

CS 4700: Foundations of Artificial Intelligence
Spring 2018
Syllabus

- Instructor:
 - Prof. Haym Hirsh, haym.hirsh@cornell.edu, Gates 352
 - Office Hours: after class and by arrangement
 - TAs: TBA
 - Textbook: *Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach* by Stuart Russell and Peter Norvig, 3rd Edition
- Prerequisites:
 - CS 2110/ENGRD 2110
 - CS 2800 - particularly probability, first-order logic, big-O notation
 - Calculus
- Location:
 - Class meeting time: MWF 1:25-2:15, Olin 155
 - Online:
 - Course web page: cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs4700
 - Piazza: <https://piazza.com/class/jcuyjuspvna112>
 - Gradescope: gradescope.com Entry Code: 9KW329
- Grading:
 - 14% ($\pm 5\%$): Homework
 - Homeworks can be submitted up to 48 hours late for a 50% penalty
 - All homeworks must be submitted through Gradescope. Sometimes assignments may *additionally* ask you to submit material elsewhere, such as a Google form, and you haven't submitted the assignment on time if you haven't submitted in both places on time.
 - Homeworks can be typeset, or scanned in versions of handwritten answers. Either way, use common sense – is it legible?
 - Doing a homework problem typically involves two steps: understanding the problem/figuring out the solution, and then writing it up coherently. For the first phase you can discuss homeworks with others and use other online resources if you find something that's relevant, but your writeup should be your own, without consulting notes or other materials as you're writing it up. Bottom line: The homeworks are designed to get you to exercise the concepts discussed in class in a deeper way than is possible in class. If you can't independently manage to solve the homeworks by the time you're done you won't understand the material well (and will not do well on the exams). You should be confident that you really understand what you're writing rather than copying down something you only partly understand.
 - 35% ($\pm 5\%$): Prelim (Tentatively Friday, March 23, 1:25-2:15)
 - 50% ($\pm 5\%$): Final (Monday, May 21, 2:00-4:30)
 - For students with internships starting that day there will be a makeup on Friday, May 18.
 - 1%: Submitting a course evaluation

- All regrade requests must be submitted through Gradescope within one week of grades being released.
- The weights on homeworks and exams will be adjusted by up to 5% to maximize your overall grade. For example, if your homeworks were your lowest grade and your final your highest, your homework would count 9% and the final 55%.
- Extra credit: There will be various activities you can undertake to get “extra credit”. These are not points but rather will only come into consideration if you are on the boundary between grades – more extra credit, the more likely I am to give you the higher grade. This includes
 - Participation on Piazza: The most “credit” comes from answering questions and posting on the newsfeed. Piazza also reports how many questions you’ve posted and how many posts you’ve read, which I also will notice.
 - Going to extra credit lectures that might be brought to the class’s attention. Keep track of which you go to, and I’ll ask for your list at the end of the semester.
- Laptop/cellphone policy: You can use laptops/cellphones only if their use is connected to the lecture, such as to follow along with material that the instructor is displaying that has been put online, to look up the answer to something that the lecture made you curious about, to take notes, etc.
- Academic integrity: You are expected to exhibit the highest level of academic integrity in the course (as in life more generally). Any violation of academic integrity will be severely punished. If you have any questions concerning whether something is permissible please ask the instructor rather than presuming the answer yourself.
- Special accommodations: All students with suitably documented special accommodations needs should contact the professor so that they can be arranged.