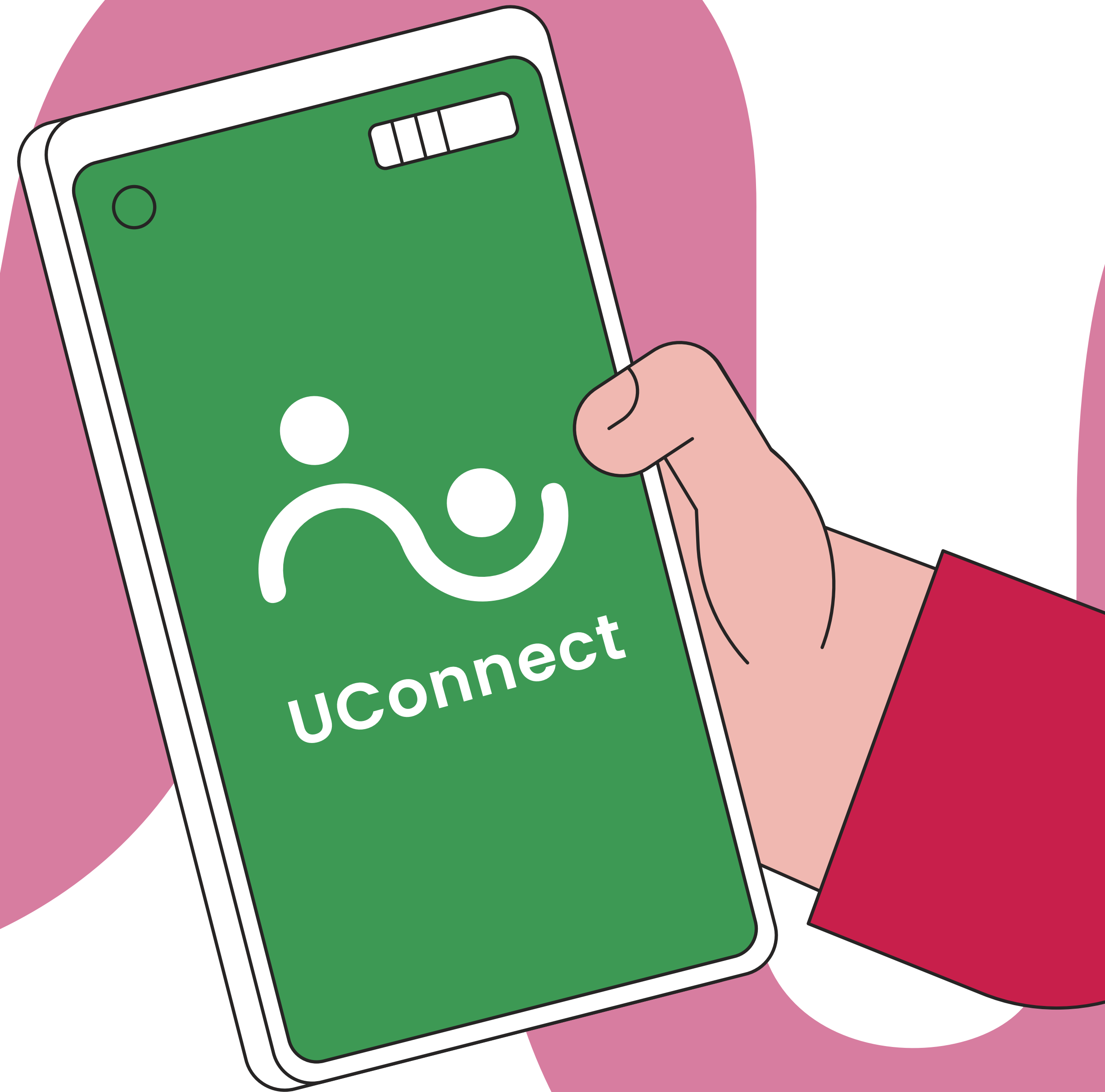
Design Refinement

Increased sizing and spacing, helping to improve content readability and structure

Reorganized important call to action icons/ features giving them **dedicated spacing** to increase attention

Removed unnecessary added color to make content more clearer and direct for a user to read important information

Potential Impact & User Benefits



Potential impact & User Benefits:



Our app is designed to improve the social, academic, and emotional experiences of university students (both local and international), especially those facing language barriers.



Key Impacts

Improving students sense of belonging and confidence

Solving problems which are more related to language and cultural difference

Increase of more creating more long-term peer friendly relationships

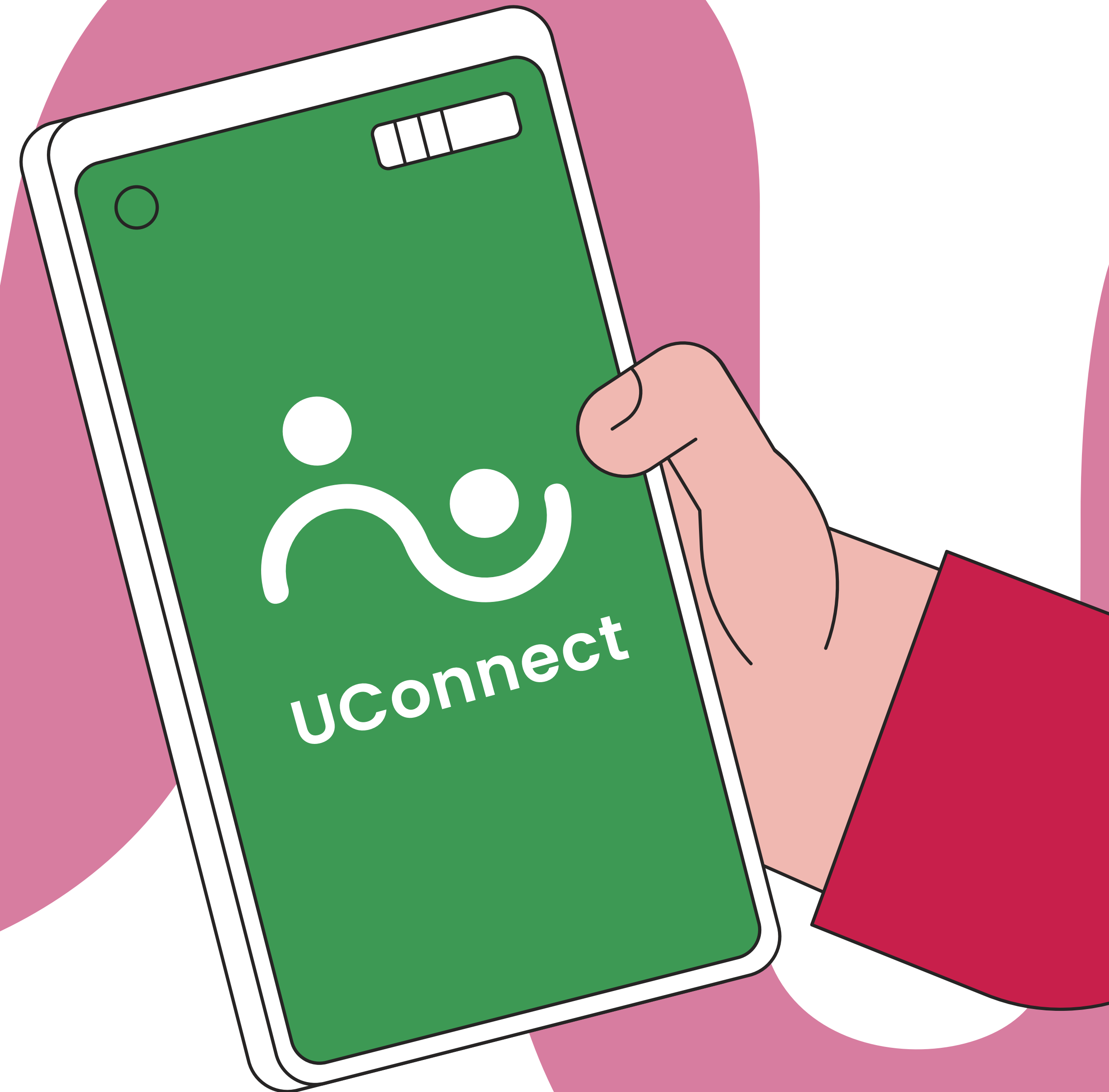
Assist students to become more confident in socializing and building relationships

Enhanced peer-to-peer learning, engagement and interaction

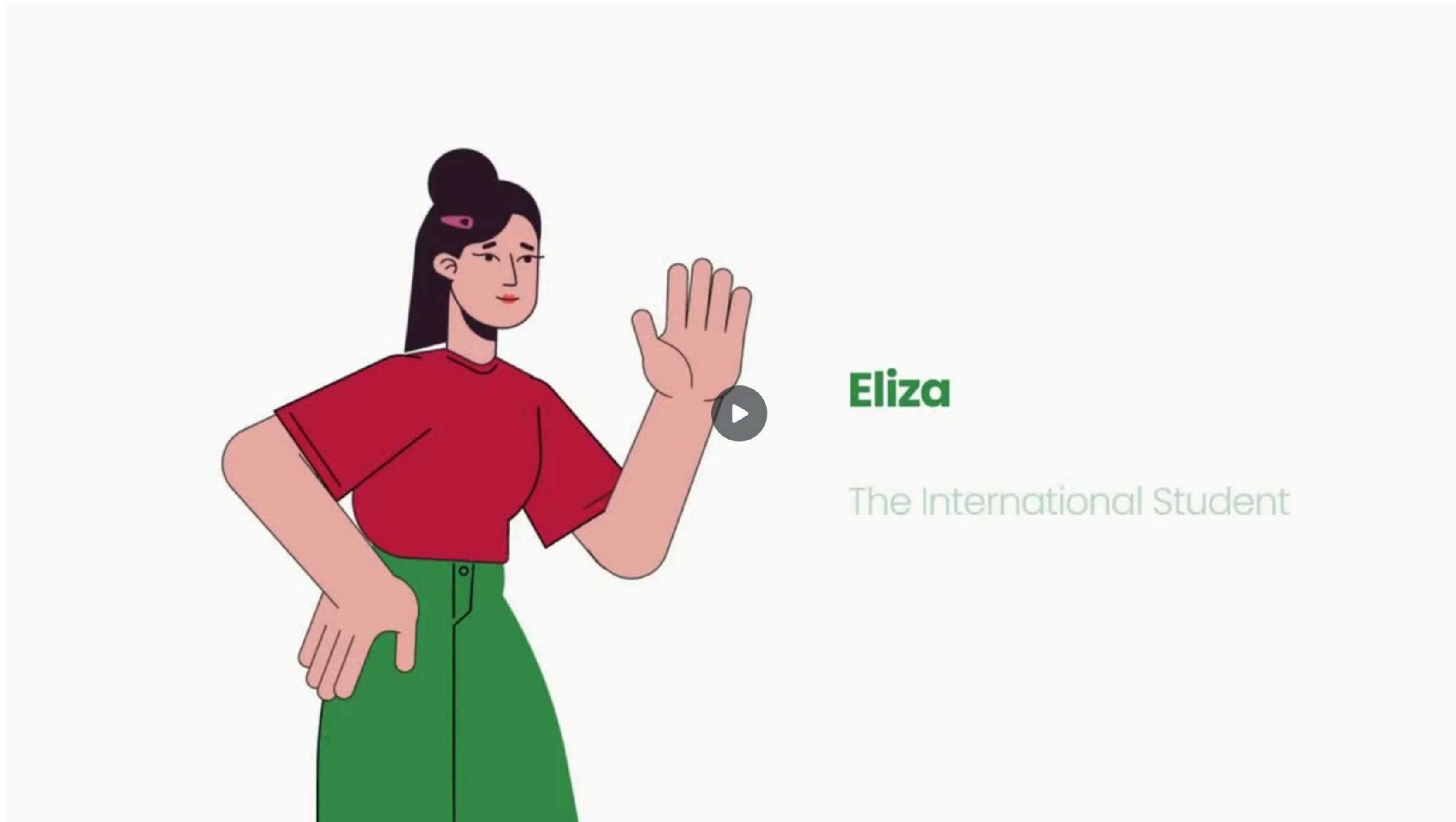
Providing personalized experiences with a unique onboarding system

Long-term educational engagement

Video &References



Video



Video

References



Video
Canva



Mockups
Mockuuups

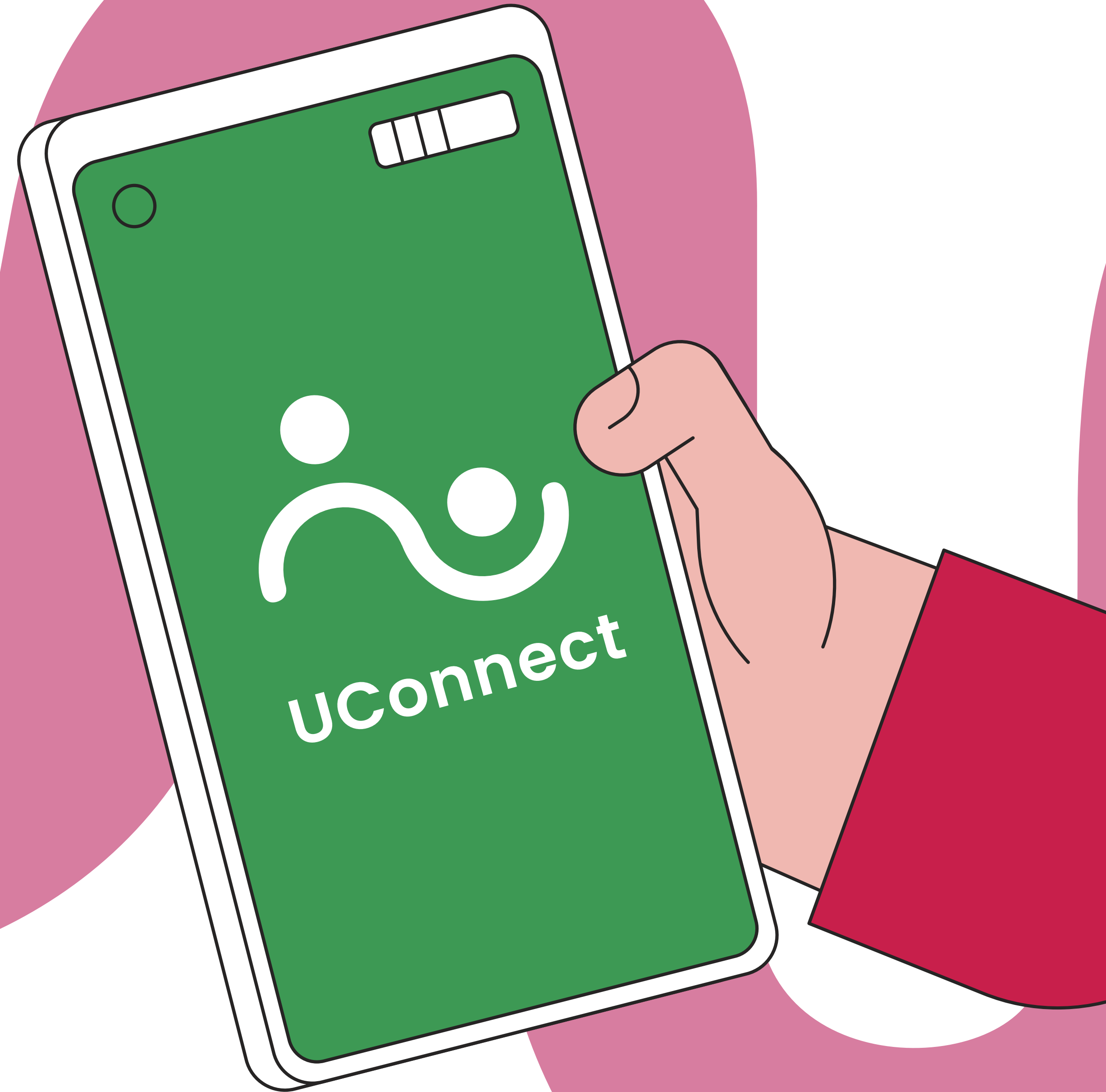


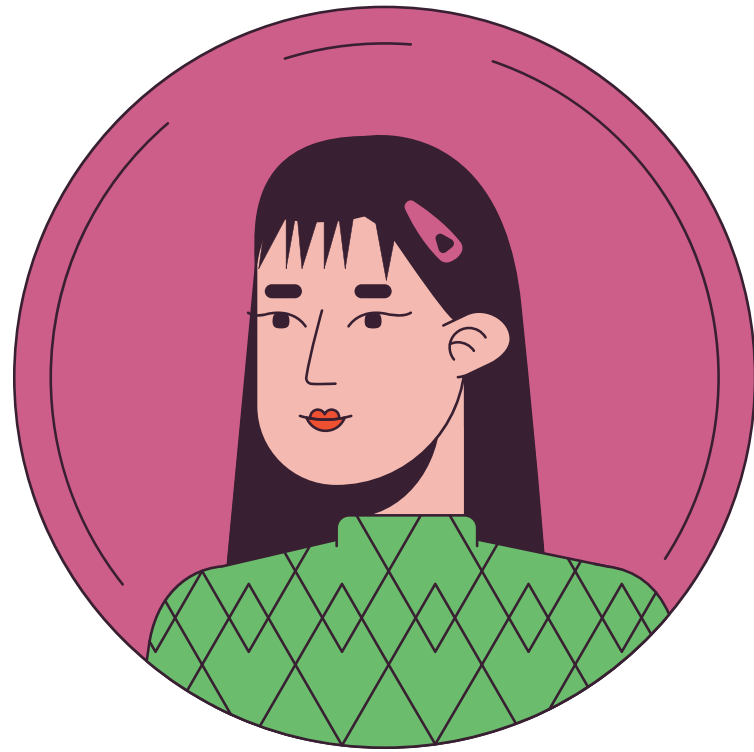
Voiceover
Voices AI



Illustrations
Iconscout

Team Contribution





Shavina Putri

Design concepts and ideation creator

Low, medium and high fidelity designer

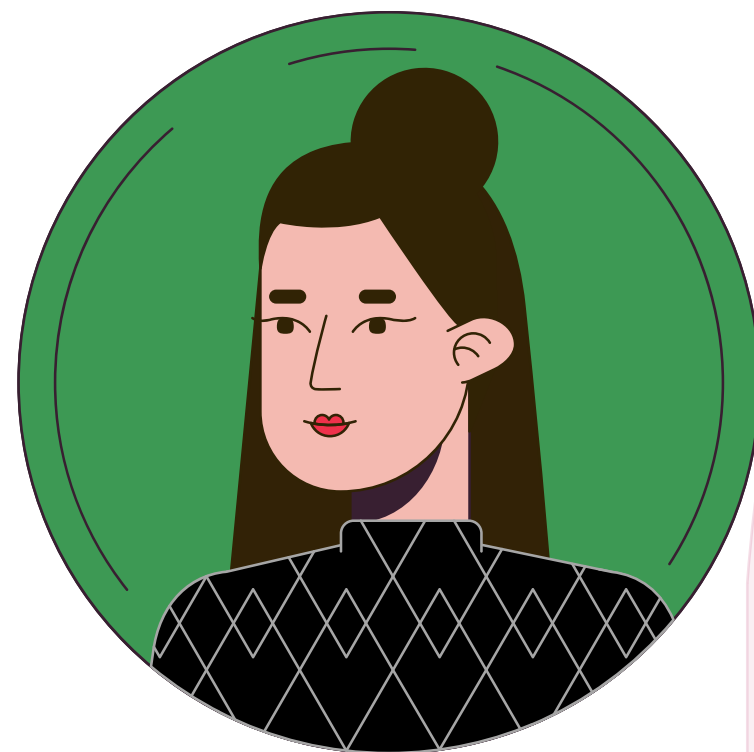
User flow development

Wireframes

Prototyping

Usability tester

Promotional video creator and editor



Maedeh Shamani

Design concepts and ideation creator

Low, medium and high fidelity designer

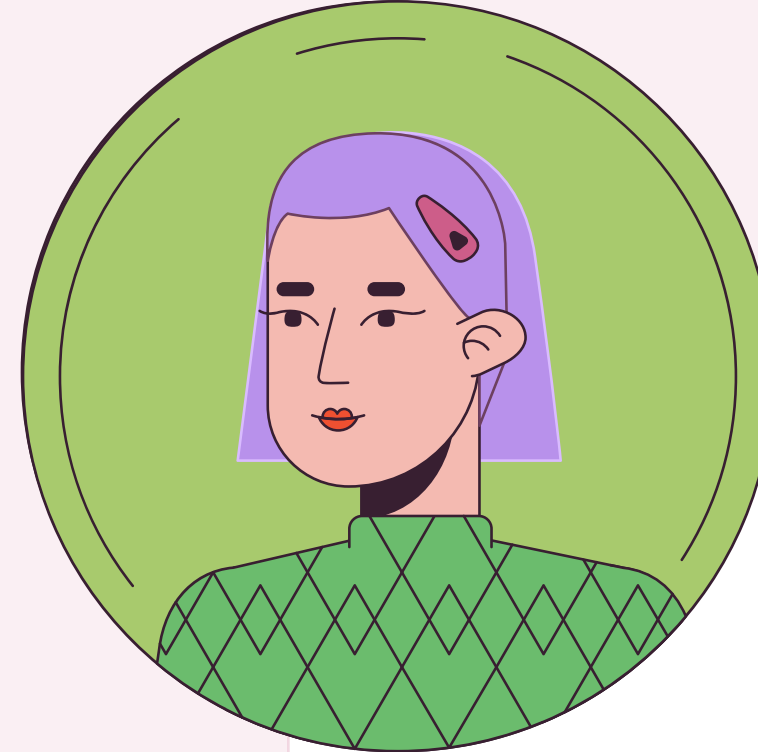
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MacKenzie Keenan

Design concepts and ideation creator

Low, medium and high fidelity designer

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