How can we design better systems that are useful and usable?

05-391 – Designing Human-Centered Systems
Spring 2009: Tue Thu, 10:30-11:50
Instructor: Jason Hong
Human-Computer Interaction Institute

Why are things so hard to use these days? Why doesn’t this thing I just bought work? Why is this web site so hard to use? These are frustrations that we have all faced from systems not designed with people in mind.

The question this course will focus on is: how can we design human-centered systems that people find useful and usable? This course is an introduction to designing, prototyping, and evaluating user interfaces. If you take only one course in Human-Computer Interaction, this is the course for you.

This class is open to all undergrads and grad students, with either technical or non-technical backgrounds. We will cover theory as well as practical application of ideas from Human-Computer Interaction. Course work includes lectures, class discussion, homework, class presentations, and group project.