

Human-Computer Interaction

SYST 469 – Spring 2009

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Course Website: <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzezlehz/>
Office Hours: By appointment | Emergency Only: (703) 845-2139

When | Where: Mondays 7:20PM – 10:00PM | Krug Hall, Room 5

Text: J. Preece, Y. Rogers, & H. Sharp. *Interaction Design: Beyond Human-Computer Interaction (2nd edition.)*. Wiley & Sons, 2007.

Prerequisites: IT 108 and IT/STAT 250

This course will cover the principals of human-computer interaction, including information processing design, cognitive models, ergonomics, and design metaphors. Students will learn to evaluate interface design in terms of effectiveness, efficiency, and cost. (*Systems engineering majors cannot take this course for credit toward their major. They need to take SYST 470.*)

STUDENT EVALUATION CRITERIA

Homework	15%		Team Project	20%
Midterm Exam	30%		Final Exam	35%

Students must complete all requirements (homework, midterm exam, final exam, class project). A grade of zero will be assigned for any incomplete requirement unless the student contacts the instructor before the due date with an acceptable excuse and to make alternative arrangements.

GRADING

Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
Points	4	4	3.67	3.33	3	2.67	2.33	2	1.67	1	0
Score	≥97	≥94	≥90	≥86	≥81	≥77	≥73	≥70	≥67	≥60	<60

EXAMS & HOMEWORK

Each of the 5 homework assignments will account for 3% of the student's final grade. Students are expected to turn all homework in at the beginning of class. Late homework will not be accepted.

The exams will cover material presented in the text and class. The exams are closed-book and closed-notes. Student may not use calculators, laptops, cell phones, or other electronic devices during exams.

TEAM PROJECT

Students will work in self-formed teams of two or three to complete the group project. Project teams are due by February 16. One member of each team should email the instructor with the names of the team members. Three-person teams will only be acceptable if the project is adequately large in scope.

The project will be an evaluation of two or more existing interactive products. The projects must be guided by user requirements, usability goals, and use knowledge learned from class to determine if there are significant differences in the usability of the products. Team project proposals are due by March 30 and must be approved by the instructor. Teams will give 15-minute presentations during the last 2 weeks.

HONOR CODE

All students must abide by the GMU Honor Code. Each student is required to sign and return an Honor Code pledge (last page of this syllabus) at the beginning of this course.

SYLLABUS

SYST 469 - Spring 2009

Date	Lesson	Reading Assignment	Homework
26-Jan	What is interaction design?	Chapter 1	
2-Feb	Understanding and conceptualizing interaction	Chapter 2	
9-Feb	Understanding users	Chapter 3	Homework #1 due
16-Feb	The process of interaction design	Chapter 9	Project Teams Due
23-Feb	Identifying needs and establishing requirements	Chapter 10	Homework #2 due
2-Mar	Prototyping	Chapter 11	Homework #3 due
9-Mar	Spring Break - No Class		
16-Mar	Introducing Evaluation	Chapter 12	
23-Mar	Midterm Exam		
30-Mar	Evaluation framework	Chapter 13	Team Project Proposals Due
6-Apr	Usability testing and field studies	Chapter 14	Homework #4 due
13-Apr	Data Gathering	Chapter 7	
20-Apr	Analytical Evaluation	Ch. 15 up to page 706	Homework #5 due
27-Apr	Student Project Presentations		Team Projects Due
4-May	Project Presentations cont'd & Review for Final Exam		
11-May	Final Exam		

Please read the following GMU Honor Code and sign at that the end that you have read it. It is expected that you abide completely with the provisions provided herein:

Honor Code:

To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of George Mason University, and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the members of George Mason University, have set forth the following code of honor.

I. THE HONOR COMMITTEE

The Honor Committee is a group of students elected from the student body whose primary and indispensable duty is to instill the concept and spirit of the Honor Code within the student body. The secondary function of this group is to sit as a hearing committee on all alleged violations of the code.

II. EXTENT OF THE HONOR CODE

The Honor Code of George Mason University deals specifically with cheating and attempted cheating, plagiarism, lying, and stealing.

A. Cheating encompasses the following:

1. The willful giving or receiving of an unauthorized, unfair, dishonest, or unscrupulous advantage in academic work over other students
2. The above may be accomplished by any means whatsoever, including but not limited to the following: fraud; duress; deception; theft; trick; talking; signs; gestures; copying from another student; and the unauthorized use of study aids, memoranda, books, data, or other information
3. Attempted cheating

B. Plagiarism encompasses the following:

1. Presenting as one's own the words, the work, or the opinions of someone else without proper acknowledgment
2. Borrowing the sequence of ideas, the arrangement of material, or the pattern of thought of someone else without proper acknowledgment

C. Lying encompasses the following:

The willful and knowledgeable telling of an untruth, as well as any form of deceit, attempted deceit, or fraud in an oral or written statement relating to academic work. This includes but is not limited to the following:

1. Lying to administration and faculty members
2. Falsifying any university document by mutilation, addition, or deletion
3. Lying to Honor Committee members and counsels during investigation and hearing. This may constitute a second charge, with the committee members who acted as judges during that specific hearing acting as accusers

D. Stealing encompasses the following:

Taking or appropriating without the permission to do so, and with the intent to keep or to make use of wrongfully, property belonging to any member of the George Mason University community or any property located on the university campus. This includes misuse of university computer resources (see the Responsible Use of Computing Policy section in the "General Policies" chapter). This section is relevant only to academic work and related materials.

Students must report all alleged violations to the Honor Committee. Any student who has knowledge of, but does not report, a violation may be accused of lying under the Honor Code.

I have read the above GMU Honor Code and agree to abide by its provisions:

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____