

Instructor

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Office hours: Mondays 10-11:30am and by appointment

Course Information

Class number: 24116, Section 802
Online Class number: 24120, Section 810
Class times: Mondays, 5:45-9:00 PM
Room: Lewis 1110 Campus: Loop
Course homepage: <https://d2l.depaul.edu/>
Class COL recordings are available through a link in D2L or directly from COLWeb: <https://col.cdm.depaul.edu/>

Course Summary

This course introduces students to various components and processes of human-computer interaction design. Students draw upon theory, principles, design research methods, and case examples to develop perspectives and skills for designing interactive systems.

Learning Objectives

1. Students will develop a design point of view and will be able critique a software application or device using interaction design concepts and principles.
2. Students will develop an understanding of the user-centered design process and practice methods for understanding users, generating insights, concept development, prototyping, and evaluation.

Required Texts

- Saffer, Dan (2009). *Designing for Interaction: Creating Innovative Applications and Devices* (2nd Edition).
- Norman, Donald A. (1988). *The Design of Everyday Things* (2002 Edition)
- Additional mandatory and optional reading materials will be provided on D2L.

Changes to Syllabus

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary during the quarter. If changes are made, they will be thoroughly addressed during class.

Grading

Coursework includes the following components.

	Grade Proportion
Participation	10%
Homework Assignments (individual)	15%
Group Project (individual or group for OL)	30%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

Participation. Participation credit is earned as follows:

- **On-campus students.** The course will involve completing readings before class meetings and preparing for class discussions. Class meetings will involve a combination of lecture, discussions, hands-on activities, presentations of homework projects, and group work. Participation is based on attendance and on individual contributions to class and group projects.
- **Online students.** Students who are enrolled in the online section are expected to view each class recording. For activities that are conducted during class, instructions will be included for the online students. Online students are therefore expected to perform each and every activity on their own, and to compare their solutions to the ones discussed in class. For certain activities, online students will be required to post their solutions to a discussion forum, and to visit other students' solutions and leave comments. The participation grade for online students is based on contributions online and group work, if applicable.

Homework Assignments Homework assignments are expected to be individual efforts. Details about each of these assignments will be posted in D2L and should be posted to D2L unless otherwise specified.

HW1 Design Analysis & Critique
HW2 Competitive Analysis

Project. On-campus students will work on the project in groups. Online students may work individually or in a group. All students are expected to contribute equally to the project. At the completion of the project, students working in a group must provide a peer review of their teammates. The review is used, in part, in determining each student's team project participation score, which constitutes a portion of the student's overall final grade.

P1 User Study/Personas
P2 Conceptual Design
P3 Prototyping and Evaluation

Exams. The midterm and final exams will assess understanding of key concepts covered in the course.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be given based on the following minimum percent of total points earned.

A	93.00%	186 points	Excellent
A-	90.00%	180 points	
B+	88.00%	176 points	
B	83.00%	166 points	Very Good
B-	80.00%	160 points	
C+	78.00%	156 points	
C	73.00%	146 points	Satisfactory
C-	70.00%	140 points	
D+	68.00%	136 points	
D	60.00%	120 points	
F	0.00%	0 points	

Course Schedule

	Date	Topics	Required reading and preparation <i>Additional articles and materials may also be assigned</i>	Due
1	Jan 7	Intro to interaction design and user experience	Saffer, Ch. 1 <i>What is Interaction Design?</i> Saffer, Ch. 2 <i>The Four Approaches to Interaction Design</i>	
2	Jan 14	Essential principles of interaction design	Norman, Prefaces Norman, Ch. 1 <i>The Psychopathology of Everyday Things</i> Norman, Ch. 2 <i>The Psychology of Everyday Actions</i> Norman, Ch. 3 <i>Knowledge in the Head and in the World</i> Norman, Ch. 4 <i>Knowing What to Do</i> , and Norman, Ch. 5 <i>To Err is Human</i>	HW1: Design Analysis and Critique Group formation survey
3	Jan 21	Understanding user needs	Saffer, Ch. 3 <i>Design Strategy</i> Saffer, Ch. 4 <i>Design Research</i>	
4	Jan 28	Making sense of user research	Saffer, Ch. 5 <i>Structured Findings</i> Saffer, Ch. 6 <i>Ideation and Design Principles</i>	HW2: Competitive Analysis
5	Feb 4	Laws and principles of interactions design. Visual interface design.	Saffer Ch. 7 <i>Refinement</i>	
6	Feb 11		<i>Group work after exam if time permits</i>	Midterm Exam
7	Feb 18	Design and prototyping	Saffer Ch. 8 Prototyping, Testing, and Development	P1: User Study
8	Feb 25 Lab*	Digital prototyping. Evaluation and testing.	<i>TBD</i>	P2: Conceptual Design
9	Mar 4 Lab*	Usability. Project work.	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Testing in class</i>
10	Mar 11	Presentations		P3: Prototyping and Evaluation
	Mar 18			Final Exam

*Location to be determined

Policies & Expectations

Attendance (On-campus Students)

On-campus students are expected to attend all classes and participate in class activities. Take an active role in class discussions, activities, and group work. Be on time. Be a respectful participant by keeping phones in silent mode and being attentive to class presentations, discussions, and activities. Attendance will be taken.

Please communicate with me if you must be absent for any reason. Students are individually responsible for material they may have missed due to absence or tardiness. Furthermore, since some group work will occur during class, a student who misses class will jeopardize their standing with the group.

If you are sick with the flu (fever, aches, pains), don't come to class. I can help make sure you are filled in.

Unexcused absences should not exceed two during the quarter. A third absence will reduce your final grade by one letter grade. Tardiness that exceeds 30 minutes is counted as an absence. Two late arrivals or early departures, or a combination of both, are counted as one absence. Please notify me in advance if there are any special needs.

Exams

Exams can only be made up with a serious documented excuse (e.g. illness, death in the family). A make-up exam must be arranged as soon as possible and always before the student attends the next class meeting. Arrangements involving other excuses require prior permission from the instructor.

Online students will need to register for a proctored exam for the midterm and final.

Assignment Deadlines

Homework and project assignments are to be posted to D2L by **12:00 PM** on the due date. Projects may be discussed and shared with peers during class on the due date. Revised projects may be submitted by the following Wednesday at 12:00 PM; however, I must be informed by Tuesday morning that a revision will be submitted. A 10% point reduction will be deducted for each day that a homework assignment is late.

Online students may submit work by Thursday of the week assignments are due (by 12:00 PM).

Incomplete Grades

An incomplete grade is given only for an exceptional reason such as a death in the family, a serious illness, etc. Any such reason must be documented. Please note that University guidelines require that you must be earning a passing grade at the time you request an incomplete grade. You should have completed most of the course, with at most one or two major forms of evaluation missing. Any incomplete request must be made at least two weeks before the final, and approved by the Dean of the College of Computing and Digital Media. Any consequences resulting from a poor grade for the course will not be considered as valid reasons for such a request.

Coursework Grade Review Requests

Every effort is made to grade in a fair and consistent manner. Should a disagreement arise about a coursework grade, the student may submit a grade review request in writing to the instructor. The request must be submitted within 48 hours after the assignment grade has been posted. The request must include the student's argument for a different grade evaluation, based on verifiable evidence presented by the student. The instructor handles grade review requests and responds to the student with a review decision as soon as possible.

Academic Integrity Policy

This course will be subject to the faculty council rules on the Academic Integrity Policy. Cheating includes plagiarism, fraud, and other forms of academic dishonesty. University guidelines on academic integrity and plagiarism can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu>.

Plagiarism

The university and school policy on plagiarism can be summarized as follows: Students in this course, as well as all other courses in which independent research or writing play a vital part in the course requirements, should be aware of the strong sanctions that can be imposed against someone guilty of plagiarism. If proven, a charge of plagiarism could result in an automatic F in the course and possible expulsion. The strongest of sanctions will be imposed on anyone who submits as his/her own work a report, examination paper, computer file, lab report, or other assignment which has been prepared by someone else. If you have any questions or doubts about what plagiarism entails or how to properly acknowledge source materials, be sure to consult the instructor.

Resources for Students with Disabilities

Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential.

To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted either:

- PLuS Program (for LD, AD/HD) at 773-325-4239 in SAC 220
- The Office for Students with Disabilities (for all other disabilities) at 773-325-7290 Student Center 307

Online Instructor Evaluation

Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student's identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over two weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation.