

**Glasgow School of Art Course Specification**  
**Course Title: Human Factors P5**

*Please note that this course specification is correct on the date of publication but may be subject to amendment prior to the start of the 2026-27 Academic Year.*

<b>Course Code:</b>	<b>HECOS Code:</b>	<b>Academic Session:</b>
UoG EXT5154		2026-27

<b>1. Course Title:</b>
Human Factors P5

<b>2. Date of Approval:</b>	<b>3. Lead School:</b>	<b>4. Other Schools:</b>
PACAAG April 2020	School of Design	N/A

<b>5. Credits:</b>	<b>6. SCQF Level:</b>	<b>7. Course Leader:</b>
10	11	Craig Whittet & Aileen Mhor-Biagi

<b>8. Associated Programmes:</b>
BEng/MEng Product Design Engineering

<b>9. When Taught:</b>
Semester 1

<b>10. Course Aims:</b>
To build on and enhance the knowledge and skill base acquired in the normal studio activities of Levels 1-4 and to equip the students with the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to apply a variety of human factors tools, methods and considerations, in depth, in their Human Factors Report.

<b>11. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:</b>
Students will be reviewed and assessed on the work, as presented in the project report, that evidences the level of engagement with and the quality of achievement of the intended learning outcomes for Human Factors 5M listed here. In particular, by the end of this course should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding the issues and areas of human factors crucial to successful user-centred design</li> <li>• Confidently using human factors methods and tools as a vital part of product research, specification, development and refinement</li> <li>• Understanding current standard sources of human factors data</li> <li>• Clearly demonstrating the use of human factors considerations in design project work through an iterative process</li> </ul>

- Understanding and applying anthropometrics software packages
- Developing skills in user research methodologies
- Integrating human factors aspects alongside other engineering and design issues to create a successful project resolution.

## 12. Indicative Content:

The Human Factors series is intended to complement project work. Project work will include: human factors considerations that relate to the course subject content application and integration of content into design project activities

### Course Syllabus:

The allocation of specific staff for this course may vary from year to year depending on the availability of specialist speakers, although the content remains constant.

The following sessions, given by guest speakers drawn from academia, industry and consultancy, have been chosen to show a wide range of considerations, and to encompass physical, psychological, social and cultural issues relating to products, tasks and environments. The series includes:

- Overview – frameworks, methodologies, reference sources
- Case studies and aspects of the following:
  - Skeletal and muscular systems, physiology
  - Psychology, cognition and perception
  - Social and cultural issues
- Usability and user research methods
- Task analysis
- Organisational and environmental factors
- Health and safety
- British, European and World standards
- Software and software systems
- Interface, interaction and simulation
- Demographics and inclusive human factors
- The place and role of human factors in the design process
- General review sessions

## 13. Description of Summative Assessment Methods:

The main aspects of Summative assessment are: written assignments, practical projects, presentations

Assessment Method	Description of Assessment Method	Weight %	Submission week (assignments)
Project Report	Written 10 Page Project Report that focuses on key Human Factors Challenges	100	End of Semester 1 teaching

### 13.1 Please describe the Summative Assessment arrangements:

The completed Human Factors outcome will form the basis for the summative assessment. The final grade will be submitted to the University of Glasgow, James Watt School of Engineering Exam Board.

## 14. Description of Formative Assessment Methods:

Engagement with formative assessment is a mandatory requirement. Student and peer feedback are offered throughout project with detailed feedback provided after interim presentation. The main areas of student engagement are: seminars, critiques, workshops, tutorials

**14.1 Please describe the Formative Assessment arrangements:**

After most assessment events, studio staff provide feedback. The purpose of this is to help students understand areas of strength and weakness and provide advice for future direction or further learning.

Feedback for Human Factors will consist of verbal comments made during project critique or presentation, or one-to-one in the studio. Main assessment events will be followed-up by written feedback, accompanied by a tutorial discussion with studio staff.

**15. Learning and Teaching Methods:**

Formal Contact Hours	Notional Learning Hours
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13	100
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**15.1 Description of Teaching and Learning Methods:**

Lectures, Seminar, Group Critique, Presentations

Timetable: Tuesday 10:00 – 13:00

**16. Pre-requisites:**

N/A

<b>17. Can this course be taken by Exchange/Study Abroad students?</b>	No
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<b>18. Are all the students on the course taught wholly by distance learning?</b>	No
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<b>19. Does this course represent a work placement or a year of study abroad?</b>	No
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<b>20. Is this course collaborative with any other institutions?</b>	No
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**20.1 If yes, then please enter the names of the other teaching institutions:**

N/A

**21. Additional Relevant Information:**

N/A

**22. Indicative Bibliography:**

Buxton, B. (2007) Sketching User Experiences: getting the design right and the right design . Morgan Kaufman,

Dreyfuss, Henry Humanscale

Norman Norman *The Psychology of Everyday Things*

Moggridge, B (2007) Designing Interactions , The MIT Press, <http://mitpress.mit.edu>, ISBN 0-262-13474-8

<http://www.designinginteractions.com>

Pheasant Bodyspace – *anthropometrics, ergonomics and design*

Sanders & McCormick *Human Factors in Engineering and Design*

Wright, I.C. (1998) *Design Methods in Engineering and Product Design*, McGraw-Hill, London

*What Things Mean*, Harvard Business Press, Boston, Massachusetts. ISBN 978-1-4221-2482-6 San Francisco. ISBN -13 978-0-12-374037-3

Human Factors Guest lectures will also recommend text based on student project and focus