

Project Assignment 1: Task Analysis
[CS 5317 Human-Computer Interaction](#)
[David G. Novick](#)

Due: 1:30 p.m., September 9, 2009

Introduction

There will be multiple project assignments, so rotate the responsibility for the assignments through each member of the group.

Use the iPhone application agreed for your group. As you will recall, we want a simple project of building a small software system that is interesting enough to last all semester but is not so complicated that you'll have to work 24 hours a day on it. A single screen is probably sufficient, and you'll probably not want more than four screens. The intended users of the system must not be CS students!

Set up a Web page for the project, listing each team member, with a link to a new page for each assignment.

Do:

1. Determine the task(s) that the app will do. Normally, this should be the automation of a task that users now do manually. Devise specific, concrete examples.
2. Determine the system's users. Identify specific people, even for an interface to be used by the general public.
3. Conduct and videotape a contextual interview. You can borrow a digital camcorder, if you need to; you can check out a camcorder and tripod from Leo Hernandez.
4. Determine:
 - a. What is the user's relevant work
 - b. What tools, if any, are currently used
 - c. What works well, and why?
 - d. What are the problems that the new system will address?
5. Do a hierarchical task analysis, and involve at least one user in the analysis.

Turn in:

1. A paragraph describing the app and its functions. What tasks will the app do?
2. A paragraph describing the intended users.
3. A report of the results of the contextual interview.
4. The hierarchical task analysis.
5. A video file of the contextual interview.
6. A brief description of which team member did what part of the assignment