Syllabus Developing and Designing Interactive Devices

Fall 2019

CS5424/ECE5413/INFO5345

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Description

This course provides an introduction to the human-centered and technical workings behind interactive devices ranging from cell phones and video controllers to household appliances and smart cars. This is a hands-on, lab-based course. Topics include electronics prototyping, interface prototyping, sensors and actuators, microcontroller development, physical prototyping and user testing.

For the final project, students will build a functional interactive device of their own design, using Javascript, single-board Linux computer, embedded microcontrollers, and other electronics components.

Attendance

It is important to be in class. Students are expected to be present throughout each semester at all meetings of classes for which they are enrolled. You do not need our permission if you need to miss class for some reason. Of course the absence will impact your performance in the class.

Please do not come to class if you are sick. In light of the rise of influenza cases during this season, the Center for Disease Control recommends students with flu-like symptoms self-isolate until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever.

If you do miss class, the expectation is that you will contact fellow students to find out what occurs in class, to catch up on course announcements, and to otherwise make up for lost time.

Late Policy

Lab prep will be due in class on Thursdays. Lab assignments will be due by class on Tuesdays. Since the labs are cumulative—each one depends on your understanding of the previous one—it is essential to stay caught up.

Late assignments will be dropped one letter grade per day late.

Textbook Practical Electronics for Inventors, 4th edition

Paul Schertz & Simon Monk

In stock on Amazon.com

Course site Please find the course website on https://github.com/FAR-Lab/Developing-and-Designing-Interactive-Devices

Grading Your final grade will be based on:

Lab assignments (40%) Final project (25%) Homework assignments (25%) Class participation (10%)

While technical functionality will be a major component of homework, labs and the final project, this is a design class. A sizable portion of the class grade will be based on a subjective evaluation of your device designs.

Very technically simple designs can be great, and very technically complex designs can be wanting, so focus on developing a "design eye" rather than trying to make the most ambitious feature-laden projects imaginable.

We will strictly follow Cornell's policies on academic integrity as outlined in the Academic Integrity Handbook.

In this class, we make substantial use of open-source software. We encourage you to make use of found code and online examples, and also for the class to act as a microcosm of the open-source community by assisting and collaborating with one another.

That said, proper attribution of all work, assistance and collaboration is absolutely critical in this endeavor. We expect you to be absolutely meticulous in documenting and celebrating shared ideas and code.

We are happy to make accommodations to make this course accessible to all students. Please contact the teaching team if you need help. Also, the Office of Student Disability Services (http://sds.cornell.edu) may have services available.

The following is a provisional schedule.

Integrity

Accessibility

Schedule

Week	Topic	
1		August 29
		Introductions & Course overview
2	September 3	September 5
	Basic Circuits, Microcontrollers	Lab: Light it up
3	September 10	September 12
	Firmware Programming, Interaction Design	Lab: Digital Timer
4	September 17	September 19
	Displays and Actuators	Lab: Data Logger
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5	September 24	September 26
	Using Integrated Circuits	Lab: Paper Displays
6	October 1	October 3
	Design, Making, Fabrication	
		Lab: Jack in a Box
7	October 8	October 10
	Single Board Computers,	Lab: Chatbot
	Microcontrollers vs. Microprocessors	
8	October 15	October 17
	FALL BREAK	Lab: Video Doorbell
9	October 22	October 24
	Networking/Communications/Distributed Applications	Project Madness
10	October 29	October 31
	Neural nets for Sound	Project Time

11	November 5	November 7
	Evaluating Products with People	Project prototype fair
12	November 12	November 14
	Open Source Software/Hardware	Team project presentations
13	November 19	November 21
	Refining Prototypes	Project check-in
14	November 26	November 28
	Scaling Up, Manufacturing	THANKSGIVING RECESS
15	December 3	December 5
	Product Viability	Project Functional check off
16	December 10	

Final Project Fair