

Course Schedule

9:30-10:50	Writing Unit
9:30-9:35	Intro and Goals
9:36-10:00	Micro Lecture: Clarity and Structure
10:01-10:20	Exercise: Structuring CHI Research
10:21-10:50	Exercise: Writing the Introduction

11:30-12:50	Reviewing Unit
11:30-11:40	Recap
11:41-12:00	Micro Lecture: On Reviewing for SIGCHI
12:01-12:20	Exercise: Dissecting a CHI Paper
12:21-12:50	Exercise: Writing a Helpful Review

Core Ideas for Writing

Meaning Ratio

$$\text{meaning ratio} = \frac{\text{meaningful words}}{\text{total words}}$$

Four Core Questions

1. What is the real-world problem that we are trying to solve?
2. Why is it important to solve this problem?
3. What is the solution that we came up with to solve it?
4. How do we know that the solution is a good solution to the problem?

Writing Exercise 1: Structuring Your CHI Research

Build a brief research plan for a CHI publication (10 minutes)

- Problem statement
- Indication of your methodology
- Anticipated main findings
- Anticipated conclusions

Present your plans to the group with a brief discussion (10 minutes) of structural flaws or strengths – we will all try to critique the plans

Writing Exercise 2: Writing the Introduction

Now, write your own *Title*, *Abstract*, and *Introduction* for the research plan you have developed (30 minutes).

Use the four questions to guide you through the process of writing a fictional CHI paper about this research topic that you have in mind:

- What is the real-world problem that we are trying to solve?
- Why is it important to solve this problem?
- What is the solution that we came up with to solve it?
- How do we know that the solution is a good solution to the problem?

Use the same process as many CHI authors:

- Sketch the rough answers to each question into bullet points
- Get together a maximum of 15 bullet points among all 4 questions
- Start writing out the bullet points into paragraphs

Pass around your written paragraphs and discuss them in groups, I will assist.

Reviewing Exercise 1: Dissecting a CHI Paper

Structured discussion of the following paper:

<https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2858558>

Matthew Kay, Tara Kola, Jessica R. Hullman, and Sean A. Munson. 2016. When (ish) is My Bus?: User-centered Visualizations of Uncertainty in Everyday, Mobile Predictive Systems. In Proceedings of the 2016 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '16). ACM, New York, NY, USA, 5092-5103. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/2858036.2858558>

Read the paper.

Which parts of the paper are excellent? Why do you think they are excellent?

Reviewing Exercise 2: Writing a Helpful Review

Read and annotate one of these papers:

<https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2858036.2858594>

<https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2858361>

<https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2858305>

Write a review with a focus on:

- Reflecting on the contributions
- Discussing the weaknesses and limitations in a positive way
- Calling out the strengths and utility of the work

Discuss!