

STS 331**Course Syllabus**

Instructor: Tonya Browning

Fall Semester 2006

Wed. 5-8 PM, FAC 9

A strange paperless future is waiting in the wings, for we are living in a moment between two revolutions: one of print, four centuries old and not yet quite spent; another of electrons, barely two decades old and scarcely underway.

—Paul Saffo

Date	Content	Assignment
8.30 What constitutes a user interface?	Introductions Syllabus & policy statements Join class email list by sending a blank email to join-sts331-browning@lists.cwrl.utexas.edu Short assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ On-line reading of all 7 sections in "A History of the GUI": http://arstechnica.com/articles/paedia/gui.ars/1 ♦ On-line reading about Tufte from Salon: http://www.salon.com/march97/tufte970310.html ♦ Purchase books ♦ Send Tonya an email (tonya@texas.net) w/goals for the course and technical expertise listed by Tues, 9.5
9.6 Historical Context	Design lecture First UI assignment Email to List	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ On-line reading "NPR interview with Tufte (listen to sound file)": http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5673332 ♦ On-line reading from Neal Stephenson, non-fiction on UI design: http://www.cryptonomicon.com/beginning.html ♦ <i>Envisioning Information</i> (Escaping Flatland)
9.13 Tufte's perspective	Class discussion Software Review, email to class Mid-term assignment discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>Envisioning Information</i> (Micro/Macro Readings) ♦ Visual Design assignment ♦ On-line reading about future UIs, The Future and History of UI: http://www.macobserver.com/columns/devilsadvocate/2006/20060815uis.shtml ♦ Visual Interactive simplicity: http://www.infoverse.org/projects.htm ♦ Begin mid-term project
9.20 UI in Film	Excerpts from cinematic extrapolations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>Envisioning Information</i> (Layering and Separation) ♦ On-line gaming article on "Too Many Clicks": http://gamasutra.com/features/20060823/goetz_01.shtml ♦ Games for Control Freaks: http://www.wired.com/news/columns/0,71305-0.html?tw=rss.index
9.27 Games and other interfaces	Games	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>Envisioning Information</i> (Small Multiples/Color and Information) ♦ Exposing the Local Infocloud: http://www.personalinfocloud.com/2006/05/exposing_the_lo.html ♦ On-line reading about Project Looking Glass:

		http://www.sun.com/software/looking_glass/index.xml
10.4 Storyboards and models	Storyboarding and prototyping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>Envisioning Information</i> (Narratives of Space and Time) ♦ On-line reading of Stephenson's home page: http://www.nealstephenson.com/ ♦ On-line reading about Neal Stephenson, an interview from Salon: http://www.salon.com/books/int/1999/05/19/stephenson/index.html
10.11 Evaluation/Usability	Guest Lecturer Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>The Diamond Age</i> (pp. 3-53) ♦ Work on your mid-term project
10.18 Presentations	Mid-term project due Group Presentations Final project assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>The Diamond Age</i> (pp. 53-123) ♦ Complete project ♦ HCI handout
10.25 Prototyping	Choose or brainstorm the UI for your final project. Present your idea and choose groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>The Diamond Age</i> (pp. 123-207) ♦ On-line reading of Tog's input on interface mistakes: http://www.asktog.com/columns/055Dishwasher.html
11.1 Interaction	Prototyping your UI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>The Diamond Age</i> (pp. 207-295) ♦ Read about the Interactive Media Design Review contest http://www.idonline.com/imdr03/
11.8 Class review of design practices	Discuss readings In class activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>The Diamond Age</i> (pp. 295-357) ♦ Preliminary review of projects
11.15	Project work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>The Diamond Age</i> (pp. 295-435) ♦ Review of texts ♦ Work on final project
11.22	Project Work Thanksgiving Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>The Diamond Age</i> (Finish) ♦ Work on final project
11.29	Project Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Complete final project
12.6	Last class Project Presentations	