COSC 5340 Human-Computer Interaction  
Fall 2013

Lecture: MWF 10:00-10:50AM  
Location: TBD  
Professor: Dr. John D. Fernandez  
Office: CI 341  
Phone: 825-3622  
E-mail: john.fernandez@.tamucc.edu  
Course Page: Blackboard Island Online: https://distance-education.tamucc.edu/  
Web Page: http://falcon.tamucc.edu/~fernandez  
Office Hours: By appointment only.

Text:  

Prerequisites:  
Data Structures  
You should be proficient in at least one programming language (high skill) and knowledgeable of programming in another (adequate skill). You should be proficient in composing Web pages.

Course Description:  
This is a graduate level survey of the field of Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) focusing on design strategies for making software usable by real-world people for doing real-world work. Topics include the role of HCI in the software product life cycle, task analysis of the user's work, architectures for human-computer dialogues, new and traditional approaches to user interface design, user interface standards.

Expectations for students:  
Come to class everyday the class meets  
Read the assigned chapters and papers before coming to class  
Ask questions of material you do not understand  
If I cannot explain the answers to your satisfaction, ask again by appointment  
Demonstrate integrity, maturity, and ethical behavior

Objectives:  
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will:  
• Demonstrate an awareness of the range of user issues involved in determining a technology's human and organizational acceptability  
• Use a scenario-based design process  
• Make a coherent case for the adoption of user-centered principles in the design, implementation and use of information technology  
• Describe and distinguish the variety of user-centered inputs to the design process  
• Be capable of identifying and applying the scientific basis of HCI to theoretical and practical issues
- Develop valid and reliable usability evaluation plans for an information technology

**Course Grades:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper Review and Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Analysis of HCI Objects</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development Project</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Research Paper and Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation in-class</td>
<td>10%</td>
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**Class Policies:**

**Submitted Work**

- Assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due date in hard copy and they should also be uploaded to BB before class. Late submissions will be graded at 50% of the maximum score. Under no circumstances, will submissions be accepted after 24 hours of the due date.
- Assignments must be submitted in a neat computer-generated format. Handwritten submissions will not be accepted.
- Assignments can only be submitted in class; email submissions will be discarded unless instructed otherwise. In case of late submissions, please stop by my office. If I am not available, ask the secretary to date and time your submission and put it in my mailbox.
- Graded work can only be discussed after 48 hours and no later than one week of releasing the scores.
- Start working on your assignments early; last day questions that show carelessness will not be responded to.
- It is always recommended to keep your graded work.

**Exams and Quizzes**

- Exams and quizzes are NOT open-book unless instructed otherwise.
- Not all quizzes times will be announced; pop-up quizzes are likely.
- NO makeup exams or quizzes will be allowed unless I have agreed prior to the exam or quiz time and been provided with official supporting documents.

**Class Participation**

Class discussions and information provided in class are considered regular course material; it is your responsibility to take appropriate notes. You are expected to attend lectures and actively participate in class discussions. I will be frequently taking attendance. You are also required to turn off your cell phone and/or pager in class and pay attention to class discussions. Use of laptops and other electronic devices is restricted to taking notes. Unethical behavior will result in final grade deduction or an automatic F.

**Academic Honesty**

You are required to abide by the university academic honesty code. All submissions must reflect the student’s own work; no collaboration will be allowed unless instructed otherwise. You must
properly acknowledge all materials that you may use. Plagiarism will result in no credit and/or an automatic F. It is your responsibility to protect your own work; all parties participating in copying, cheating and/or academic dishonesty will be treated indifferently. Academic dishonesty cases will be reported to the appropriate university authorities.

Classroom Environment
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Grade Appeals
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Disabilities Accommodations
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Driftwood 101. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Announcements
Announcements will be made available in class, on course web page, and/or through email. It is your responsibility to regularly check for announcements.

Syllabus
This syllabus provides a framework for the course format and policies. Changes and/or additions to this syllabus may be made at the instructor’s discretion. Students will be notified with changes.
**COSC 5340 - Tentative Schedule**  
as of 8/1/2013  
*(Subject to change by Professor)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/4-6</td>
<td>Introduction and Overview of HCI and ID; CHI ’13 Conference research papers (ACM Digital Library) assigned for review and presentation – Asgn #1; Analysis of HCI Objects – Asgn #2</td>
<td>Ch 1-2</td>
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| 9/6-13     | Cognition, Social & Emotional Interaction  
Clarification of Assignments 1 & 2 | Ch 3-5   |
| 9/16-20    | Presentation of Research Paper Review  
Interfaces and Data Gathering | Ch 6-7   |
| 9/23-27    | HCI Object Analysis Presentation #1  
Data Analysis and Interaction Design Process | Ch 8-9   |
| 9/30-10/4  | Exam I (Ch 1-9) and Development Project Assignment – Asgn #3 |          |
| 10/7-11    | HCI Object Analysis Presentation #2  
Requirements, Design, Prototyping and Construction  
Development Project Meetings with Dr. F. | Ch 10-11 |
| 10/14-18   | Students present project requirements and preliminary design concepts  
Evaluation and Evaluation Framework | Ch 12-13 |
| 10/21-25   | HCI Object Analysis Presentation #3; Usability Evaluation;  
Research Paper Assignment – Asgn #4 | Ch 14    |
| 10/28-11/1 | Students present project final design; Heuristic Evaluations  
Meetings with Dr. Fernandez | Ch 15    |
| 11/4-8     | Students present final project implementation and evaluation plans  
Meetings with Dr. Fernandez |          |
| 11/11-15   | Students present progress on Research Paper Assignment  
Project Evaluations Start |          |
| 11/18-22   | Project Evaluations conclude |          |
| 11/25-28-2  | Final project presentations with results of usability evaluations |          |
| 12/2-6     | Research paper presentations; Final papers due 12/6 |          |
| 12/9       | Review and Assessment |          |
| 12/12-17   | Final Exam (Ch 10-15) |          |

**NOTE:** Mandatory attendance is required for all presentations or work sessions. A grade reduction of 50% will be assessed against anyone missing any day for which an authorized absence has not been approved by Dr. F. The reduction will be applied for that student’s grade on that assignment or participation.