

Jadara University	
<u>Faculty of Science & Information Technology</u>	
Department of Computer Science & Software Engineering	
Year: 2013/2014	Semester: Fall

Course Information	
Course Title	Software Documentation
Course Number	503431
Prerequisites	<u>(Software Engineering)</u>
Course Website	TBA
Instructor	Dr.Nouh Alhindawi
Office Location	A 215
Office Phone	178
Office Hours	10 - 11 (Sun, Tue, Thu) 11 – 12 (Mon, Wed)
E-mail	hindawi@jadara.edu.jo
Teaching Assistant	

Text Book	
Title	Writing Software Documentation
Author(s)	Thomas T. Barker
Publisher	Longman Publishers
Year	2004
Edition	2nd Edition
Book Website	
References	

Assessment Policy		
Assessment Type	Expected Due Date	Weight
First Exam	TBA	20%
Second Exam	TBA	20%
Final Exam	TBA	40%
Project	Phase 1- One week after finishing chapter 1 Phase2- Last day of week 14	20%

Course Objectives

- 1-The main objective of this course is to provide students with a broad perspective on software Documentation
- 2- Explain the task orientation process and how you break the project to small tasks, and how to construct a task list from a project. (15 %)
- 3- Explain the forms of software documentation such Tutorials, procedures and references. (25%)
- 4- Explain the process of software documentation, from user analysis thru editing and fine tuning. (25%)
- 5- Explain the tools of software documentation, by the tools here we mean that the elements we used in creating the documentation such as screen and page design and the elements of each and the psychology of these elements, and how to build the best document to fit all type of users. (35%)

Learning Outcomes:

Successful completion of this course, students should

Related Objective	The expected achieved outcome	Reference
2.1	Should be able to know basic terms associated with system, project and task orientation.	Chapter 1
2.2	Should be able to understand the type of users and the psychological differences between them.	Chapter 1
2.3	Should be able to construct a task list for a project.	Chapter 1
3.1	Should be able to learn the type of documents we produce and the what kind of users they use such document.	Chapter 2-4
3.2	Should be able to differentiate between the different types of each document and the kind of elements that compose the document.	Chapter 2-4
4.1	Should be able to understand the user analysis, planning interviews, and learn the rules when interviewing users.	Chapter 5
4.2	Understand how to start the project, and set up plan for that	Chapter 6
4.3	Understand the importance of reviews, testing, and editing. The rules for each of them and how you schedule them and with whom.	Chapter 7-9
5.1	Understand and create a table of contents and match the user analysis with the document design	Chapters 10
5.2	Create a thumbnail sketch as the first step of laying out pages and screens.	Chapter 11
5.3	Understand the importance the "getting the language right" on the document usability and acceptance by the user.	Chapter 12
5.4	Introduce graphics to the document and understand the effectiveness of graphics on the document	Chapter 13
5.5	Understand the build indexes for the document and Why index?.	Chapter 14

Teaching & Learning Methods

- Class lectures, lecture notes and slides, and project are designed to achieve the course objectives.
- You should read the assigned chapters before class, complete assignments on time, participate in class and do whatever it takes for you to grasp this material. Ask questions, participation has 5% of the grade. .
- You are responsible for all material covered in the class.
- Please communicate any concerns or issues as soon as practical either in class, by phone or by Email.
- Lecture notes will be available before each class. It resides on the above mentioned internet sites.

Course Content

Week	Topics	Chapter in Text
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Introduction • Understanding task orientation • Constructing a Task List. • Understanding the characteristics of tasks 	1
2-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing to teach- Tutorials • Writing to Guide - Procedures • Writing to Support – References 	2,3,4
5-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyzing Your user • Planning and Writing your documentation • Getting Useful reviews 	5,6,7
7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducting usability tests • Editing and Fine Tuning • Designing for task orientation 	8,9
10-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laying out pages and screens • Getting the language right 	10,11,12
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using graphic effectively • Designing Indexes 	13,14
15-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project presentation 	

Additional Notes

Project

Presentation will be marked on the subject matter, professionalism, and Creativity.
 The project will be group of 3-4 (or more) students and **all** must participate in Both presentations, it is your responsibility to select the group and coordinate the effort and presentations of the project.
 Both phases must submitted **on or before** the **due date** and presented by the Group

Exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makeup exam should not be given unless there is a valid excuse. • Arrangements to take an exam at a time different than the one scheduled MUST be made prior to the scheduled exam time.
Cheating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheating or copying from neighbor on exam, quiz, or project is an illegal and unethical activity, it will lead you to fail the course, JADARA standards and regulations will be applied.

Additional Notes (Continue)	
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent attendance is expected, and it worth 5% of the grade. • JADARA policy requires the faculty member to assign ZERO grade (35) if a student misses 10% of the classes that are not excused. • Sign-in sheets will be circulated. • If you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out about any announcements or assignments you may have missed.
Workload	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average work-load student should expect to spend is 8 hours/week
Graded Exams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor should return exam papers graded to students within one week after the exam date.
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation and contribution to class discussions will affect your final grade positively. Raise your hand if you have any question, it worth 5% of the grade. • Making any kind of disruption and (side talks) in the class will affect you negatively, Cell phone (Mobile) must be shut off before you get in to the class.
Finally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make backups of all of your work. • This includes any assignment and project materials you and your group produce. • Copy files onto 2 or 3 floppy disks and photocopy diagrams and other materials to share with your group.