

COMP 7517/8517

Introduction to Human-Computer Interaction Syllabus

Spring 2024

All course information will be posted on the course website. Canvas will only be used for assignment submissions and grades. For your convenience, all class sessions have been added to the Canvas calendar, which you can link to your calendar app.

The course syllabus (and other course content) can be found here: <https://sites.google.com/view/hci-uofm-spring2024/syllabus>

Course Description

How do we design interfaces and digital systems that users are excited to interact with? How do we analyze or evaluate the systems we create? In this course, students will learn user-centered research methods for data collection, data analysis, system design and prototyping through a series of team projects.

This course will help you become an effective system designer and analyst. You will learn to communicate with system users to improve design, collect and analyze information about the users of a system, design new systems that achieve user goals, and work in teams.

Course Time and Location

Class: Tues/Thurs @ 1:00 - 2:25pm Dunn Hall room 118

Final Exam: May 2 @ 10:30am - 12:30pm Dunn Hall room 118

Course Staff



Dr. Amy Cook

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Dunn Hall 113

Office Hours: virtually, by appointment



Dr. Brandon Booth

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Dunn Hall 392

Office Hours: virtually, by appointment

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Key Resources

- **University Email** – check it daily! This is the **primary way we will communicate with you outside of class**.
- **Canvas** - for course announcements, assignment submissions, grades and feedback
- **Course website** – We will post slides, assignment details, and announcements here.
- **Required Texts** – there are no required texts for this course

Grading

All assignments will be graded using a rubric. The rubric will be shared when the assignment is posted. Read the rubric carefully before you submit your assignments.

Grade Computation:

Assignments	(8% each)	80%
Participation		10%
Final Exam		10%

Grading Scale:

▪ A+ ≥97%	B+ 89-87	C+ 79-77	D+ 69-67
▪ A 96-93	B 86-83	C 76-73	D 66-63
▪ A- 92-90	B- 82-80	C- 72-70	F ≤62%

Class Attendance Policy

Attending and participating in class represents 10% of your grade for this course.

- Every student gets 2 "freebies", no questions asked. After that, each missed class session will result in a 1% deduction from your participation grade.
- If you are missing class, inform your teammates ahead of time.
- Students who are more than 10 minutes late to class will not get attendance credit for that day.
- **Note:** these "freebies" are intended to cover illness and contingencies. Plan to attend every lecture.

Late / Makeup Assignment Policy

All assignments are expected to be completed and turned in on schedule. Due dates will be clearly indicated for each assignment. Late assignments are NOT accepted except in extreme circumstances. Likewise, makeup exams will be given only under extreme circumstances. If you feel that

your circumstances warrant a late work submission or a makeup exam, get in touch with us and with your team as soon as possible. Be prepared to show some kind of documented proof of your situation.

FAQs

Can I work by myself instead of on a team?

No.

How will teams be formed?

Teams will be formed in class to ensure each team has members with a variety of skills necessary to be successful on assignments. Teams will stay together throughout the semester.

What counts as cheating?

Almost all assignments in this class are team-based. We expect that teammates will work closely together and submit assignments. We also expect that as good classroom citizens, you will sometimes help out people on other teams. You may also use outside sources of information or personal contacts to help complete assignments. However, **you must credit all sources and collaborators. Failure to do so will be considered cheating.** You do not need to credit the course website or course texts. Every other source of help, including ChatGPT or other people in the class or on your team, should be acknowledged.

If we determine that you have copied something directly from a book, the Internet, or some other source without acknowledging it, you will receive a failing grade on the assignment and (at our discretion) a failing grade in the course. If we determine that you have copied another student's assignment, this will happen to both you and the person from whom you copied. The incident may also be forwarded to the University Office of Student Accountability for further disciplinary action. Please don't put us in this situation.

What should I do if I have a disability?

If you have a disability that may require assistance or accommodations, or if you have any questions related to any accommodation for testing, note taking, reading, etc., please speak with us as soon as possible. You must contact the Disability Resources for Students office [\(901\)678-2880](tel:9016782880) to officially request such accommodations / services.

What should I do if I'm experiencing academic stress, difficult life events, or feelings of depression or anxiety?

Your well-being is important! Please take care of yourself. That might mean eating well, exercising, avoiding drugs and alcohol, getting enough sleep, limiting screen time, and taking time to relax.

Everyone needs someone to talk to. You are not alone. Asking for support sooner rather than later is often helpful.

The UofM provides confidential counseling services both on-campus and through telehealth. These services are free to students enrolled in six or more credits and late-stage doctoral students taking dissertation credits. The Counseling Center is staffed by experienced, licensed professionals, including psychologists, clinical social workers and counselors, all of whom understand the unique needs of college students.

To access the Counseling Center's services, students have multiple options. They can visit the main campus locations at 211 and 214 Wilder Tower, call [\(901\)678-2068](tel:9016782068), or join the virtual waiting room at uofmcounseling.doxy.me/counselingwaitingroom. Walk-in hours are offered from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Furthermore, the Counseling Center has recently enhanced and expanded its after-hours crisis service, known as the [Tiger Care Line](#). Students facing a mental health crisis outside of regular business hours, including weekends, holidays or campus closures, now have the option to dial the Counseling Center's main number at [\(901\)678-2068](tel:9016782068) and choose option 2. This will connect them to a skilled counselor who is ready to assist.

Coping abilities, connections and a sense of belonging are essential elements of a successful student experience, and the Counseling Center has developed an extensive outreach program to support students in these areas. The programs are located at memphis.edu/counseling/outreach/index.php. If you find any workshops you believe your faculty, staff and students may benefit from, you can request the counseling center to bring the workshop to your program at the link listed above.

Finally, the Counseling Center offers students access to the Relaxation Zone, a dedicated area to unwind, relax, and manage stress. The Relaxation Zone is located at 302 Brister Hall. To learn more about the Relaxation Zone and the benefits it offers, please visit the following link: memphis.edu/counseling/relaxation-zone/index.php. To know more about Student Health and Counseling services, you can visit their website at memphis.edu/shcs/.