Class Schedule

Classroom: St. Patrick’s Building SP 400
Times: Mondays 2:35PM–5:25PM, September 9th – December 9th
Course Website: http://hotsoft.carleton.ca/comp59004900

Instructor Information

Robert Biddle: http://hotsoft.carleton.ca/hotsoft/people/robert-biddle/
Email Address: robert_biddle@carleton.ca
Office Location: HP 5169; Office Phone: 520-2600 extension 6317
Office Hours: By arrangement, please email or visit HCI Building HCI2110.

Teaching Assistants

None.

Course Description

COMP4900F is a basis for graduate study in HCI with an emphasis on the application of theory to user interface design. Review of main theories of human behaviour relevant to HCI, including especially Cognitive Dimensions of Notations Framework, Mental Models, Distributed Cognition, and Activity Theory, and their application to design and development of interactive systems.

Textbook

There will be no textbook. Instead, papers from the literature will be studied and discussed: approximately 3-4 papers each week.

Online Resources

All course document and other resources will be available online on the course wiki: http://hotsoft.carleton.ca/comp59004900/
Access is password restricted, and the password will be announced at the first meeting — otherwise please contact the instructor for authorization.
There is also a class email list for announcements and discussion: comp59004900@hotsoft.carleton.ca
All students registered at the start of the term will automatically be subscribed using their official Carleton email addresses. For students registering late, or wanting to add another email address, a subscription link is available on the wiki.

**Evaluation**

Class Participation: 20% (See Below)
Practical Project: 40% (Due December 3rd)
Final Exam: 40% (Date To Be Announced)

Class participation mark will be based on presentations of papers and contributions to paper discussion. Students are expected to read all papers, and take turns presenting summaries each week.

The practical project should be related to the course topic, and should involve: design and implementation, or empirical evaluation.

For design and implementation, you should design and implement software based on HCI theories. For an empirical study, you should design and conduct a study using either quantitative or qualitative methods. For a quantitative study, it should involve using statistical methods using a t-test, ANOVA, or simple linear regression and using the R language for statistical computing. For a qualitative study, it should involve conducting a small HCI study using interviews and observations, and qualitative analysis using the “grounded theory” approach and using the Weft or TAMS Qualitative Data Analysis (QDA) software tools.

The final exam will cover the papers discussed in the course, and will be “open-book”: meaning you may use the papers and your notes during the exam.

**Collaboration Policy**

The course has two projects and both projects should be done in groups of 3 or 4. Students are responsible for organizing their groups. Please contact the Instructor if assistance is required.

**Undergraduate Academic Advisor**

The Undergraduate Advisor for the School of Computer Science is available in Room 5302C HP, by telephone at 520-2600, ext. 4364 or by email at undergraduate_advisor@scs.carleton.ca. The undergraduate advisor can assist with information about prerequisites and preclusions, course substitutions/equivalencies, understanding your academic audit and the remaining requirements for graduation. The undergraduate advisor will also refer students to appropriate resources such as the Science Student Success Centre, Learning Support Services and the Writing Tutorial Services.
University Policies

Student Academic Integrity Policy: Every student should be familiar with the Carleton University student academic integrity policy. A student found in violation of academic integrity standards may be awarded penalties which range from a reprimand to receiving a grade of F in the course or even being expelled from the program or University. Some examples of offences are: plagiarism and unauthorized co-operation or collaboration. Information on this policy may be found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Plagiarism: As defined by Senate, “plagiarism is presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own”. Such reported offences will be reviewed by the office of the Dean of Science.

Unauthorized Co-operation or Collaboration: Senate policy states that “to ensure fairness and equity in assessment of term work, students shall not co-operate or collaborate in the completion of an academic assignment, in whole or in part, when the instructor has indicated that the assignment is to be completed on an individual basis”. Please refer to the course outline statement or the instructor concerning this issue.

Students with Disabilities Requiring Academic Accommodations: Register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that I receive your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by the deadlines published on the PMC website: http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/

Religious Obligation: Write to me concerning any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation

Pregnancy Obligation: Write to me concerning any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation

Medical Certificate: The following is a link to the official medical certificate accepted by Carleton University for the deferral of final examinations or assignments in undergraduate courses. To access the form, please go to http://www.carleton.ca/registrar/forms