Human-Centred Perspectives and Methods

CSCM69 - Coursework 1

Review and critique

- Digital communication tools
 - E.g., email, messaging apps, etc
 - Masses of tools, systems and research in this space

To what extent do they incorporate the human perspective?

Key tasks

- Review some academic literature in this area
- Synthesise: what does it say about how to make these things more effective for people?
- Critique a tool that you use
- Design your own (small) innovation

Deliverable

- A report in the CHI Conference Proceedings format
- Maximum of three pages (not including references)

Deadline: 23rd October

SIGCHI Conference Proceedings Format

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Authors' choice; of terms; separated; by semicolons; include commas, within terms only; this section is required.

 $\bullet Human\text{-}centered\ computing} \to Human\ computer\ inter$ action (HCI); Haptic devices; User studies; Please use the 2012 Classifiers and see this link to embed them in the text: https://dl.acm.org/ccs/ccs_flat.cfm

This format is to be used for submissions that are published in the conference proceedings. We wish to give this volume a consistent, high-quality appearance. We therefore ask that authors follow some simple guidelines. You should format your paper exactly like this document. The easiest way to do this is to replace the content with your own material. This document describes how to prepare your submissions using

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CHL'70. April 25-30. 2020. Honoluln HL USA

CHI'20, April 25-30, 2020, Honolulu, HI, USA

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Literature review

- What literature reviews have you read?
- What format did they have?
- What did they contribute to the work overall?
- Have you written one before?

What is a literature review?

- Thorough discussion of relevant previous work in an area
- Justifies a research problem, and your own approach/ viewpoint/methods
- Situates your work within the broader research context
- A key element of MSc and PhD dissertations/theses...

A good literature review

- Demonstrates the breadth and depth of your knowledge and thinking
- Clarifies your goals
- Makes clear and logical arguments
- Is transparently based on strong evidence from the papers you cite
- Draws tangible conclusions

A bad literature review

- Fails to justify opinions
- Has incomplete areas
- Has spurious (unrelated) references
- Is poorly structured

Review vs. citation

- An undergraduate project often "cites" related work without critical discussion or thematic analysis
- Literature reviews are much deeper and fundamental
- Underpins all of your research
- Is comprehensive (e.g., for your thesis)

Sources

- Start finding material early; rewrite often
- Writing about literature helps clarify your thinking, and understand how each paper contributes to your thesis
- The writing is part of the process
- Keep looking for gaps and other angles

Argument

- Common to underplay (or even ignore) this aspect
- Simply citing everything without analysis shows no thinking
- Highlight different ways of thinking in the field, and justify your own position

Final tips

- Read previous work (e.g., literature reviews)
- Read each others' work (with care and kindness)
- Find other academics / family / friends to read or review your work
- There are many books on academic writing (e.g., Marian Petre, Gordon Rugg: The Unwritten Rules Of Phd Research)
- Start now
 - Harold Thimbleby: Write Now!