Informatics 231: Course Introduction

Gillian R. Hayes October 2, 2012

With credit to Julie Kientz, Khai Truong, Jake Wobbrock, Dave Hendry, Andy Ko, Jennifer Turns, & Elaine Huang

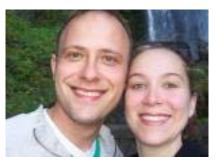
Me

Assistant Professor in Informatics & Education, UC Irvine

Research in Human-Computer Interaction and Ubiquitous Computing for Vulnerable Populations

Contacting me: Email is best.... Then try in person or phone











You

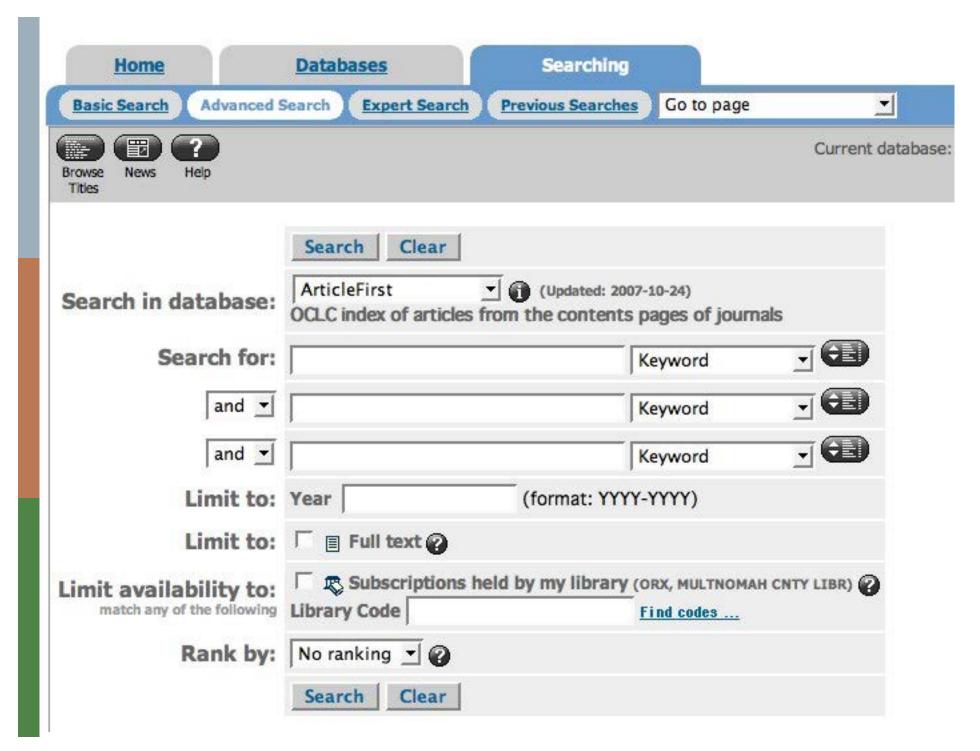
From a variety of programs: Computer Science, Engineering Management, ICS, Net Systems, Psychology & Behavior, Software Engineering

7 PhD students & 23 MS students

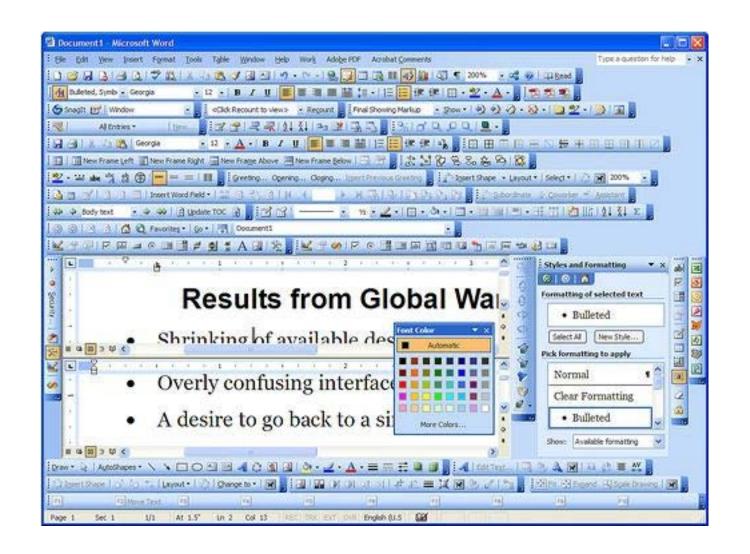
You all recently registered for class, got information about this class online, etc.

Was that painful?

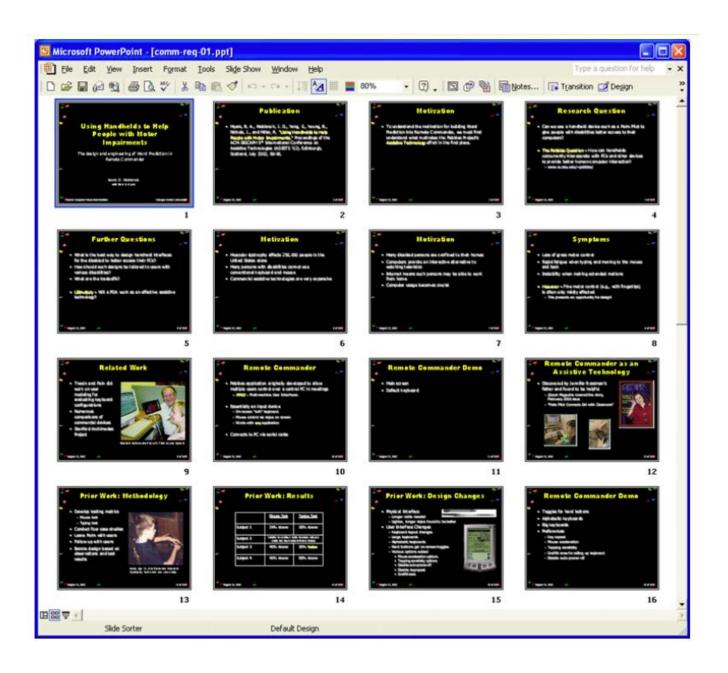
- •How do you know?
- Sometimes, painful isn't so obvious



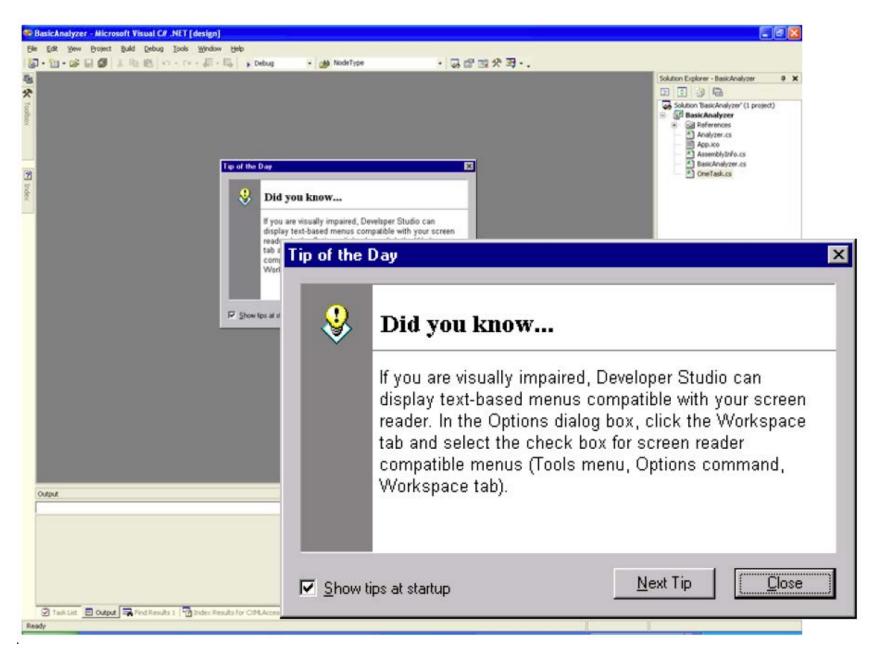




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Bad design is everywhere!











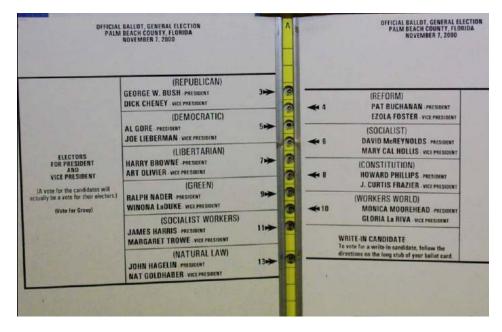
Bad design can have big consequences

- Money
 - \$60,000 disappeared

Additional Principal

200,00 (e.g., 300.00)

- Social issues
 - Voting



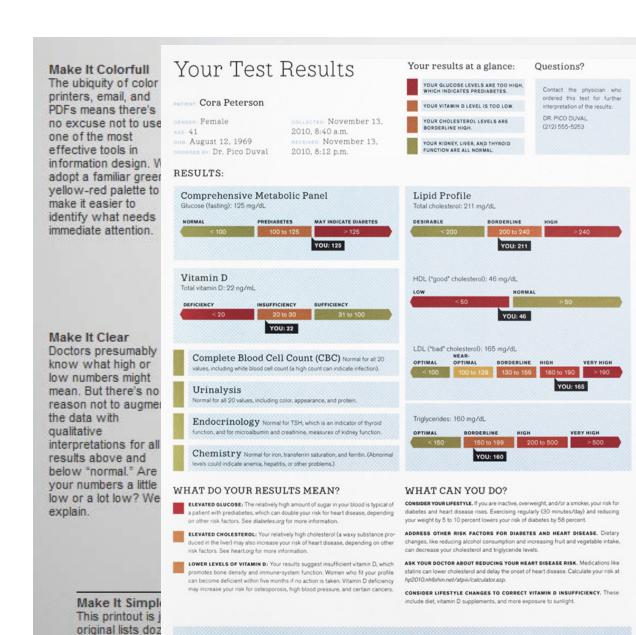
Bad design can have big consequences

Human Lives

- Therac-25 Radiation Therapy machine
- Air traffic accidents
 - Iran Air 655 Airbus shot down by USS Vincennes' missiles (290 dead); Human error plus confusing and incomplete Aegis interface (S 13 4); Commentary on Tom Wicker article on Vincennes and SDI (S 13 4); Aegis user interface changes recommended; altitude, IFF problems (S 14 1); Analysis implicates Aegis displays and crew (Aerospace America, Apr 1989); Discussion of further intrinsic limitations (Matt Jaffe, S 14 5, R 8 74); USS Sides Cmdr David Carlson questions attack on Iranian jet (S 14 6)

But we can try to help

- NYNEX was going to buy new workstation for their telephone operators
 - Each second saved per call saves \$3M/yr.
 - User modeling discovered it would be 3% slower than original
 - NYNEX did not buy workstation
 - Prevented mistake, saved \$2M/yr.



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Laboratory for Ubiquitous Computing and Interaction

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Summary

- Design is everywhere
- Design is hard
- Most everything is designed
 - Much of it poorly
- Economic ramifications
- Life and death in certain situations
- There is hope!

Agenda

Motivation – Bad Interface Designs

More bad designs: http://www.baddesigns.com/

Introductions

- Instructor, You

Review of Syllabus

What this course is about

Next class

Introductions – You – Design Activity

- Invent a control for a **smart home of the future** by:
 - 1. Describing the **users**
 - 2. Describing the users' needs
 - 3. Describing the functions
 - 4. Sketching its appearance

Design Activity: Process

1. Design Time (10 minutes)

- a. Work in teams of 4
- b. Define users, needs, and functions
- c. Create a sketch

2. Presentation Time (1 minute each)

- a. My Name is ...
- b. My Name is ...
- c. This is our control <show sketch>
- d. This control is for ... <describe **users**>
- e. Use this control to ... <describe **functions**>

Design Activity: Reflection

Interaction Design – designing interactive products to support the way people communicate and interact in their everyday and working lives in a way that creates an overall positive, engaging, and productive experience

Lets talk course requirements...

Basic Course Info

- Website:
 - http://www.gillianhayes.com/Inf231F12
- •Mailing List:
 - Inf231-F12@classes.uci.edu

Assessment

| Component | Worth |
|------------------------|-------|
| Class Participation | 10% |
| Reading Reflections | 10% |
| Individual Assignments | 30% |
| Sketching Project | 10% |
| Group Design Project | 40% |

Grades will be posted on EEE's gradebook

Participation

- •Treat all with respect be constructive in all discussions
- •Come to class prepared read carefully prior to class meetings
- •Be an active listener be attentive, be engaged, use in-class technology with discretion
- Ask challenging questions
- Comment, build on, or clarify others' contributions
- Help your classmates use technologies
- Post useful or interesting information to the class discussion list

Readings

- ■There is **a lot** of reading in this course
 - As graduate students, I assume that you like to read
- •All readings except DFAB textbook are available on course web page
 - None of the readings are pointless
- Reading Reflections
 - Rn on the schedule
 - About 400-600 words per response
 - Let's vote: In person or on blog?

Assignments

| Assignment | Due |
|---------------------------|----------|
| A1: Thinking About Design | 10/11/12 |
| A2: Look, Learn, Ask, Try | 10/25/12 |
| A3: Paper Prototype | 11/27/12 |

Project – 40%

 Group project enabling you to apply the lessons learned in class to a real problem

- Work in teams of 3 or 4
- Teams & project topics determined weeks 2-3
- Class time will be provided for coordinating team efforts

Project Topics

- CHI 2012 Student Design Competition Theme
 - Empowering the Crowd: Changing Perspectives Through Collaboration
 - http://chi2013.acm.org/authors/call-for-participation/student-competitions/student-design-competition
- Anything else you're interested in
- More guidance will be given later on

Project

| Project Component | Worth | Due Date |
|--|-------|------------------------|
| Po: Design Question & Team Form | 1% | 10/11/12 |
| P1: User Research & Personas | 10% | 10/30/12 |
| P2: Ideation & Sketching | 5% | 11/13/12 & 11/15/12 |
| P3: Prototypes | 10% | 12/4/12 |
| P4: Final Report including Evaluation Plan | 14% | Finals Week |

Team Composition

- 4 members from a diverse team
 - You get to choose the teams....
 - ...but I get some input

- By one week from today, I want to see team formation
 - At least two different "majors"
 - Other kinds of diversity gender, nationality, etc.

Sketching Project – 10%

- Think about the products and things you use in everyday life
 - They were all designed by someone!
 - Designs are rarely perfect the first time
- Sketching is an important skill in design
 - Quantity + Practice increases ability
 - Sketching is an activity and thought process and way of communicating ideas to others

Sketching Project

In weeks 2-7, sketch at least 3 new ideas for how you might improve everyday interactive objects relating to

that week's theme



DALLOWN THE SIZE OF HUMAN HEAD

HEADPHONES 2

LOTS OF STICKY TAPE

CRITCH - MIC STAND

•Must have at least 18 sketches by the end of the quarter

Sketching Project

- **Each Thursday in weeks 2-7** bring your sketchbook to class with 3 sketcthes
- You will meet in small groups to critique each others' ideas and take notes
- •At the end of the quarter, you'll submit your sketchbook and a short report that reflects on your experience

Policies

- Academic integrity
- Grading
- Extensions
- Late assignments
- Accommodation
- •Quality of written assignments
- Attendance
- Food

My Expectations of You

- Be here on time
- Do the readings before class
- Turn in everything on time
- Speak up in class
- Turn off cell phones, no texting
- ■No email, IM, web
- Respect each other
- There are no stupid questions/ideas

What You Can Expect of Me

- ■I will be here on time
- Your assignments will be graded in a timely manner
 - Typically within 1-2 weeks
- I will respond to email in a timely manner
 - Typically within 24 hours; if not, PLEASE RESEND
- If I don't know the answer to your question, I will find out
- I will treat you as professional colleagues
- You will have an opportunity to evaluate both me and the course

Course Topics

- Design Process, Fundamentals of Interaction
- User Research Methods
- Conveying User Research
- Sketching
- Prototyping
- Evaluation
- Current Trends & Issues

What this course isn't

- This course isn't about technology
- It isn't (just) about user interfaces
- It isn't about "user friendly"
- It isn't about programming

What this course is

- ■This course is about engaging users to design the human-computer *system*
- It is about interaction, not interface
- It is about user success
 - "User friendly" isn't enough
- •Mantra: "The user is not like me!"

What you will learn

Design

- design process
- design methods
- creating useful and usable things!

Science

- conduct usability evaluations
- empirical methods, how to handle data

Art

- an eye for the good, the bad, and the ugly
- what to do about them

Questions???