

Course programme

IFI7176.DT	Field Research Methods in HCI		
ECTS credits: 4 ECTS	Amount of contact lessons: 21	Teaching semester: Autumn	Assessment form: Exam
Course objectives:	The course explores and practices qualitative research methods in relation to the constraints of actual situations, thus enabling students to gain first-hand experiences on their applicability and feasibility in the field.		
Brief description of course content: (including the description of the independent work)	Review of cost-effective strategies, methods and instruments for data gathering in the field. Overview of contextual constraints, namely ethical concerns, for conducting field research. Course consists of a series of seminars in the first half of the semester where students are expected to be actively involved. In addition every student must conduct field research project in groups of two.		
Learning outcomes:	After the successful completion of the course students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Can differentiate between different field research strategies; ● Are aware of the main contextual constraints and ethical concerns of field research; ● Can set up research questions and choose appropriate methods within the constraints in the field; ● Are able to design instruments for data collection; ● Can analyse and interpret the collected data; ● Are prepared to report results and communicate insights. 		
Assessment Methods:	Individual and group work in seminars 30 % Group field research project 70%		
Lecturer(s):	Prof. Tobias Ley Prof. David Lamas		
Course title in Estonian:	Uurimismeetodid inimese-arvuti interaktsioonis		
Prerequisted course(s):	None		
Compulsory literature:	To be determined on the basis of each field research project.		
Replacement literature:	Crabtree, A. (2003). Designing collaborative systems. A practical guide to ethnography. London: Springer. Crabtree, A., Rouncefield, M., & Tolmie, P. (2012). Doing		

	<p>design ethnography. London: Springer.</p> <p>Fetterman, D. M. (2010). Ethnography. Step by step. Los Angeles: Sage.</p> <p>Holtzblatt, K., Burns Wendell, J., & Wood, S. (2005). Rapid contextual design. A how-to guide to key techniques for usercentered design. Amsterdam: Elsevier.</p> <p>Randall, D., Harper, R., & Rouncefield, M. (2007). Fieldwork for Design. Theory and Practice. London: Springer.</p> <p>Olson, J. S., & Kellogg, W. A. (2014). Ways of Knowing in HCI. Springer, New York.</p> <p>Kuniavsky, M. (2003). Observing the user experience: a practitioner's guide to user research. Morgan Kaufmann.</p>
Participation and exam requirements:	<p>Students must participate in 80% of the class sessions.</p> <p>Students must carry out an individual field research project.</p>
Independent work:	Field research project (run-time: 5 weeks).
Grading criteria scale or the minimum level necessary for passing the subject:	<p>A - 90-100% of the work is done - excellent: outstanding work with only few minor errors.</p> <p>B - 80-90% of the work is done - very good: above average work but with some minor errors.</p> <p>C - 70-80% of the work is done - good: generally good work with a number of notable errors.</p> <p>D - 60-70% of the work is done - satisfactory: reasonable work but with significant shortcomings.</p> <p>E - 50-60% of the work is done - sufficient: passable performance meeting the minimum criteria.</p> <p>F- less than 50% of the work is done - fail: more work is required before the credit can be awarded.</p>
<p>Information about the course:</p> <p>(Topics by contact session, deadlines of independent works and exams/assessments times)</p>	<p>08.09. 16:00 Introduction to the course. Social science research, ethnography, design and HCI. Introduction to the individual field research project.</p> <p>22.09 16:00 [David] Data Collection: Observations, interviews, ethics.</p> <p>6.10 16:00 [David] Data Collection: Design fiction and other methods to stimulate discussion about the social, cultural, and ethical implications of emerging technologies.</p> <p>20.10 16:00 [Tobias] Data Collection: Probes, diaries, narrative interviewing and other retrospective study methods.</p> <p>03.11. 16:00 [Tobias] Data Analysis: Activity theory.</p> <p>17.11. 16:00 [David] Data Analysis: Thematic analysis.</p> <p>01.12. 16:00 Field Research Project (group meetings).</p> <p>15.12. 16:00 Field Research Project (presentations).</p>

Teaching Unit in charge:	School of Digital Technologies
Course programme is prepared by:	David Lamas
Date:	15.08.2017

The course program is registered in the academic unit:

Date:	17.08.2017
Name of academic coordinator:	Kristi Oikimus