

# Human Computer Interaction - Course Outline

## SWEN 422: 2012 Trimester 1

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This document sets out the workload and assessment requirements for SWEN 422. It also provides contact information for staff involved in the course. If the contents of this document are altered during the course, you will be advised of the change by an announcement in lectures and/or on the course web site. A printed copy of this document is held in the School Office.

### Objectives

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By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. *demonstrate knowledge of key historical advancements and key people in the field of HCI.*
2. *utilise user-testing techniques to evaluate a software system's user interface.*
3. *demonstrate knowledge of key HCI challenges in the use of touch screens.*
4. *use and critique techniques for presenting large and/or complex data sets to users.*

### Textbook

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There is no text book for SWEN 422. During the course we will read articles from journals and conference proceedings that are available through the University's digital library subscriptions, as well as the occasional book chapter that will be provided by the course coordinator.

### Lectures, Tutorials, Laboratories, and Practical work

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A schedule of lecture topics, readings, and assignment due dates is available online

Lectures for SWEN 422 are: *Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 1-2pm in Cotton 236.*

While there are 36 lecture slots assigned to this course during the trimester, only 24 lectures slots will be used.

### Assignments

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You will write one essay and undertake one project as part of this course. The essay will assess your knowledge of a chosen subfield of HCI by looking at the historical development of that subfield. The project will assess your ability to develop, critique and report on a user interface for a software system that uses visualisations techniques to present a complex and/or large data set. The project deliverables are a proposal, a report, and an oral presentation.

- The project proposal will be due at midday on 19th March (Monday of week 3).
- The essay will be due at midday on 2nd April (Monday of week 5).
- The project report will be due at midday on 21st May (Monday of week 10).
- The project oral presentation will be delivered in week 6 (after the break) during the scheduled lecture times.

The penalty for late work will be 20% per day after the due date.

All written work must be submitted via the School's online submission system.

The essay and oral presentation help satisfy BE graduate attribute 2(b). The project proposal and report help satisfy BE graduate attribute 3(a), 3(b), 3(d), and 3(f)

Bachelor of Engineering students should be aware that copies of their assessed work may be retained for inspection by the accreditation panel.

### Workload

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In order to maintain satisfactory progress in SWEN 422, you should plan to spend an average of at least 10 hours per week on this paper. A plausible and approximate breakdown for these hours would be:

- Lectures:2
- Readings:2
- Assignments:6

### School of Engineering and Computer Science

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The School office is located on level three of the Cotton Building (Cotton 358).

The notice board for SWEN 422 is located on the second floor of the Cotton Building.

## Staff

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The course organiser and lecturer for SWEN 422 is Dr Stuart Marshall. Stuart's contact details are:

- Dr Stuart Marshall
- [Cotton 261](#)
- +64 4 463 6730
- [Stuart.Marshall@ecs.vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Stuart.Marshall@ecs.vuw.ac.nz)

## Announcements and Communication

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The main means of communication outside of lectures will be the SWEN 422 web area at [http://ecs.victoria.ac.nz/Courses/SWEN422\\_2012T1/](http://ecs.victoria.ac.nz/Courses/SWEN422_2012T1/). There you will find, among other things, this document, the [lecture schedule](#) and [assignment handouts](#), and the [SWEN 422 Forum](#). The forum is a web-based bulletin board system. Questions and comments can be posted to the forum, and staff will read these posts and frequently respond to them.

## Assessment

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Your grade for SWEN 422 will be determined based on the following assessment weightings:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Weight</u>
Essay	15%
Project Proposal	5%
Project Report	25%
Project Presentation	15%
Final Examination	40%

## Exams

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The [timetable for final examinations](#) will be available from the University web site and will be posted on a notice board outside the faculty office. The final examination will be three hours long. No computers, electronic calculators or similar device will be allowed in the final examination. Paper non-English to English dictionaries will be permitted. The examination period for trimester 1 is 15 June - 4 July.

## Plagiarism

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We encourage you to discuss the principles of the course and assignments with other students, to help and seek help with programming details, problems involving the lab machines. However, any work you hand in must be your own work.

The [School policy on Plagiarism](#) (claiming other people's work as your own) is available from the course home page. Please read it. We will penalise anyone we find plagiarising, whether from students currently doing the course, or from other sources. Students who knowingly allow other students to copy their work may also be penalised. If you have had help from someone else (other than a tutor), it is always safe to state the help that you got. For example, if you had help from someone else in writing a component of your code, it is not plagiarism as long as you state (eg, as a comment in the code) who helped you in writing the method.

## Mandatory Requirements

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1. Students must also get at least a **C** grade for three of the four internally assessed assignments.
2. Students must get at least a **D** grade for the exam.

## Passing SWEN 422

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To pass SWEN 422, a student must satisfy mandatory requirements and gain at least a **C** grade overall.

## Withdrawal

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The last date for withdrawal from SWEN 422 with entitlement to a refund of tuition fees is Friday 16 March 2012. The last date for withdrawal without being regarded as having failed the course is Friday 18 May 2012 -- though later withdrawals may be approved by the Dean in special circumstances.

## Rules & Policies

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Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study>.

Find out about academic progress and restricted enrolment at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress>.

The University's statutes and policies are available at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>, except qualification statutes, which are available via the Calendar webpage at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar> (See Section C).

Further information about the University's academic processes can be found on the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic>

All students are expected to be familiar with the following regulations and policies, which are available from the school web site:

[Grievances](#)

[Student and Staff Conduct](#)

[Meeting the Needs of Students with Disabilities](#)

[Student Support](#)

[Academic Integrity and Plagiarism](#)

[Dates and Deadlines including Withdrawal dates](#)

[School Laboratory Hours and Rules](#)

[Printing Allocations](#)

[Expectations of Students in ECS courses](#)

The School of Engineering and Computer Science strives to anticipate all problems associated with its courses, laboratories and equipment. We hope you will find that your courses meet your expectations of a quality learning experience.

If you think we have overlooked something or would like to make a suggestion feel free to talk to your course organiser or lecturer.

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