

COMP SCI 4HC3 - Human-Computer Interaction DESIGN Project Milestone #2 - Proposal and Software Survey

Due Date: October 19, 2016, 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!*

Recall that 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 15% 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. Include the names of all group members with your submission. All group members get the same grade. Sign up your groups on Avenue.

Software Survey & Proposal Revision:

You will likely make revisions to your proposal based on what you find during your software survey, so you will be resubmitting your (probably revised) proposal along with your survey. You should review *at minimum* 4 software/hardware applications that are similar to your proposed topic. For example, if you plan to develop a new media player application, you might look at Windows Media Player, VLC Media Player, etc. It should include a brief description of each of these applications and a high-level critique of any major usability flaws that appear. This will be similar to Assignment 1, but less in-depth (due to space constraints and the fact that you are reviewing four applications rather than one). In particular, you should focus on:

- identifying the *high-level* goals of the user of such a system – what is common to this type of application?
- identifying *tasks* the user must perform to achieve their goals

To this end, you should provide two hierarchical task analyses for each piece of software surveyed. These should target the functionality of the two most important/critical features of the software. Since the objective of this project is to design a better UI for software of your chosen type, consider these as prime features to improve upon going forward in your project.

You should also include screen caps of the software so as to inform the HTAs you submit.

Also, your survey probably should ***not*** focus on:

- low-level details – e.g., misplaced widgets, wrong widget used (unless these problems appear consistent throughout!)
- how you will correct these issues (this part comes later in Milestone #2)

Overall, you should view this part of the project as establishing the need for an improved UI by examining what already exists and where/how it is deficient. The actual design part will begin with the next milestone, where you will focus on improving on these issues.

The survey should be between 500 – 1000 words. You should also submit your 8 HTAs (charts) as attachments (i.e., each could follow at the end of your document). In addition to the survey, you should resubmit your proposal with any changes highlighted. We will want to get an *idea* of what will be unique/better/improved in your system (versus what already exists – this will be informed by your software survey).

Your revised proposal may be longer than your original and should be approximately 300 – 600 words (and no more than 1000).

Submission:

Your revised proposal, and then your software survey should be included in a single document using the ACM CHI submission format (available at http://www.sigchi.org/publications/chipubform/sigchi-papers-word-template/at_download/file). This should also include 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 - Word format or a PDF - to the Avenue link by the date specified. Only one group member should submit this (but again, make sure all group members names appear in the document!). Be sure to indicate if you are submitting a DESIGN or RESEARCH project in the “Abstract” section of your submission