CIS*4300 – Human Computer Interaction [online]
0.50 Credits – Undergraduate – Fall 2021
School of Computer Science – University of Guelph

Lectures:
 Mon & Wed, 4:30pm-5:20pm

Labs:
 Thursdays, 2:30pm-4:20pm

Instructor:
 David Flatla <*dflatla@uoguelph.ca*>
 Office hours: by email appointment

Teaching Assistants:
 Connor Geddes <*cis4300@socs.uoguelph.ca*>
 Wanda Li <*cis4300@socs.uoguelph.ca*

Course Website: https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/d2l/home/709113
The course website will be used for all distributions and all submissions for this course. I will use it to post announcements, additional readings, assignment descriptions, grades, and Zoom links (and recordings) for lectures and labs.

Readings: *Lean UX: Designing Great Products with Agile Teams* (2nd edition) by Jeff Gothelf & Josh Seiden

This book is not available via the UofG Bookstore but can be obtained via Amazon:
https://www.amazon.ca/Lean-UX-Designing-Great-Products/dp/1491953608

and electronically from the UoG Library:
https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/uoguelph/detail.action?docID=4681345

Course Prerequisites: CIS*3110, (CIS*3750 or CIS*3760)

Course Calendar Description: This course examines the methods for user interface software design, including interface representations and testing. Topics which will be studied include the evaluation and design of sample application systems, impacts of computer-based information systems on individuals and organizations, implementation and testing tools, and planning of learning stages and design of assistance subsystems.

Online Plan: My goal for CIS*4300 this semester is to have a consistent and predictable workload throughout the semester. No component of this course will be in-person. There will be no midterm or final exam. Due dates have automatic extensions. All lectures will be delivered using Zoom via CourseLink and will be recorded and available on the course website.

COURSE PLAN
The F21 offering of CIS*4300 will focus on Lean UX – a relatively new approach to User eXperience (UX) that is better aligned with Agile development methods than traditional UI Design and UX methods. Improved fit with Agile development is due to Lean UX's decreased focus on the production of artifacts and increased emphasis on rapidly testing assumptions and hypotheses. I am anticipating that this focus on Lean UX will help differentiate CIS*4300 from CIS*2170 (which I also currently teach), as CIS*2170 is focussed on the development of artifacts as used in more traditional development processes (e.g., waterfall).

CIS*4300 will have you develop a substantial group software project following the Lean UX approach. Monday and Wednesday lectures will be used to discuss the Lean UX approach and supporting topics based on readings that you will read prior to class. Thursday labs will be an opportunity for you to remotely work with your groups on your software project with support from the instructional team.

Your project will be to *Build a Better (Student) Zoom*. It is up to each group to define what '*Better*' means by using Lean UX methods to identify assumptions, derive hypotheses from the assumptions, and test hypotheses with your classmates, then implement those hypotheses that have been validated with your user population. Your peers in (and out) of CIS*4300 will serve as your user population.

Your first step will be to find a group of 5 CIS*4300 peers. You will work together all semester. With an enrolment of ~90, that gives 18 groups. In forming your groups, try to identify a mixture of people with different skillsets – you will need someone to serve as your team's 'manager' (or Product Owner), as well as a mixture of UX-minded folks and development-minded folks.

Please use this link to form your groups (cut + paste names from cols J-L into cols C-G): https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10k3_2dFBgs6ltTizfRMY7n7Y3YH10NnqebbZ-tjA55Y/edit?usp=sharing

The University of Guelph's Academic Calendar suggests that students should spend 10-12 hours per week for every 0.50 credit course: https://guides.lib.uoguelph.ca/MasterTimeManagement/EstimateStudyTime

Assuming that you spent 6 hours on CIS*4300 lectures, labs, and readings each week, this leaves 4-6 hours to be working on the CIS*4300 project each week. As part of forming your groups, please find 1-3 times each week that you are all available (outside of scheduled class time) for 4-6 hours (total) and dedicate to meeting together during these times every week for project work.

The project deliverables will each be equal weight and are due on the following days:
- Milestone 1 (M1) - 11:59pm 01 October 2021 [22 days after start of course]
- Milestone 2 (M2) - 11:59pm 22 October 2021 [21 days after M1 due date]
- Milestone 3 (M3) - 11:59pm 12 November 2021 [21 days after M2 due date]
- Milestone 4 (M4) - 11:59pm 03 December 2021 [21 days after M3 due date]

Each Milestone submission is worth 25% of your final grade for CIS*4300.

The M1 specification will be available the week of 13 September. Specifications for M2-M4 will be available on or before the submission deadline of the previous Milestone.

Grading Scheme:
It is vital that all group members contribute to their respective projects. To help encourage this, as part of each Milestone submission I will separately gather each student's summary of their individual contribution to that Milestone. We will use these summaries to identify groups that might not be working optimally for further discussions.

The ideal approach will be to consistently contribute to your project and engage your team members (and take note of your individual contributions). It will be essential that your team is aware of your contributions, which will be a natural by-product of working closely together.

Late Policy:
Friday at 11:59pm is the regular deadline for the four project Milestones. To help accommodate any unexpected challenges, all assessments are hereby automatically granted a 48-hour extension, such that only submissions submitted after 11:59pm on the Sunday following the regular deadline will be graded late (receiving a grade of '0').
PLEASE DO NOT request this extension. We will apply it automatically. No worries.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement:
As this course comprises one major group project with four milestones, it is difficult to provide individual accommodations due to illness or extenuating circumstances. That said, it is another weird and unpredictable semester. If you encounter difficulties completing your individual project work, first please discuss the implications for your project contributions with your group members (you do not need to disclose your individual circumstances). After consulting with your group, please reach out to me if you still have concerns.

Communication (i.e., How to get help…)
As per university regulations, all students are required to check their *uoguelph.ca* e-mail account regularly. E-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

The best way to get help is to ask questions during lectures and labs. You can also email us at the email addresses provided above, but our response time is liable to be unpredictable.

Other Notes:
- Course starts Thursday, 09 September 2021 but there will be no lecture or lab this day.
- Lectures will begin Monday, 13 September 2021.
- Labs will begin Thursday, 16 September 2021.
- Thanksgiving break (no classes or labs) is 11-12 October 2021.
- Course ends Friday, 03 December 2021 (this is a make-up day for 11 October).
- There is no midterm exam & no final exam for this course.

Drop Date:
Courses that are one semester long must be dropped by the end of the last day of classes. The regulations and procedures for dropping courses are available in the Undergraduate Calendar:
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml

Copies of out-of-class assignments:
Keep reliable back-up copies of any work that you do in the course; you may be asked to resubmit your work at any time.

Accessibility:
The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required, however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway. Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 7 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time. More information is available at: http://www.uoguelph.ca/sas

Academic Misconduct:
The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility

of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor. The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar: http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml

Recording of Materials:
Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources:
The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs: http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/index.cfm?index

Illness:
Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g., final exam or major assignment).

Disclaimer:
Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/) and circulated by email.

For information on current safety protocols, please follow these links:
https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/

https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces

Please note, these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health or government directives.