



For more information about the
 HCI Summer Program
 or our full M.S. in HCI, visit
www.illc.rpi.edu or contact

Kathy Colman
 Recruitment Coordinator, LL&C
 518 276-6469
colmak@rpi.edu

To inquire about the application
 process or to register for the
 HCI Summer Program, contact

Ronnie Rowe
 518 276-2347
rower@rpi.edu

Brochure designed by Matt Iacovone
 M.S. in Technical Communication '03
 Certificate in HCI

FEBRUARY 2008

This summer, HCI courses will include *Foundations of HCI Usability* and *Communication Design for the World Wide Web*. Faculty include Roger Grice, well-respected leader in usability testing, and Patricia Search, internationally acclaimed multimedia designer.

Foundations of HCI Usability is an **on-campus course** with on-line delivery for the final class. Distance students are welcome to attend. Students will consider methods of gathering users' requirements for product functions and information, ways to test products and information for usability and suitability, and procedures for incorporating the results learned through testing. Students will design and conduct usability tests on products, documents, and interfaces of interest.

Communication Design for the World Wide Web is a **distance course** with on-line delivery for distance students and on-campus classes for local students. Students will

"RPI's program stands out from the majority of HCI programs currently offered across the country. It is one of a handful of forward-looking programs that puts communication at the center of their vision and curricula. The program weaves together a solid base in the theory and practice of technical and professional communications, rhetoric, visual communication, design, and

examine how to design websites that meet user requirements through the design, development, and evaluation of a site's organizational structure, graphics, textual content, and interactive design.

From May 19 – May 30, *Foundations of HCI Usability* will meet in nine daily sessions from 11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. EDT, and *Communication Design for the WWW* will meet in nine daily sessions, 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. EDT. From May 31 – June 12, students in both classes will work at a distance on their final projects, and present on-line on June 12. Software instruction is not included, so knowledge of web programming is necessary, using Dreamweaver, Director, Flash, direct HTML coding, or other method. Students choose their preferred method.

Student may take one or both courses. Each 3-credit course is offered at the special distance pricing of \$1,167 per credit hour.

media and perception studies, and merges it with other relevant disciplines, such as cognitive psychology, computer science, instructional technology, and graphic design."

Dr. Barbara Mirel

Research Scientist, School of Information
 University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

MASTER OF SCIENCE
 IN HUMAN-COMPUTER
 INTERACTION (HCI)

2008 HCI SUMMER PROGRAM



Rensselaer

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
 DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE, LITERATURE,
 AND COMMUNICATION

www.illc.rpi.edu

Master of Science in HCI

2008 HCI SUMMER PROGRAM

The Rensselaer M.S. degree in HCI is centered on understanding human interaction *with* technological systems and human-to-human communication *via* technological intermediaries. The degree provides in-depth study of the fundamental principles of human-technology interaction; mastery of techniques for evaluation of interfaces, performance support systems, and system usability; and design and implementation of human-technology interfaces and systems. The M.S. in HCI program combines coursework in human communication theory and HCI theory with work in allied areas in which Rensselaer excels, such as technical communication, human factors, cognitive science, and computer science.

The M.S. in HCI graduate will be uniquely qualified to be a leader in understanding the *human* in human-computer interaction and putting this knowledge to use in designing, evaluating, and implementing the technologies of tomorrow.

The Rensselaer Approach to HCI

HCI education at Rensselaer reflects the strengths of the Institute—a premier technological university with a long history of forward-thinking research and innovation,

grounded in meeting real-world needs (visit www.rpi.edu/about for more about the Institute). The HCI program was designed in cooperation with industry experts, in both commercial and research contexts, to reflect skills and perspective they would want to see in a new hire from an M.S. in HCI program.

Courses include grounding in both theory and practice, and they were designed to build skills in teamwork, individual and group presentation, as well as offering hands-on design practice culminating in a

“The education and support I received in the HCI Certificate program convinced me that Rensselaer was the only school that I should be attending to complete my Masters degree. The classes and projects in the program have given me real-world experience that I use every day at my job, and that I will continue to leverage for a successful career in the field of Human-Computer Interaction.”

Stacy A. Newman

ECM Visual Design,
User Experience Team

IBM Silicon Valley
Laboratory



portfolio piece for graduates. Advanced seminars in cutting-edge research and issues in HCI provide students with new thinking in the field to inspire commercial practice, and also help to prepare graduates for continuing on to Ph.D.-level work in HCI.

Courses blend on- and off-campus students, using a sophisticated, real-time distance education support environment. Rensselaer's M.S. in HCI is one of the few that can be completed almost entirely at a distance by working professionals, with a minimal campus visit requirement. Project teams and dialog among students reflect a rich set of expertise and perspective – M.S. students will encounter others in the program working locally and at a distance, as well as students in other Rensselaer programs that include HCI as an elective requirement (e.g., engineering, architecture, management and technology, science, and other programs within the School of Humanities and Social Sciences).

Summer Program in HCI

Rensselaer will again be offering an HCI Summer Program. Students will be able to take one or both of the introductory courses in the well-respected 4-course graduate Certificate in HCI. The Certificate,

designed in cooperation with industry experts, provides those involved in HCI design with knowledge and skills to create new and better ways for people to communicate with and through computers. Courses provide an overview of HCI usability, in-depth work in electronic coaching systems, communication design for the World Wide Web, and a capstone design experience.

This program provides an excellent introduction to those new to the field of HCI, including working professionals in HCI-related areas and teachers in HCI-related fields such as technical communication and information technology.

The program also allows current Rensselaer students, both on campus and at a distance, to accelerate their progress toward the M.S. or the Certificate in HCI.

Credits earned in the HCI Summer Program may be applied toward the full M.S. in HCI or the Certificate in HCI, offered on campus or at a distance, during the regular academic year.