

## COMP SCI 4HC3 - Human-Computer Interaction

### DESIGN Project Milestone #1 - Proposal

**Due Date:** Sept 26, 2017, in lecture.

**Late submissions:** Accepted up to 5 days late at a penalty of 20% per day.

*Note that you will \*still\* have to do this work even if you don't submit this milestone, as it will be required in your final report!*

*The purpose of the milestones is to help pace your work, and to provide you feedback to help improve your final report.*

**Grading:** This milestone is worth 10% of your project grade

**Group Work:** This, and all project milestones, are group work. Groups consist of 3 or 4 students. Pick your team carefully, as you will work with these team-mates for the rest of the project. You will include the names of all group members with your submission (see below for details). All group members get the same grade.

#### **Project Proposal:**

For this first milestone, you will formally propose your project. This will set the stage for the rest of your project and will obviously influence how your project develops. Consequently, you should choose your project topic carefully. You can change it later if necessary, but you will need to provide a new proposal and software survey to do so.

For this part, you will propose to design a system with an effective user interface based on user-centered design principles discussed in class. For this first milestone, the goal is to pick a certain *class* of software that you will develop. Some examples follow:

- Media players
- Email clients
- Spreadsheet application
- Word processors
- File transfer applications
- Social media application
- Database application front-end
- Specialized websites
- Course management website (e.g., Avenue to Learn)

Other examples might include special hardware:

- Smartphone application to control your TV (assumes the smartphone has an IR emitter)
- Multi-DOF input device for 3D applications (e.g., like the specialized mice discussed in class with extra sensors)

These are but a few of the myriad of possibilities. You are encouraged to identify a novel topic on your own – consider your day-to-day software usage. What systems do you use that frustrate you? Can you improve on these? In all cases, the project will involve developing a semi-functional prototype – a first prototype/mockup for milestone #3, and a final prototype for milestone #4 (which will improve on MS#3 by incorporating user feedback after an evaluation phase).

The proposal should include:

- a) An overview of the topic/software/device of interest – tell me why you want to develop such a system
- b) Suggest issues with 1-2 examples within your software class (this will be added into your software survey)
- c) A brief description of how functional your final product will be (grading is based on usability not back end functionality, if your interface would involve a database, this interaction can be simulated)
- d) A high-level breakdown of the expected work involved, and duties assigned.

The proposal should be approximately 200 – 400 words (and no more than 1200). *It should be written in a fashion that will lend itself to being re-purposed later for your eventual final report* (which will basically serve as a “justification” of your chosen project). This will eventually be modified to be the introduction to your final report.

**\*Submission\* - Read all instructions carefully, marks will be deducted for failure to comply!**

Include (based on ACM CHI submission format) a title (note that this may change prior to your final report) and a list of "authors" (i.e., your group members – you can leave off “affiliation” information and keywords though). You will add to this document going forward in the course – so make sure you keep multiple backups!

Submit your document - original Word format or a PDF - to the Avenue link for originality checking by the date specified & submit a securely bound hard copy in lecture for marking. If your project does not seem ‘professional’, (i.e. appropriate for a work place project), marks may be deducted. Only one group member should submit this (but make sure all group members names appear in the document!). Be sure to also indicate if you are submitting a DESIGN or RESEARCH project in the “Abstract” section of your submission.