



# Human-Computer Interaction 2024/2025

**Lab Class 0**

**The Lab Class  
about Lab Classes**



universidade  
de aveiro

**deti**

departamento de  
electrónica, telecomunicações  
e informática

# Why should HCI Matter?

Computers Solve Problems, but  
for whom?

If people can't use a system easily,  
does it really work?

Designing with people in mind  
makes technology useful, efficient,  
and impactful



# But I master the technology very well... so why think about HCI?

- **Hard to use systems** lead to mistakes and stress
- **Fixing bad design takes time** and resources
- People **won't use something they don't understand**



# What do I have to gain?

- **Good design** makes technology successful
- **Understanding people** helps build better software
- **Thinking beyond code** leads to more innovation and impact



# Role of HCI in Companies

- Companies leverage HCI principles to **create better products and services**, leading to increased customer engagement
- Also relevant, **make technology more accessible** to everyone
- Experience in HCI helps bring critical thinking, user research, and data analysis skills that are essential for innovation
- HCI principles are applicable in industry, healthcare, finance, gaming, and other fields, increasing job opportunities

# Role of HCI in Companies

- HCI helps you stand out when the time comes!



Designing interactive systems is designing for what **people** need, helping them reach **their goals**



# Human Centred Design (HCD)

A problem-solving approach that focuses on the needs, behaviors, and experiences of **users at every stage of design**

**Empathy** – Understand user needs, contexts, and challenges

**Iteration** – design, test, and refine through feedback

**Usability** – Ensure the solution is intuitive and effective

**Co-creation** – Involve users in the design process

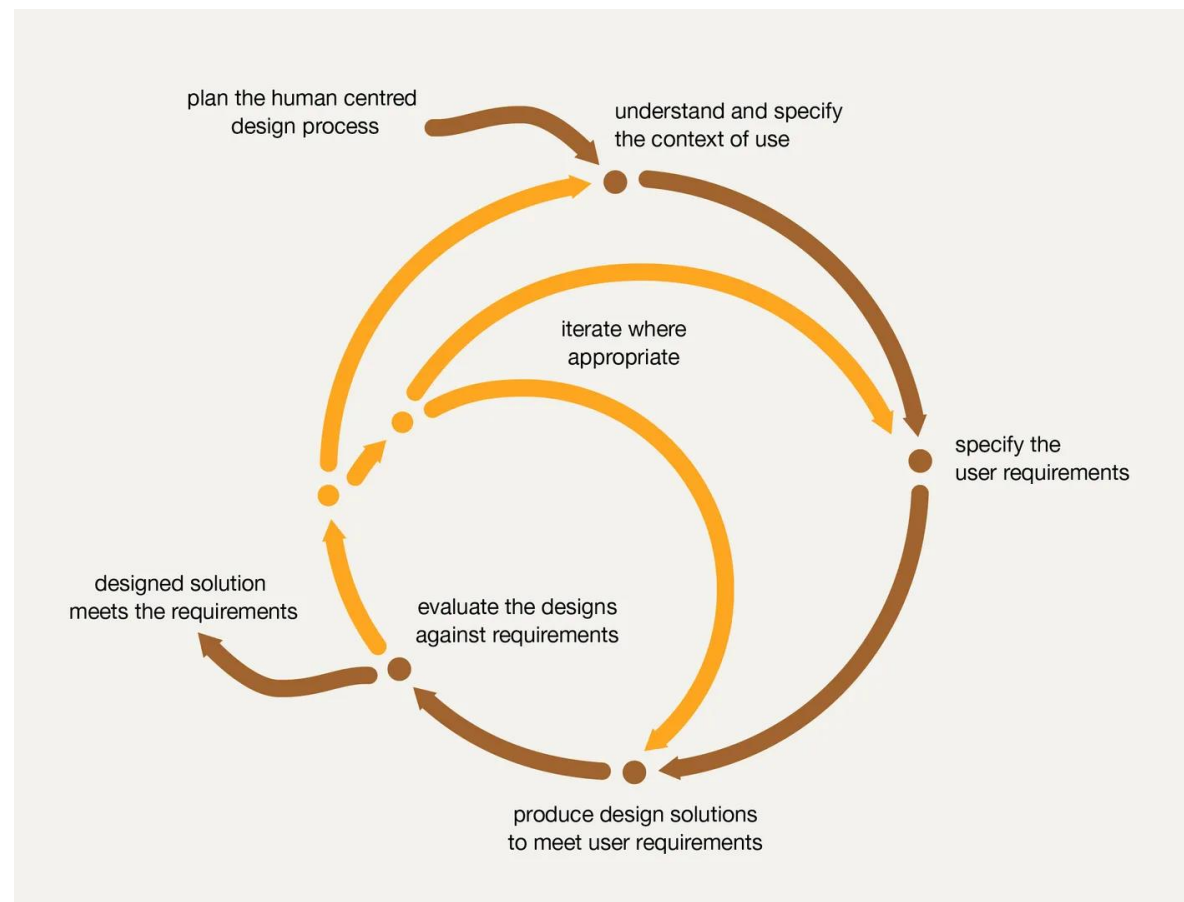




# Human Centred Design LifeCycle

The HCI course is built around an iterative HCD approach

How will we advance, over time?



# HCD Lifecycle and HCI Lab Classes

## W1

### Plan the HCD design process

- Form groups of 3
- Choose project idea
- Get familiar with the basics of HCD



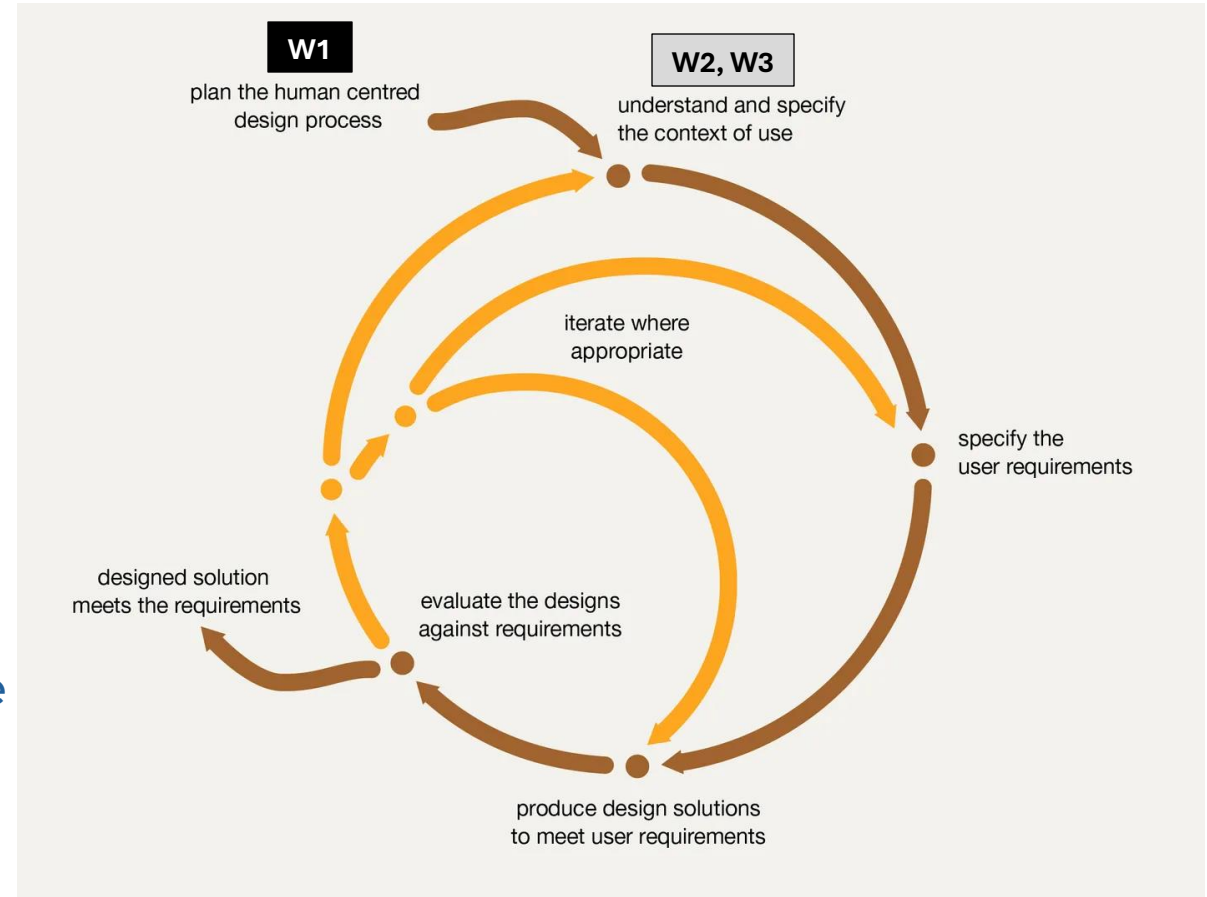
# HCD Lifecycle and HCI Lab Classes

## W2, W3

Understand and specify context of use

- Analyse competitors and current practices
- Define users and context scenarios

What is the problem? Who has it? How is the current status? Who are the competitors? How do they approach the problem? Can we do better?

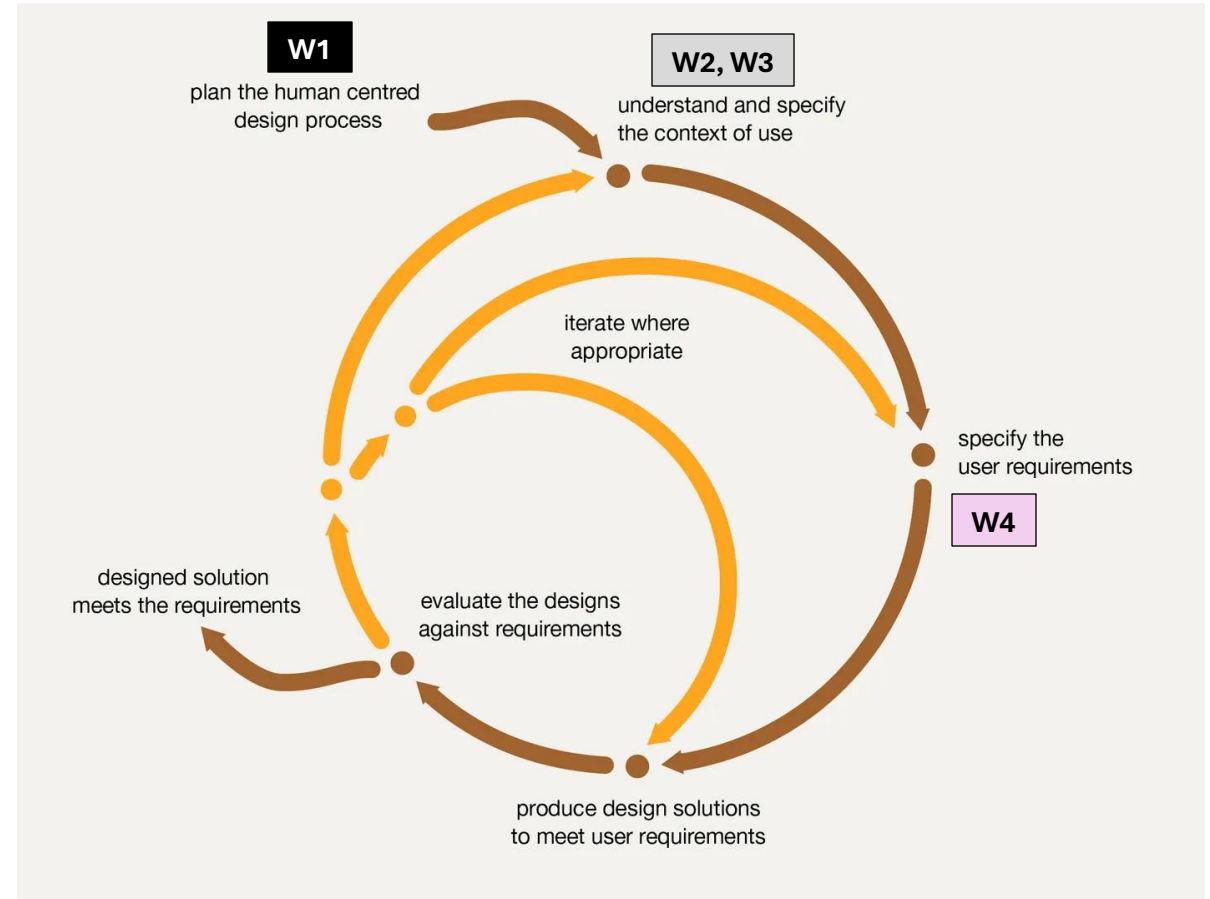


# HCD Lifecycle and HCI Lab Classes

## W4

### Requirement definition

So, what will our system need to do?

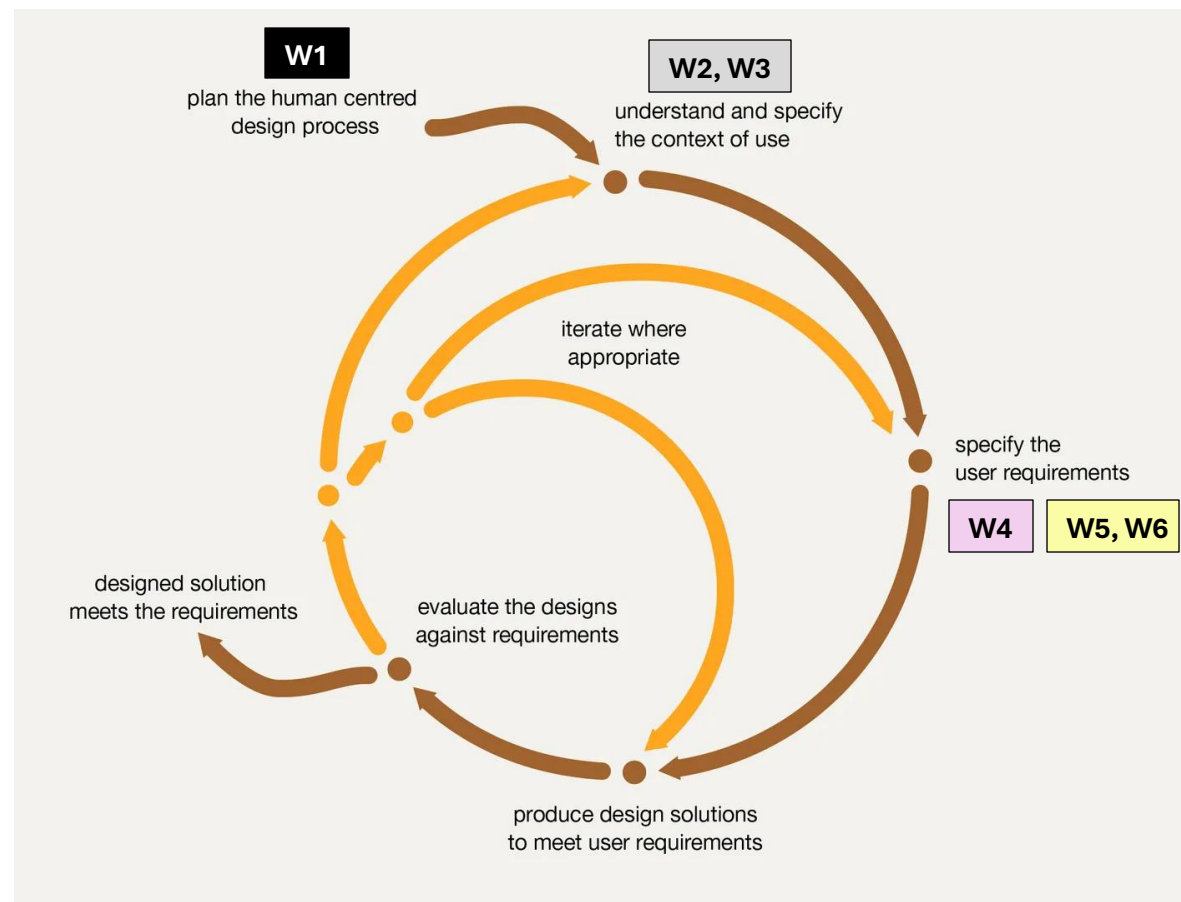


# HCD Lifecycle and HCI Lab Classes

## W5, W6

### First assignment

- Present problem, competitor analysis, contexts of use and requirements



# HCD Lifecycle and HCI Lab Classes

## W7

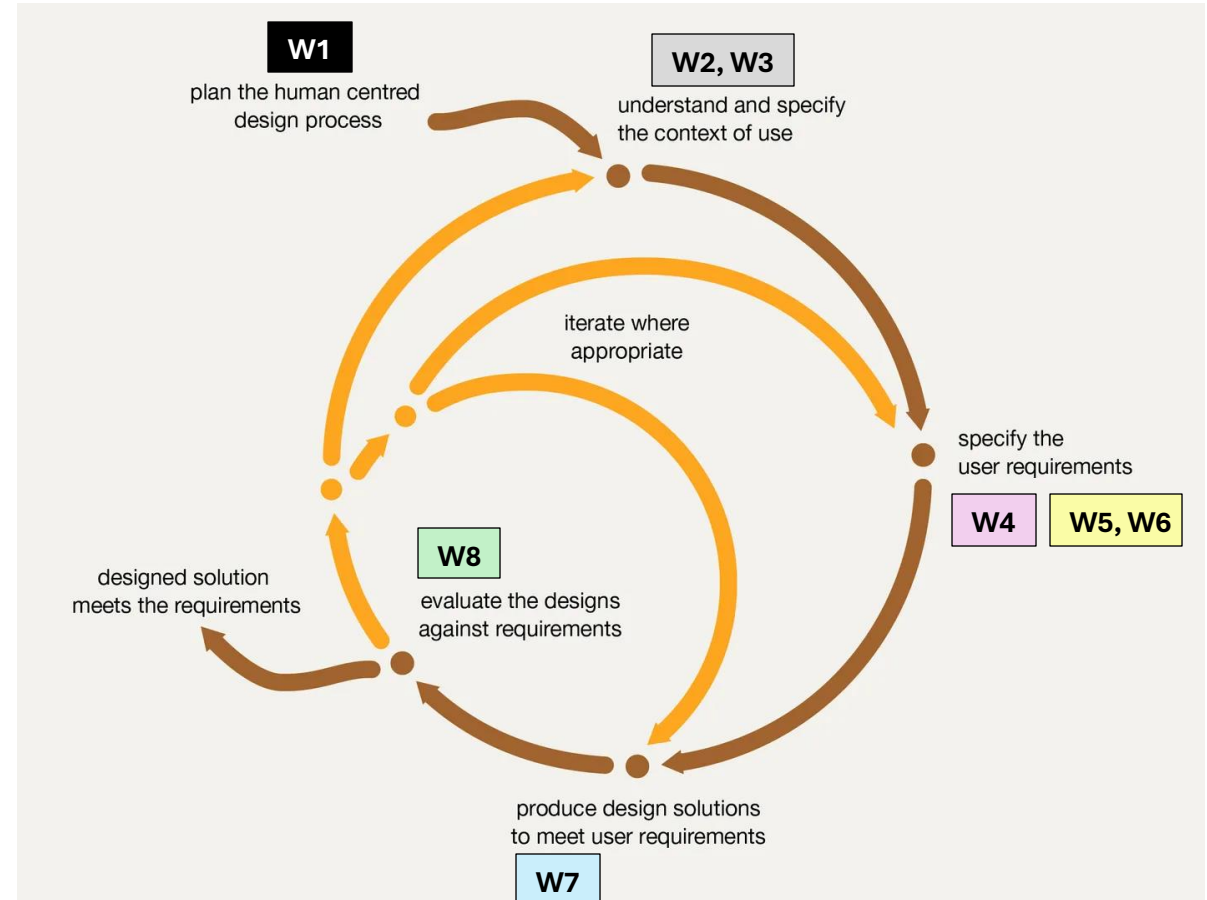
### Solution Design

- Make a lo-fi prototype of the interface

## W8

### Evaluate Design

- Evaluate prototype in class

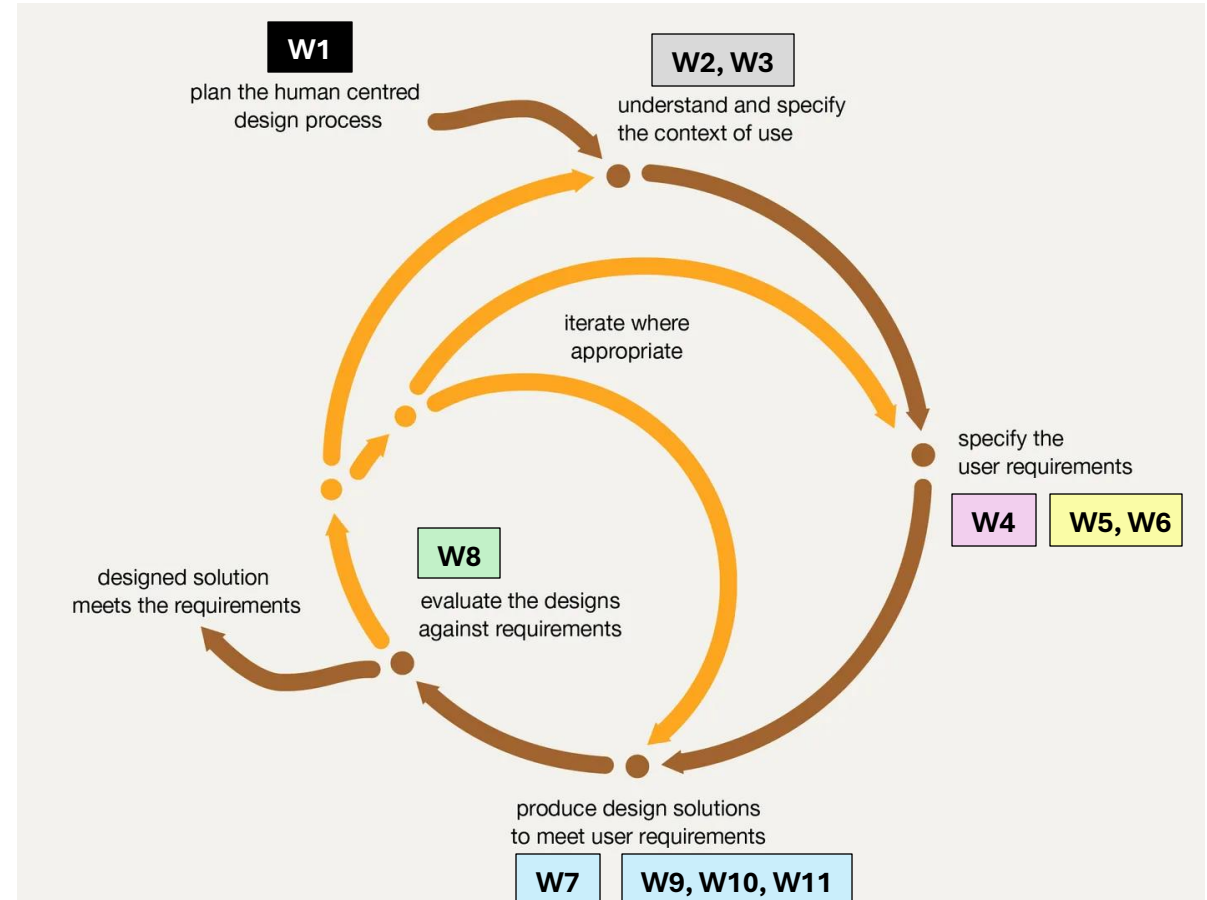




# HCD Lifecycle and HCI Lab Classes

## W9, W10, W11 Solution design

- Choose a framework and develop a functional prototype (interaction-wise)
- Backend not mandatory



# HCD Lifecycle and HCI Lab Classes

## W12

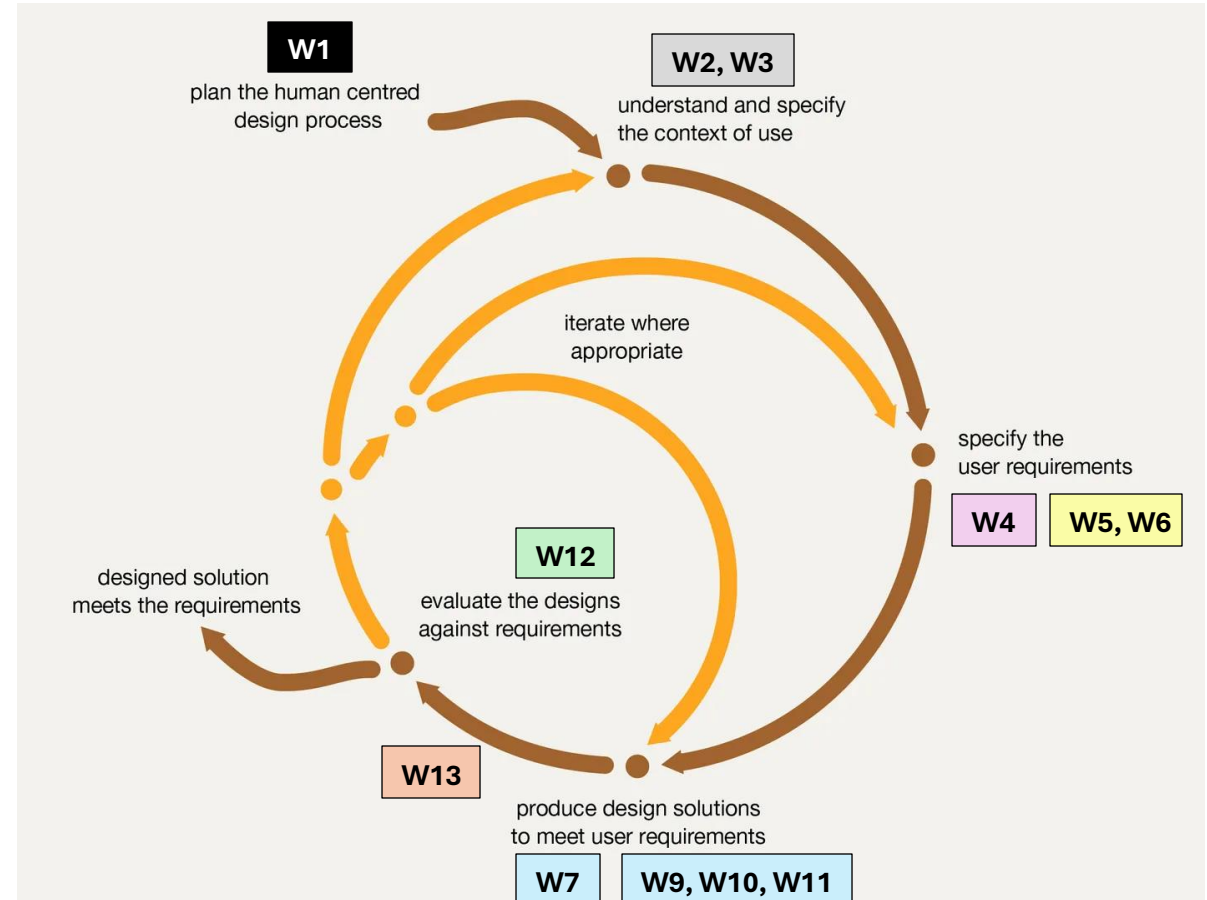
### Evaluate Design

- Evaluate functional prototype in-class

## W13

### Refinement and Reporting

- Final Refinement, Additional Testing

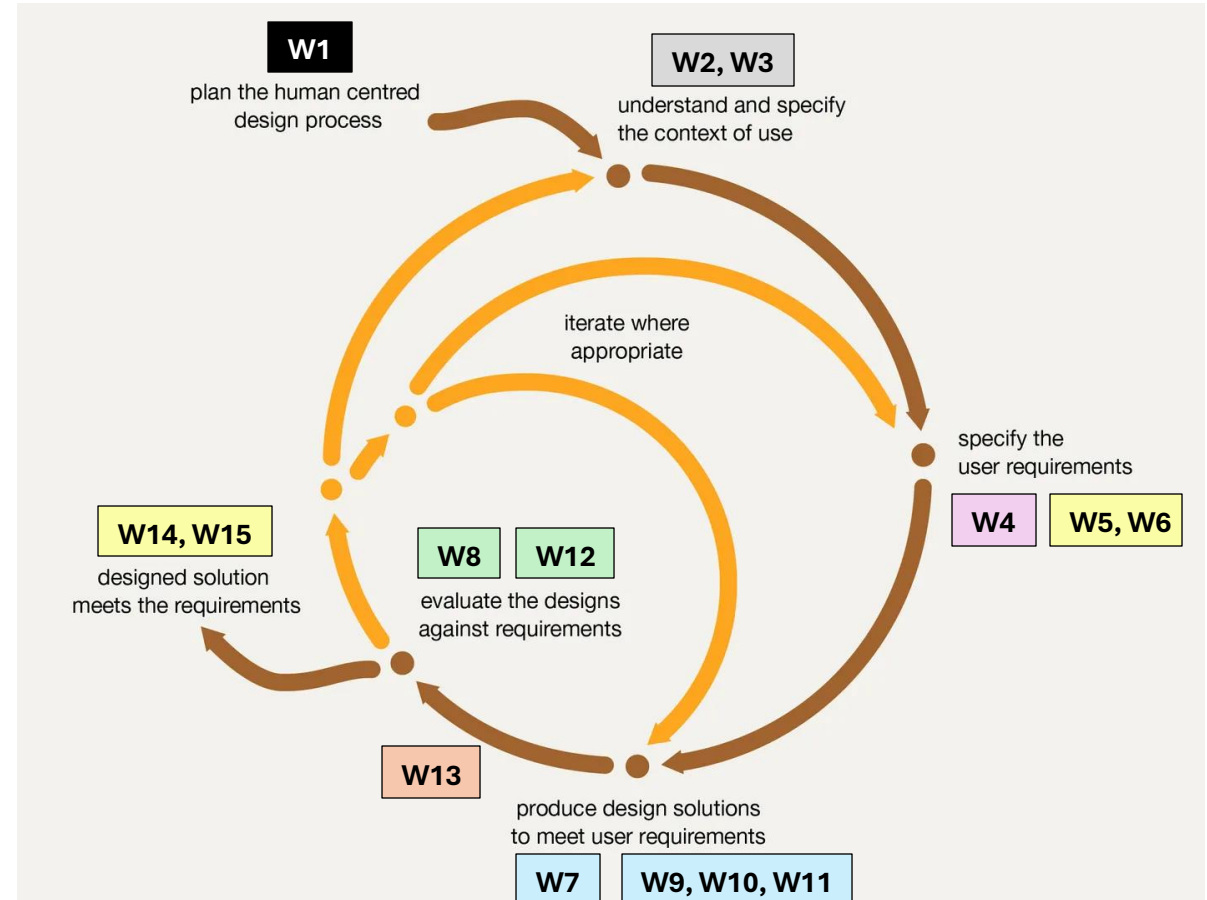


# HCD Lifecycle and HCI Lab Classes

## W14, W15

### Second Assignment

Present the entire work, summarizing requirement stage for context and describing iterative design and testing



# Assessment for the course

## TP

- Exam (45%)
- Article Presentation (10%)

## P

- 1<sup>st</sup> assignment (15%)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> assignment (30%)

**Minimum mark** in each component (TP / P): 7.5 / 20

# Assignments





# Assignments

## **W5, W6 – Requirement Analysis (15%)**

11/14 mar, 18/20 mar

Problem, competitors, challenges, users, scenarios, and requirements

In-class presentation  
15 minutes

**Deliverable:** Presentation Slides + Current Stage of **Logbook**



# Assignments

## **W14, W15 – Project Delivery (30%)**

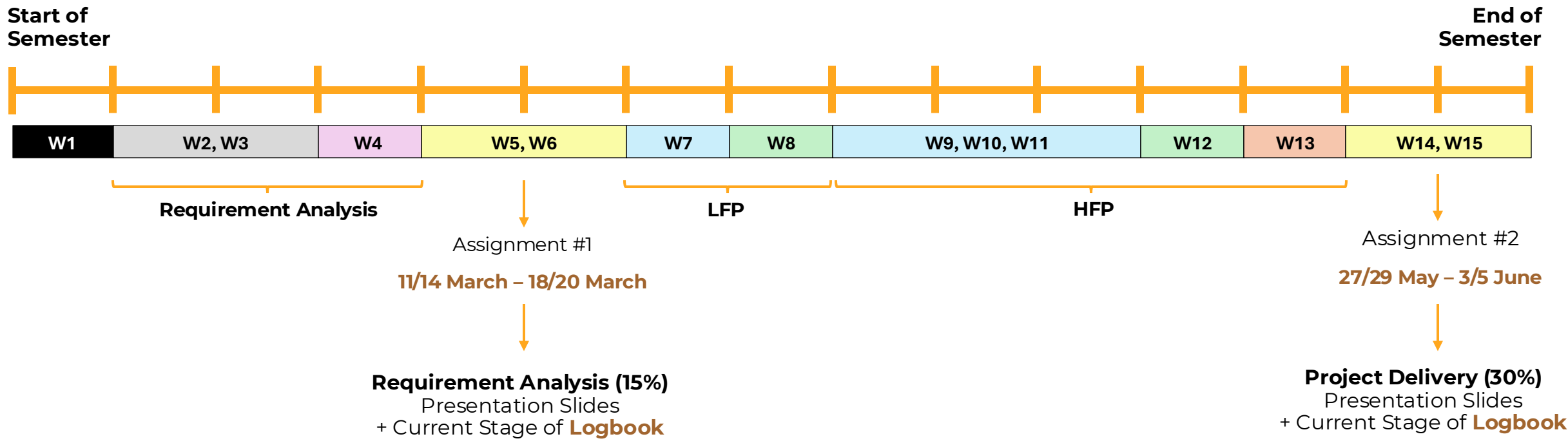
27/29 may, 3/5 jun

Summary of requirements, as context, followed by description of iterative design and development and critical discussion

In-class presentation  
15 minutes

**Deliverable:** Presentation Slides + **Logbook**

# Assignments – Summary Timeline



# Materials

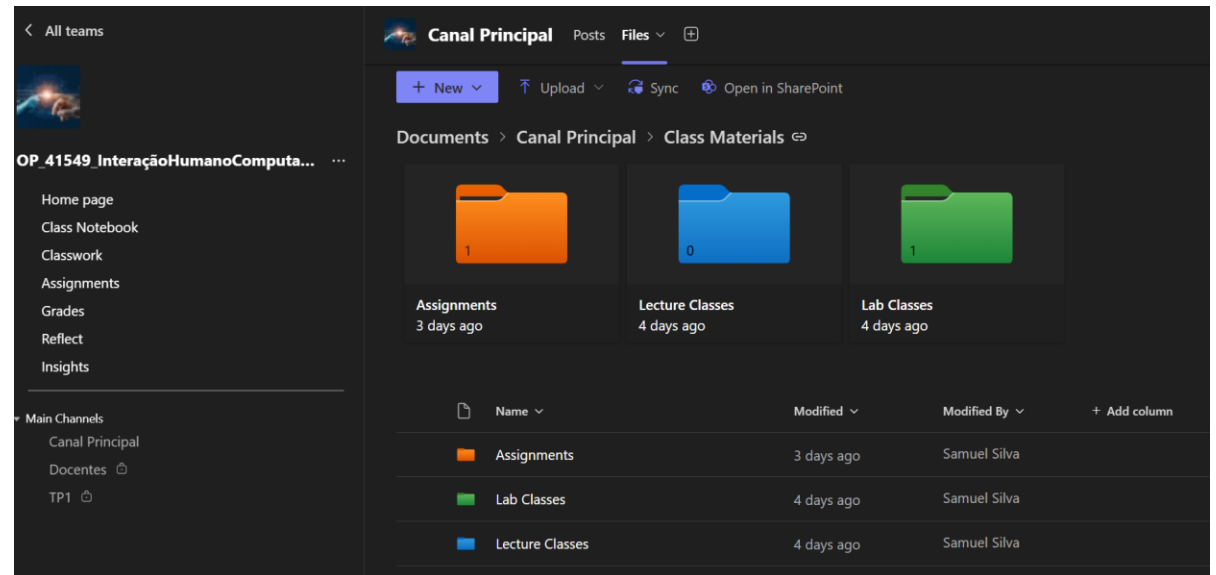
## Teams Group (OP\_41549\_InteraçãoHumanoComputador)

Main Channel (Canal Principal)

Files -> Class Materials ->  
Folder **Lab Classes**

Direct Link: [Lab Classes](#)

Assignment specific materials will also be made available in the assignment module, in Teams



# The Logbook

- An archive to gather everything you did during the course concerning your project
- In markdown format (.md), editable with vscode, obsidian, etc., supported in github
- A **template** of the logbook is **being prepared** to help you

# Tasks

## Levers

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# Let's get working...

- Form groups of **3 students**
- Discuss an idea for the project
- **Pitch it to the teacher** to assess adequacy



# Tasks to complete **until** next class...

Discuss among the group members and choose your project idea

Think about a small sentence that summarizes the problem and what you will provide

**Hint:** do it without mentioning a single piece of technology

# Registering the group and idea

Access the form below and insert the requested information **only if your idea has been approved by the lab teacher**

<https://forms.gle/5K83jg7cwZi5kJh17>