

**Course Description: Human-Computer Interaction**

**Instructor:** Bill Killam, MA CHFP  
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**Text:** J. Preece, Y. Rogers, & H. Sharp. *Interaction Design: Beyond Human-Computer Interaction* (3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Midterm Exam  | 30% |
| Class Project | 30% |
| Homework      | 10% |
| Final Exam    | 30% |

I use the full grading scale, including pluses and minuses. The exams will cover material presented in the text and class. The exams are closed-book and closed-notes. The exam questions will be short-answer & fill in the blank in format. There will be a review period the session before the exams. Laptops can not be used to take the exams.

Students will work in groups (of their choosing) to complete the class project. The project needs to be an evaluation of two or more existing interactive products. The projects need to be guided by user requirements and usability goals. Projects will be presented orally (time permitting) the last two weeks of class. You should discuss you project topic with me to make sure it is acceptable.

All students must abide by the GMU Honor Code. Each student is required to sign and return an Honor Code pledge at the beginning of this course. The last page of this syllabus contains the code. I will review the Honor Code including a discussion of when student collaboration is allowed or not allowed.

SYLLABUS  
Human-Computer Interaction (SYST 469-002)  
Science Technology I 122  
Wednesday 7:20PM -10:00PM

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Week 1<br>8/31   | What is interaction design? (Ch. 1)  |
| Week 2<br>9/7    | The Process of Interaction Design (Ch. 9)  |
| Week 3<br>9/14   | Understanding Users (Ch. 3)  |
| Week 4<br>9/21   | Data Gathering (Ch. 7)   |
| Week 5<br>9/28   | Identifying Needs and Establishing Requirements (Ch. 10)   |
| Week 6<br>10/5   | Mid-Term Exam  |
| Week 7<br>10/12  | Understanding and Conceptualizing Interaction (Ch. 2) &<br>Interfaces & Interaction (Ch. 6)            |
| Week 8<br>10/19  | Design, Prototyping, and Construction (Ch. 11) & Intro.<br>Evaluation (Ch. 12)                         |
| Week 9<br>10/26  | Evaluation framework (Ch. 13) & Analytical Evaluation (Ch.<br>15)                                      |
| Week 10<br>11/2  | Usability testing and field studies (Ch. 14) & Data Analysis,<br>Interpretation & Presentation (Ch. 8) |
| Week 11<br>11/9  | Free Day – Work on Projects  |
| Week 12<br>11/16 | Presentations  |
| Week 13<br>11/23 | <b>Thanksgiving Break</b>  |

Week 14  
11/30

Presentations & Review for Final

Week 15  
12/7

Final Exam (only on material after the mid-term)

**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:** \_\_\_\_\_