



02JSKxx

# Human Computer Interaction

**Course Introduction**

Luigi De Russis, Fulvio Corno

Academic Year 2020/2021



POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO



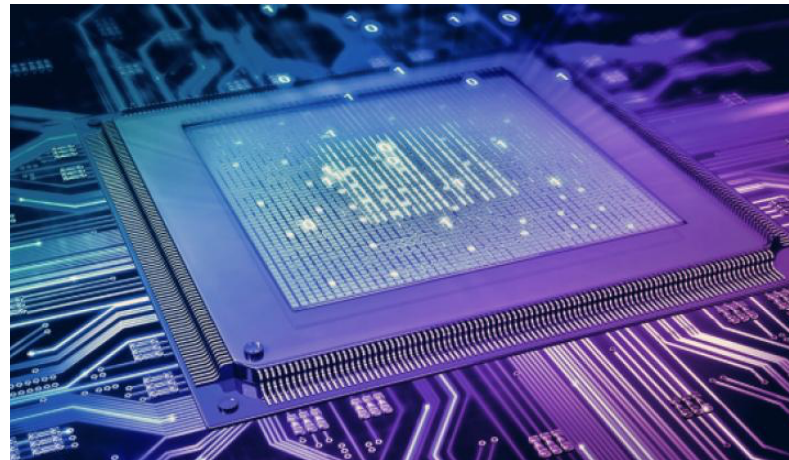
# Summary

- Motivation
- Course Contents
- Methodology
- The Exam
- Contacts

# Motivation

Why should a Computer Engineer care about HCI?

# Motivation





# Challenges

- How to design the user experience when interacting with modern applications, devices, and environments?
- How to exploit the novel interaction methods provided by touch, voice, natural interaction, gestures, ...?
- How to ensure that people use such interfaces and systems with “joy” rather than “frustration”?

- Deep down inside every software developer, there's a budding graphic designer waiting to get out. And if you let that happen, you're in trouble. Or at least your users will be, anyway...

Jeff Atwood, 2006

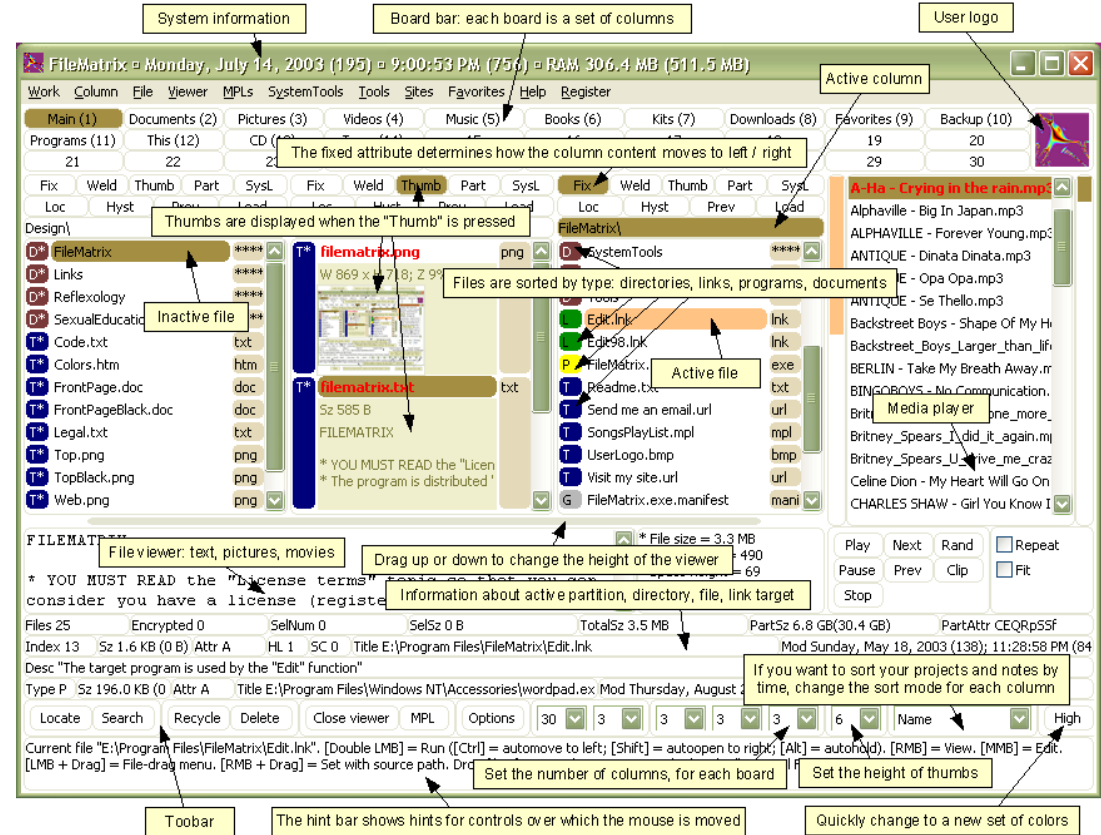
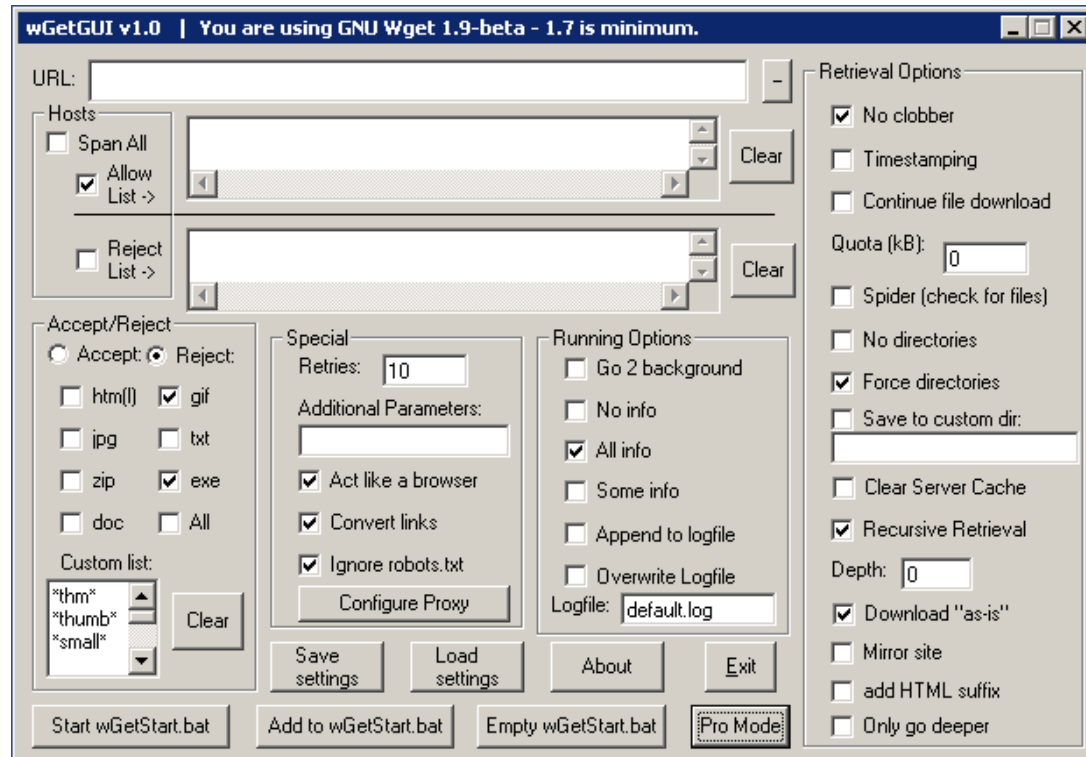
<https://blog.codinghorror.com/this-is-what-happens-when-you-let-developers-create-ui/>

- The two hardest problems in computer science are: (i) people, (ii) convincing computer scientists that the hardest problem in computer science is people, and, (iii) off by one errors.

Prof. Jeffrey P. Bigham, 2018

<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~jbigham/>

# Developers' Attitude



[https://thedailywtf.com/articles/Classic\\_WTF\\_-\\_Enter\\_the\\_Matrix](https://thedailywtf.com/articles/Classic_WTF_-_Enter_the_Matrix)



# Course Contents

Objectives, topics, outcomes

# Course Objectives

## Learn

- Key concepts related to HCI
  - User Experience, Usability
  - Design Methods
  - Evaluation Techniques
- Human-Centered Design Process
- “Modern” interaction methods
- Not only web & mobile

## Apply

- Design and development of a project
  - Eliciting needs
  - Following the process
  - Developing a result (prototype)
- Analysis and evaluation of interfaces

# Course Contents

---

Introduction to  
Human-Computer  
Interaction (10%)

Definitions, the human, the computer, vision of the future

---

Building interactive  
applications with a  
human-centered  
process (35%)

Main tasks and methods to design, develop, and evaluate an interactive application

Needfinding strategies, low- and high-fidelity prototypes, mental models and visual design, heuristic evaluation, and basic concepts and methods for controlled experiments

---

Application &  
Projects (30%)

Practical part on a specific application domain and interaction technology

Web applications

---

“Beyond WIMP”  
paradigms (25%)

Tangible interaction, wearables, voice user interfaces, gestures, eye tracking, interaction with AI/IoT systems, ...

Contemporary examples and development tools

Thematic seminars on emerging topics and case studies

---

# Methodology

Lectures, labs, support material, exam

# Methodology

- Learning method
  - project-based → students learn by doing a project
  - problem-based → the project work starts from elicited and real users' needs
- Projects developed **during** the semester, with intermediate milestones and deliverables
- Contemporary communications and project development tools and technologies
  - e.g., Slack, Git and GitHub, ...

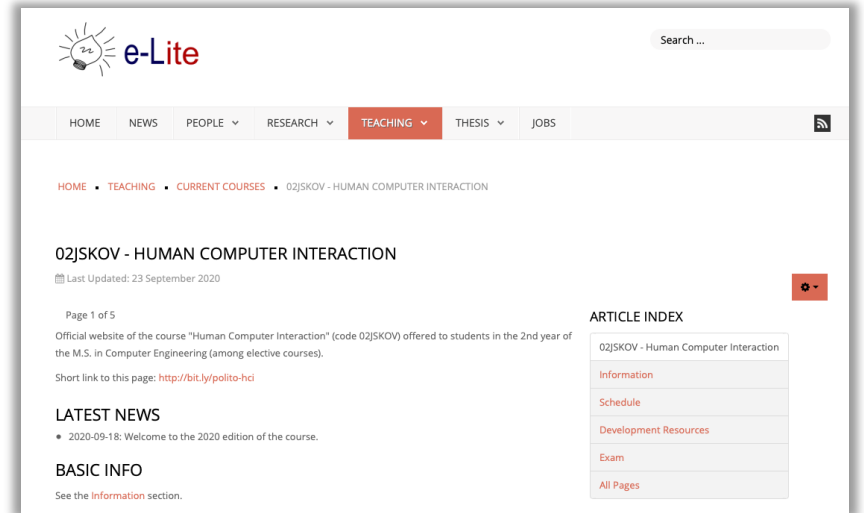
# Schedule

Starting  
October 8

|             | Mon | Tue               | Wed               | Thu                     | Fri |
|-------------|-----|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----|
| 08:30-10:00 |     |                   |                   |                         |     |
| 10:00-11:30 |     |                   |                   | Lab (group 1)<br>LABINF |     |
| 11:30-13:00 |     |                   | Lecture<br>Online | Lab (group 2)<br>Online |     |
| 13:00-14:30 |     |                   |                   |                         |     |
| 14:30-16:00 |     |                   |                   |                         |     |
| 16:00-17:30 |     |                   |                   |                         |     |
| 17:30-19:00 |     | Lecture<br>Online |                   |                         |     |

# Learning Material

- Course website - <http://bit.ly/polito-hci>
  - Slides
  - Full schedule
  - Deliverable templates and deadlines
  - Supplementary material
- Video lectures
  - YouTube - [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLs7DWGc\\_wmwQ7ipQNDCL0hoB2l9PpscpD](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLs7DWGc_wmwQ7ipQNDCL0hoB2l9PpscpD)
  - Portale della Didattica
- GitHub - <https://github.com/polito-hci-2020>
  - Examples, exercises, group work



# Collaboration and Communication

- Projects on GitHub

<https://github.com/polito-hci-2020>



- Communication with teachers and among groups via Slack

<https://politohci20.slack.com>

*(link to join: in the News on the Portale della Didattica)*

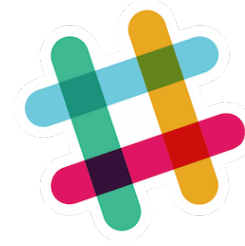


- Office Hours, every Monday, 16:00-17:00 (Italian time)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82170392211?pwd=aHRtMEcoMFVUZU9JV2tvLzV5coduZz09>







# Internal Communication

- All contacts with teachers **must** take place on Slack
  - e-mail messages will **not** be considered
- The #general channel is reserved to official communications by the teachers
- The #discussion channel is for questions, requests, ideas, etc. by any student; teachers will read and respond
- The #random channel is for free discussion among students
- Groups of students may *create private channels* for collaborating on their project

# Development



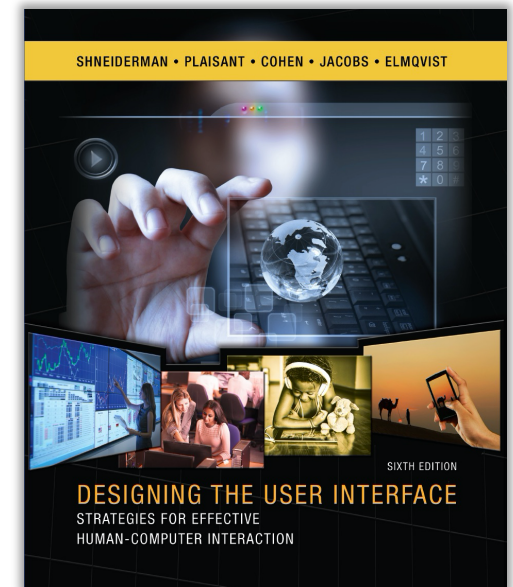
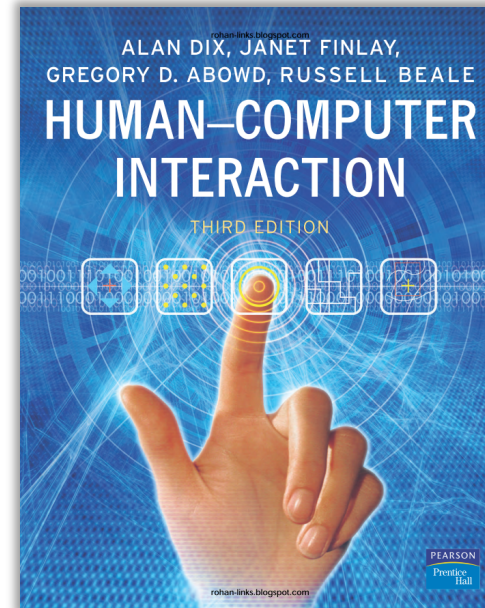
- All development (labs, projects, ... ) on GitHub
  - Use it! Really! Continuously!
- Create a GitHub account
  - Choose a nickname that may last forever (don't use the “matricola” number)
  - Register with a @studenti.polito.it address, you may get free private repositories (more at <https://education.github.com>)
- Per-project repositories will be created in the polito-hci-2020 org
  - if you need further repositories, please ask
- Always commit your intermediate work

# Study material

- No suitable textbook for the whole course
- Teachers' slides
- Lecture videos
- Suggested books for some of the topics
- Suggested papers
- On-line technical documents

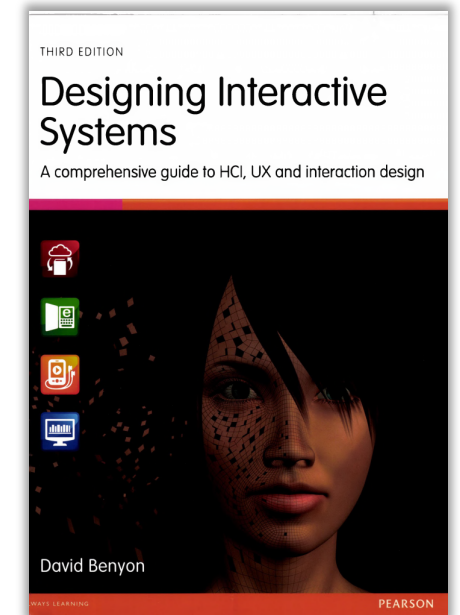
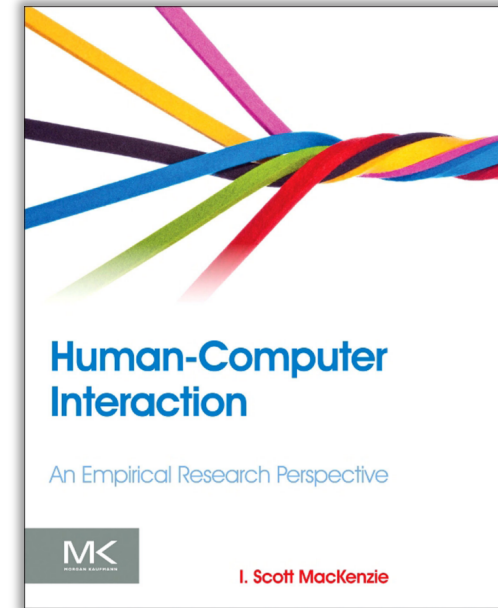
# Suggested Books

- Alan Dix, Janet Finlay, Gregory D. Abowd, Russel Beale, "Human-Computer Interaction", 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Prentice Hall, 2004, ISBN 0-13-046109-1
- Shneiderman, Plaisant, Cohen, Jacobs, Elmqvist, "Designing the User Interface: Strategies for Effective Human-Computer Interaction", 6<sup>th</sup> edition, Pearson, 2016, ISBN 013438038X / 9780134380384



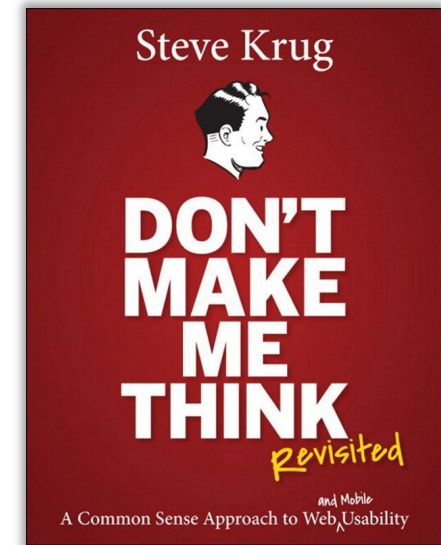
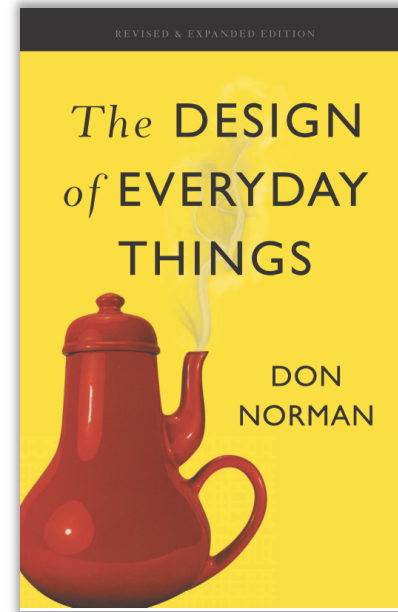
# Suggested Books

- I. Scott MacKenzie, "Human-Computer Interaction: An Empirical Research Perspective", Morgan Kaufmann, 2013, ISBN 978-0-12-405865-1
- David Benyon, "Designing Interactive Systems", 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, Pearson, 2014, ISBN 978-1447920113



# Suggested Books

- Don Norman, "The Design of Everyday Things: Revised and Expanded Edition", Hachette UK, 2013, ISBN 0465072992/9780465072996
- S. Krug, "Don't Make Me Think: A Common Sense Approach to Web and Mobile Usability - revisited", Pearson Education, 2014, ISBN 0321648781/9780321648785



# The Exam

Group projects, written test, exam rules

# The Exam

- Written test [40%: 13 points, minimum 7]
  - Design methods, design processes, design and analysis instruments, ...
  - No coding
  - Four open questions, 1 hour
  - Sample/past exams on the course website (under "Exams")
- Evaluation of the projects (in group) [60%: 20 points]
  - Deliverables
  - Prototype (source) code
- Both parts must be passed **in the same academic year**
  - In any order



# Contacts



Luigi De Russis  
luigi.derussis@polito.it  
 @luigidr



Fulvio Corno  
fulvio.corno@polito.it  
 @fulcorno

# License

- These slides are distributed under a Creative Commons license “**Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0)**”
- **You are free to:**
  - **Share** — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format
  - **Adapt** — remix, transform, and build upon the material
  - The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms.
- **Under the following terms:**
  - **Attribution** — You must give [appropriate credit](#), provide a link to the license, and [indicate if changes were made](#). You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use.
  - **NonCommercial** — You may not use the material for [commercial purposes](#).
  - **ShareAlike** — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the [same license](#) as the original.
  - **No additional restrictions** — You may not apply legal terms or [technological measures](#) that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits.
- <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

