# **Human Factors Engineering**

- How to design systems that take advantage of people's capabilities and compensate for their limitations
- If a system doesn't work for people it doesn't work!
- Both:

-A skill set for *every* engineer

-A unique career

#### **Human Factors Faculty**



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Paul Milgram









Justin Hollands

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### **MIE Human Factors Curriculum**

	Fall	Winter
Year 2	MIE 242: Psychology for Engineers	MIE240: Human-Centred Systems
	(core)	Design (core)
Year 3	MIE343: Industrial Ergonomics and	MIE345: Case Studies in Human
	the Workplace (core)	Factors and Ergonomics
	MIE344: Ergonomic Design of	(tech elective)
	Information Systems (tech elective)	
Year 4	MIE523: Engineering Psychology	MIE542: Human Factors Integration
	and Human Performance	(tech elective)
	(tech elective)	
	MIE344: Ergonomic Design of	MIE345: Case Studies in Human
	Information Systems	Factors and Ergonomics
	(tech elective)	(tech elective)

(In terms of the *number* of undergraduate courses offered (7), the UofT HF programme is among the *largest* in North America.)

# MIE343 (F): Industrial Ergonomics and the Workplace







- 1. Anatomical & physiological factors underlying design of equipment and work places.
- 2. Biomechanical factors governing physical workload and motor performance.
- 3. Circadian rhythms & shift work.
- 4. Measurement and specification of heat, light, and sound with respect to design of work environments.

### MIE344 (F): Ergonomic Design of Information Systems





- Design of human-machine interfaces, and analysis of the impact of computers on people
- 2. Usability engineering, rapid prototyping design, analysis of user mental models and their compatibility with design models, quantitative modelling of humancomputer interaction, etc.
- 3. New developments in social computing and collaboration technologies that are relevant to interaction design

# MIE345 (S): Case Studies in Ergonomics





- A detailed analysis of numerous *Cases* in which HF methods have been applied to improve the efficiency with which human- machine systems operate.
- for example:
  - airport signage,
  - expert witnessing
  - human factors forensics
    - (e.g., Hinton train collision),
  - proposal writing

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	(tech elective)	
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	Information Systems	Factors and Ergonomics
	(tech elective)	(tech elective)



#### MIE523 (F): Engineering Psychology and Human Performance

Examines relationship between human information processing and design of (complex) human-machine systems.



#### MIE542 (S): Human Factors Integration (HFI)



- 1. Integration of HF into engineering projects.
- 2. HFI tools, and HFI best practices.
- 3. Modelling, economics, and communication of HFI problems.
- 4. Examples of HFI, from energy, healthcare, military, software systems ...
- 5. Application of HFI theory and methods to capstone design, including HFI problem specification, concept generation, and selection, through an iterative and open-ended design process.

#### Where are HF practitioners working?

- Health Care / Medical Informatics
- Software / Information Technology
- Telecommunications
- Consumer Electronics
- Aviation / Space
- Process Control
- Manufacturing
- Military (Research & Practice)
- Research & development
- Private Consulting
- Forensics
- University

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