

# Course Syllabus

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## Designing the User Experience (IS 247) - Spring 2024

Instructor: Alisha Pradhan

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Teaching assistant: Tongxin Li

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Meeting: Monday/Thursday 2:30-3:50 CKB 206

Office hours (Tongxin Li): TBD

Office hours (Alisha Pradhan): send email to schedule

Prerequisites: None

### Course Description:

This course covers the design and evaluation of the human-computer interface in interactive computer systems. Among the topics covered are approaches to interface design such as menus, commands, direct manipulation; screen layout strategies; metaphor models; models of human information processes; evaluation approaches such as protocol for analysis, interactive monitoring, use of surveys; and requirements for documentation and help. Students are expected to design interface mockups and evaluate them.

### Course Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Discuss User-Centered and User Experience Design processes
2. Identify and communicate user needs, problems and opportunities in UX
3. Design and communicate solutions using UX documents and artifacts
4. Create prototypes using analog and digital techniques
5. Evaluate existing solutions and prototypes
6. Collaborate as part of a team on a semester long project

### Grading Policy:

**Grade weights:**

Participation: 10%

Design Journals: 10%

Readings: 10%

Project Milestones: 20%

Final Project: 25%

Individual Contribution to the project: 20%

Reflection Paper: 5%

**Final grade rubric:**

A 90% and above

B+ 85-89%

B 80-84%

C+ 75-79%

C 70-74%

D 60-69%

F 59% and below

**Late Submission Policy:**

Reading assignments will not be accepted late

Journal submissions can be submitted one day late at a 1-point penalty

Late submissions on project milestones are subject to a 20% penalty per day

**Required Materials:**

About Face: The Essentials of Interaction Design - 4th Edition (ISBN: 1118766571)

**Course Outline:**

Note this is a tentative outline.

Module	Topic	Project work due
1 - Jan 15th	Introduction to UXD and UCD, Double diamond model	
2 - Jan 22nd	User needs research, Stakeholders identification, Problem statements	

3 - Jan 29th	Analysis of user data, Affinity mapping, Empathy mapping	
4 - Feb 5th	Communicating user needs, Problem scenarios, Informed design, High level vision	Milestone 1 - Draft
5 - Feb 12th	Lab - Milestone 1	Milestone 1
6 - Feb 19th	Design heuristics, User flow, Key-path scenarios, Journey maps, Communicating solutions, Sketching	
7 - Feb 26th	Paper prototyping, Wireframes, Low-fidelity prototypes	Milestone 2 - Draft
8 - March 4th	Milestone 2, User testing vs Heuristic evaluation	Milestone 2
9 - March 11th	Spring Break	
10 - Mar 18th	In-class testing, Iterative design, Medium-fidelity prototypes, Mockups, Visual and graphic design	
11 - Mar 25th	High fidelity prototyping, Special topic (Inclusive design)	Milestone 3 - Draft
12 - April 1st	Lab - Milestone 3	Milestone 3
13 - Apr 8th	Interactive design, Motion and animation, High fidelity prototyping, Special topic	
14 - April 15th	Lab - Milestone 4, Special topic	Milestone 4 - Draft
15 - April 22nd	In-class testing - Milestone 4, final presentations	Milestone 4
16 - April 29-30	Final presentations, Final review	

Finals week May 3rd	Final report submission	
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**Note:** Content and topics of individual sessions are subject to change.

### Academic Integrity Policy

“Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at:

<http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>.

Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university. If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at [dos@njit.edu](mailto:dos@njit.edu)”