

Summary of the ICA Workshop on Designing & Conducting User Studies

On 16 September, about 25 people, including both PhD students and more experienced researchers, attended the Workshop on Designing and Conducting User Studies, held on the first day of AutoCarto 2012 and organized jointly by Amy Griffin from the ICA Commission on Cognitive Visualization (<https://www.geo.uzh.ch/microsite/icacogvis/activities.html>), and Corné van Elzakker and Kristien Ooms from the ICA Use and User Issues Commission (http://www.univie.ac.at/icacomuse/index.php?title=Main_Page).

The workshop consisted of four modules whose titles are listed below. We have made all of the workshop materials available online at the respective Commission websites, so if you were unable to attend the workshop, you are still able to look at and learn from the materials. Please cite them appropriately if you use them.

Presenter(s), Affiliation	Title
Kristien Ooms, University of Ghent, ICA Commission on Use and User Issues Corné van Elzakker, ITC University of Twente, ICA Commission on Use and User Issues	Module 1a - Methods and techniques of use, user and usability research in geo-information processing and dissemination
Ioannis Delikostidis and Corné van Elzakker, ITC University of Twente, ICA Commission on Use and User Issues	Module 1b - Improving the usability of pedestrian navigation systems
Amy Griffin, University of New South Wales, Canberra, ICA Commission on Cognitive Visualization	Module 2 - Designing your user study or experiment
Amy Lobben, University of Oregon, ICA Commission on Cognitive Visualization	Module 3 - Research instrument integrity
Rob Roth, University of Wisconsin, Madison, ICA Commission on Use and User Issues	Module 4 - Working with the card sorting method

We hope to offer similar workshops in the future, to reach new groups of PhD students and researchers, and plan to expand upon the available modules.

We would like to thank CAGIS and the AutoCarto organizers for providing the physical and program space to run the workshop, catering to keep us all caffeinated, and the infrastructure needed to get participants registered. Their support helped contribute to a smoothly run workshop.