

CS 4593 901; CS 5463 903

# T: Intro to Human Comp Interac; T: Intro to Human-Comp Interac

Course Syllabus - Fall 2024



## Course Information

**Course Description:** Cross-listed courses include CS 4593.901, CS 5463.903

**Credit Hours:** 3; 3

**Course Modality:** Traditional in-person

## Meeting Times

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**Duration:** 08/26/2024-12/13/2024; 08/26/2024-12/13/2024

**Campus:** Downtown Campus; Downtown Campus

**Location:** [SP1 250](#); [SP1 250](#)

**Time(s):** TR 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM; TR 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

## Learning Goals

At the end of the course, you will be able to:

- map the historical roots of HCI to cognitive science and human factors, and identify outstanding research problems being studied in the field.
- apply HCI theory and guidelines to the design of user interfaces.
- identify and describe the methods used in each phase of the user-centered design process, and practice applying some of them (interviews, persona development, wireframe sketching, and prototyping).
- identify accessibility and usability issues faced by people with disabilities and prepare accessible digital documents.

- explain to others the meaning and importance of user-centered design.

## Communicate with Me

**Instructor Name:** Taslima Akter

**Department**

Computer Science

**Office Location**

SP1 410G

**Student Hours**

Wednesdays: 2 - 3 pm; Thursdays: 3 - 4 pm - in person at my office listed above.

**Email Address:** [taslima.akter@utsa.edu](mailto:taslima.akter@utsa.edu)

**CV Link**

<https://aktertaslima.github.io/>

**Preferred Method of Communication**

Email

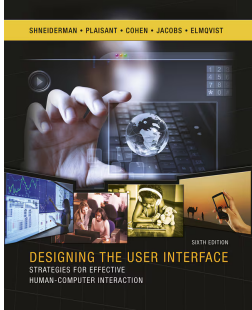
## About Me & My Teaching Philosophy

I prefer to be called Dr. Akter and use she/her pronouns. I am excited to be part of your academic journey this semester. I have been teaching for 3 years and have been at UTSA since August 2024. I earned my Ph.D. in Computer Science from Indiana University Bloomington, my Masters in Computer Science from Indiana University Bloomington, and my B.Sc in Computer Science and Engineering from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology. My primary research interests include Privacy, Accessibility, Human Computer Interaction, and Internet of Things (IoT). I am particularly excited about understanding and designing systems that can address privacy challenges faced by people with disabilities while using existing and emerging technologies. More information about my research can be found on my website - <https://aktertaslima.github.io/>

Inspired by my research, I strive to create inclusive classroom environments where students feel supported in overcoming educational challenges. My teaching approach emphasizes active engagement, interaction, and the development of problem-solving skills, curiosity, and critical thinking. I prioritize inclusivity and ensure that every student is actively involved. My goal is to foster a collaborative atmosphere that values diversity and firmly rejects microaggressions. Furthermore, I incorporate adaptability and self-reflection into my teaching practices, which enables ongoing personal growth and enhances the learning experience for my students.

## Course Materials

**Designing the User Interface: Strategies for Effective Human-Computer Interaction**



**ISBN:** 978-0134-38038-4

**Authors:** Ben Shneiderman, Catherine Plaisant, Maxine Cohen, Steven Jacobs, Niklas Elmqvist, Nicholas Diakopou

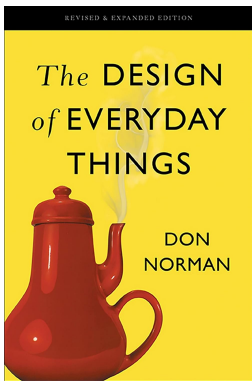
**Publisher:** Pearson

**Edition:** 6th edition

**Required/Recommended/Optional:** Required

**Additional Information**

Note: We are using the 6th edition. It has been significantly updated since the 5th edition, so be careful about which version you get. You might request a [digital copy](#) through the publisher.



**The Design Of Everyday Things**

**ISBN:** 9780465050659

**Authors:** Don Norman

**Required/Recommended/Optional:** Recommended

## Additional Course Information

Other readings will be made available on Canvas.

## Assessments and Assignments

### Projects, Activities, and Class Participation

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There will be four projects, three of which will be group projects. Project instructions and due dates will be posted in Canvas and introduced in class.

We will assign "Activity/Assignments" on Canvas for each class meetings, for a total of ~25 activities during the quarter. While I highly encourage students to participate in class synchronously, I understand that this is not always possible. Therefore, activities may be carried out asynchronously when necessary.

Research shows that learning happens in peer affinity groups. We will therefore assign you to "learning pods" of 3-4 students each for your project groups. In addition, we highly encourage you to get to know your classmates and instructors and participate in class discussions. This includes:

- Preparing to join discussions in class by reading the assigned materials in advance
- Participating during class by asking and answering questions or speaking up with examples
- Engaging with your professor before and after class and during office hours. I love chatting, helping you with things you don't understand, or exploring new ideas.

## Due Dates

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All activities will be due on Friday at 11:59 pm each week, with a 30-minute grace period. Late activity/assignment submissions will receive no credit. The lowest two activity/engagement submissions will be dropped. There will be no extensions for the project submissions. Late project submissions will be penalized with a 10% (one letter grade) deduction for each day late. Feedback will be delayed on late assignments.

If you have an unforeseen circumstance, an emergency, or an illness that prevents you from completing your work by the due date, please contact me as soon as reasonable to let me know and discuss any necessary deadline extensions or make-up work. I may request documentation to support your need for accommodations.

## Activities and Grading

Activity	Quantity	%
Activities/ Assignments	25	25%
Projects	4	70%
Class participation	5	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>100%</b>

Distribution of Course Assignments, Their Quantity, and Contribution to Final Grade.

## Grade Distribution and Letter Grade

Letter Grade	Grade Range
A+	100 - 97
A	< 97 - 93
A-	< 93 - 90
B+	< 90 - 87
B	< 87 - 83
B-	< 83 - 80
C+	< 80 - 77
C	< 77 - 73
C-	< 73 - 70
D+	< 70 - 67

Letter Grade	Grade Range
D	< 67 - 63
D-	< 63 - 60
F	< 60 - 0

Grade Distribution and Letter Grade

## Course Expectations & Policies

### Video and Audio Recording

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As the instructor of this course, I may record meetings and lessons. You are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class. If the instructor or a UTSA office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required before such use unless an exception is allowed by law. For more information on your privacy and class recordings, review [Student Privacy \(FERPA\) in Virtual Classrooms and Other Educational Recordings](#) and the [Guide to Secure Video Conferencing Tools](#).

### Generative Artificial Intelligence Use Guidance

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To best support your own learning, you should complete all graded assignments in this course yourself, without any use of generative artificial intelligence (AI). Please refrain from using AI tools to generate any content (text, video, audio, images, code, etc.) for an assignment or classroom exercise. Passing off any AI-generated content as your own (e.g., cutting and pasting content into written assignments, or paraphrasing AI content) constitutes a violation of academic integrity policy. If you have any questions about using generative AI in this course please email or talk to me.

### Technology Requirements and Etiquette

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You need access to a personal computer (Mac or Windows) for major amounts of time for this course. You need Internet access for this course. You must be able to save word processing files in a .doc or .docx (Microsoft Word) or .pdf format for sharing and submitting files to the instructor. You are expected to have working knowledge and capability with your computer before entering this class.

You can bring laptops, tablets, etc. to lectures but they are to be used solely for class-related work (e.g., Slack, Poll Everywhere, checking slides, accessing Canvas). Please silence all ringers and notifications. Doomscrolling TikTok, playing games, texting friends, or any other non-class-related activity is disrespectful to the instructors and your classmates. If this becomes an issue, we will explicitly ask you to close your computers and put away your phones.

We want the classroom to be a safe place for open discussion. Do not post the content of our discussions or anything about your fellow students (including pictures from class) online.

## Academic Freedom

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Academic freedom<sup>1</sup> is a cornerstone of the University. Academic freedom in its teaching aspect is fundamental for the protection of the rights of the teacher in teaching and of the student to freedom in learning.<sup>2</sup> Each faculty member is entitled to full freedom in the classroom discussing the subject that the faculty member teaches.<sup>3</sup> The University of Texas at San Antonio will not penalize or discipline members of the faculty because of their exercise of academic freedom.

Along with this freedom comes responsibility. It is the responsibility of faculty members to ensure that topics taught are related to the classroom subject. Students should be free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled.<sup>4</sup> It is not the proper role of the university or any outside agency to attempt to shield individuals from ideas and opinions they find unwelcome, disagreeable, or even deeply offensive.<sup>5</sup> Engaging with new ideas and perspectives helps students grow intellectually and is beneficial to the educational process.

1. Statement adapted from Texas A&M University's [Syllabus Statement Regarding Academic Freedom](#)
2. 1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure
3. Board of Regents Rule 31004; HOP Policy 4.02
4. American Association of University Professors Joint Statement on Rights and Freedoms of Students
5. The Chicago Statement

## Academic Integrity

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I expect you to submit your own work. When you use the ideas or words of others, you must cite your sources. Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. This includes copying material from the web (this will be checked), copying from past reports, and so on. You are responsible for ensuring that anything you turn in is not plagiarized. The penalty for plagiarism is, at a minimum, to receive a 0 on the assignment and have the case reported to the Dean's office. Particularly flagrant cases may receive more severe punishment (notably, failing the course).

### **Cheating includes:**

- Supplying or using work or answers that are not your own.
- Providing or accepting assistance with completing individual assignments or examinations.
- Faking data or results.
- Interfering in any way with someone else's work.
- Stealing an examination or solution from the teacher.

### **Plagiarism includes:**

- Copying materials from a source text without proper acknowledgment.
- Buying a paper from a research service or term paper mill.
- Turning in another student's work with or without that student's knowledge.

- Copying text from a source text, supplying proper documentation, but leaving out quotation marks.
- Paraphrasing materials from a source text without appropriate documentation.
- Turning in a paper from a term paper website.
- Copying texts or ideas from ChatGPT, Google Translate, or similar online tools unless specifically allowed by the assignment.

You should be on guard against plagiarism at all times. At any time that you read anything in preparation for a paper or consciously recall anything that you have read or heard, you must be prepared to provide documentation.

## Our Commitment to Inclusivity

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The University of Texas at San Antonio, a Hispanic Serving Institution situated in a global city that has been a crossroads of peoples and cultures for centuries, values diversity and inclusion in all aspects of university life. As an institution expressly founded to advance the education of Mexican Americans and other underserved communities, our university is committed to promoting access for all. UTSA, a premier public research university, fosters academic excellence through a community of dialogue, discovery and innovation that embraces the uniqueness of each voice.

## Syllabus Changes

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The syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion. Any changes/corrections to the course materials, assignment dates, or other updates will be communicated to the students ahead of time. You are responsible for checking Canvas for corrections or updates to the syllabus.

## Course Schedule

For a list of important university-wide dates, review [One Stop's academic calendar](#).

## Essential Student Information

- **Important:** Bookmark and visit the [Common Syllabus Information webpage](#) to find important and valuable resources about counseling services, transitory/minor medical issues, supplemental instruction, tutoring services, academic success coaching, sexual harassment and sexual misconduct, campus safety and emergency preparedness, and the Roadrunner Creed.
- For technical requirements, support, and resources, visit [Academic Innovation's Student Technical Support](#) page.
- UTSA provides reasonable accommodations to students via [Student Disability Services](#). For more details on eligibility, policies, and requirements, please visit [www.utsa.edu/disability](http://www.utsa.edu/disability) or call (210) 458-4157.

- Students at UTSA are responsible for ensuring their work is consistent with UTSA's standards for academic integrity. Students should review [Section 203 of the UTSA Student Code of Conduct](#) for appropriate standards of academic integrity.
- UTSA provides numerous services for students from counseling to tutoring to a food pantry. Visit [Student Affairs Programs and Services](#) and [Student Success](#) for more information.
- Visit the [UTSA Libraries and Museums](#) site for access to journals, research tutorials, and tech gear you can borrow and to find your department's librarian.
- Enroll in the [Roadrunner Success Playbook](#), an open enrollment, self-paced, online hub in Canvas tailored to ensure you have the resources you need to excel at UTSA.
- Follow [Digital Learning Netiquette](#) standards for your online communication activities.