



Designing the User Experience: IS 247

Course Modality:

In-person (CKB 315): Tuesdays and Thursdays | 1:00 PM - 2:20PM

Instructor and TA Information

Instructor	Email	Office Hours
Alisha Pradhan	alisha.pradhan@njit.edu	Thursdays: 2.45 PM - 3.45 PM Office: GITC 3420F Or reach out to set up meeting via Zoom

Teaching Assistant	Email	Office Hours
Esther Mba	eim@njit.edu	Wednesdays: 1.00 PM - 2.00 PM Office: GITC PhD Suite, 3rd Floor Or reach out to set up meeting via Zoom

General Information

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

Required Materials

All required reading materials are linked to in Canvas, and **you do not need to purchase a text for this course**. About Face is available through NJIT's library, and Design Methods is available online under a Creative Commons license.

- Cooper, Alan, et al. [*About Face: The Essentials of Interaction Design*](#), John Wiley & Sons, Incorporated, 2014.
- Ko, Amy J. [*Design Methods*](#), 2022.

Grading Policy

[NJIT Grading Legend](#)

Course Software

You can use *any* prototyping tools and/or digital applications that best fit your own/team's needs. The only requirement for online submissions is that they be publicly web-accessible (meaning that we don't need specific software, subscriptions, and/or accounts to view your work).

In case you need a recommendation for a prototyping tool, here are a few: Figma (you can use it for free as a student [here](#)), Axure (you can request a free student license [here](#), or Adobe XD (this requires a separate subscription not covered by this course or university).

Whatever tool you decide to use, it will be your responsibility to learn the software on your own, only up to the level to complete assignments.

Final Grade Calculation

Participation: 10%

Design Journals (weekly): 10%

Readings (weekly): 10%

Project Milestones: 20%

Final Project: 25%

Individual Contribution to the project: 20%
Reflection Paper: 5%

Letter to Number Grade Conversions

A 90% and above
B+ 85-89%
B 80-84%
C+ 75-79%
C 70-74%
D 60-69%
F 59% and below

Exam Information and Policies

There are no exams in this course.

Policy for Late Work

- Reading assignments will not be accepted late
- Design 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

For the final project packet, **no late submissions will be accepted.**

Academic Integrity

“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 [NJIT academic code of integrity policy](#).

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”

Course Schedule

Week	Topic	Assignment due
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1	Introduction to user experience design and user-centered design.	Introduce yourself Start thinking about projects
2	Stakeholders identification, problem statement, user needs research	Design journal (DJ) Reading assignment (RA)
3	User needs research (cnt'd), empathy mapping	DJ RA
4	Communicating user needs, Problem scenarios, High level vision	DJ RA User research Milestone 1 (first draft)
5	Presentation: Milestone 1	DJ RA Milestone 1 Individual contribution report -1
6	Journey maps, Ideation, Sketching	DJ RA
7	Ideation and sketching (continued), User flow, Paper prototyping/Low-fidelity prototypes	DJ RA Milestone 2- Draft
8	Design heuristics, Medium-high fidelity prototyping (intro)	Milestone 2 Individual contribution report -2 DJ RA
9	Spring break	
10	In-class testing of paper prototypes, Medium-high fidelity prototypes	DJ RA Mid-term participation Milestone 3- draft
11	Medium-high fidelity prototyping, Evaluation/testing of designs	DJ RA Milestone 3 Individual contribution report -3
12	Medium-High fidelity prototyping (continued), Prototype evaluation	DJ RA Milestone 4- draft
13	Preparing for final presentation and final videos	DJ RA

	"	Milestone 4 Individual contribution report -4
14	In class presentations: Milestone 2-4	DJ RA
15	Special topic: Inclusive Design of Technology	Extra credit
May 5 - 9	Final report, Final video and overall peer evaluation	Final project submission Final project video

Additional Information and Resources

Accessibility:

This course is offered through an accessible learning management system. For more information, please refer to Canvas's [Accessibility Statement](#).

Requesting Accommodations:

The Office of Accessibility Resources and Services works in partnership with administrators, faculty, and staff to provide reasonable accommodations and support services for students with disabilities who have provided their office with medical documentation to receive services.

If you are in need of accommodations due to a disability, please contact the [Office of Accessibility Resources and Services](#) to discuss your specific needs.

Resources for NJIT Online Students

NJIT is committed to student excellence. To ensure your success in this course and your program, the university offers a range of academic support centers and services. To learn more, please review these [Resources for NJIT Online Students](#), which include information related to technical support.