Introduction and Logistics

Advanced Social Computing

Department of Computer Science
University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Fall 2020

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Instructor

- Hadi Amiri
  - Office:Virtual!
    Dandeneau Hall 334
  - Office hours
    - by appointment
  - Hobbies: Sports that are hard on the feet!

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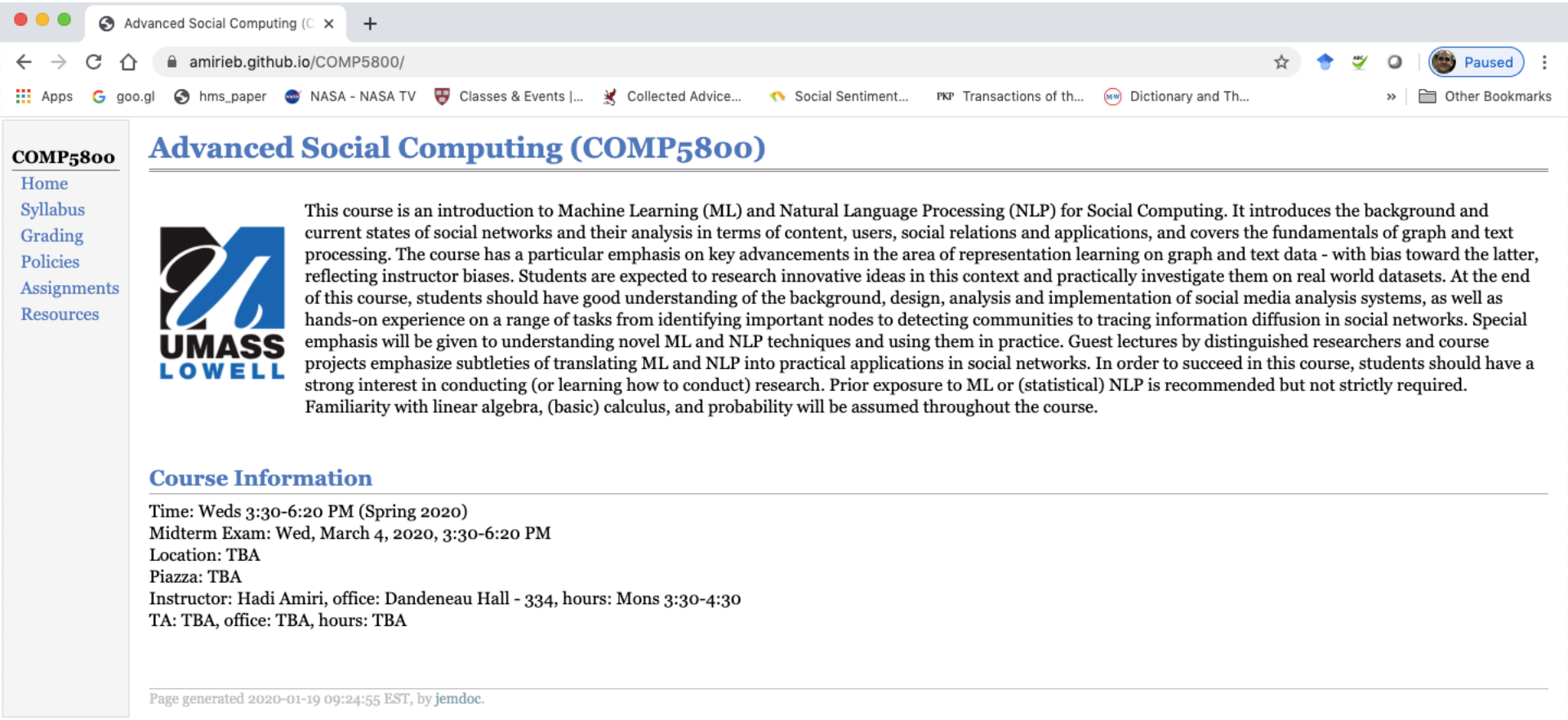
Target Students

1. Junior graduate students.

2. Senior undergraduate students who are interested in conducting/learning how to conduct research.

Course Homepage



https://amirieb.github.io/COMP5800_F20/

Please read all details on class webpage! The subsequent slides are not comprehensive.

Textbooks

- **[NCM] Networks, Crowds, and Markets: Reasoning About a Highly Connected World**
  - David Easley and Jon Kleinberg

- **[MMD] Mining of Massive Datasets**
  - Jure Leskovec, Anand Rajaraman, Jeffrey D. Ullman

Syllabus

Textbook-oriented

Research-oriented

Week	Lecture
W1	Course Overview and Network Basics
W2	Strong and Weak Ties
W3	Node Analysis & Homophily
W4	Web Graph and Network Popularity
W5	Information Cascading
W6	Small-world Phenomenon
W7	Midterm Exam
W8	Text Representation
W9	Graph Representation
W10	Health Informatics
W11	`no class`
W12	Network Analysis of Language
W13	`no class`
W14	Social Search & Moment Retrieval
W15	Project Presentations!

Grading

- 4 Homework (30%)
- 2 Assignments (30%)
- Midterm Exam (20%)
- Final project (20%)

- Optional
  - Extra credit (5%)

- Grades to be returned within 3 weeks of due dates:
  - You can question the grading within 3 days of the return of the preliminary grades by email.

Policies & Requirments

- Attendance
  - Please come to class prepared and be on time.
- Collaboration
  - Always follow Facebook Rule & UML's honor code.
  - Write name(s) of your collaborators on submissions.
- Academic Accommodation
  - Provide a letter from DS office during W01-W03.
- Religious Observance
  - Let me know, no due dates during these times.
- Anti-Harassment
  - In any form is unwelcome in this course.

Homework

- Focus: Lecture materials

- Should be completed individually
- Due time 3:30pm on Wed classes
- Specific submission format (see assignments)

Assignments

- Focus: Practical aspects of implementing, training, and evaluating social computing systems.

- Should be completed individually
- Due time 3:30pm on Wed classes
- Specific submission format (see assignments)

- Grading based on:
  - code correctness
  - model performance on *unseen* test data.

Spotlight Papers

- Papers relevant to specific topics in social computing.
- Try reading papers before the classes.
- These are not assignments and won't be graded.

Final Project

- Innovative idea that is evaluated on real or synthetic datasets.
- Individual or Team of 2 students.
- 2-page proposal in provided template.
- 4-page progress report in provided template.
- 8-page final report in provided template.
- All projects will be presented in class.

- Final project is a substantial part of this course!
  - Start working on ideas *now*!
  - Talk to me for ideas, help, advice, etc.

Important Dates

- Check the website, Assignments menu.

Late-ness!

- Late homework is not allowed
  - late after due date/time: zero mark
- Late assignments and projects are allowed
  - late within 3 days: 30% reduction in grade
  - after that: zero mark.

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Note: Submit Early. Submission links will be
automatically disabled after due date/time.
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Midterm Exam

- Open-book.

- Format: Online.

Extra Credit – 5%

- Can be earned by attending a related *CS Colloquium*:
  - Provide a concise report/summary of:
    - Research problems addressed in the talk,
    - Draw connections to materials discussed in class.
  - Email the report within 1 week of the talk.
  - Max of 2 reports will be considered for a total credit of 5%.

Piazza

- Register here today:
  - piazza.com/uml/fall2020/comp5800

- All announcements and important updates will be will be posted on Piazza.

Course Evaluations

- 1-2 surveys
  - textbook-oriented and research-oriented lectures.
  - I try to take student comments seriously.

Course Evaluations

- 1-2 surveys
  - textbook-oriented and research-oriented lectures.
  - I try to take student comments seriously.
    - Well, most of them – won't change a few things!

Peer Evaluation

- Peer evaluation for final project
  - After proposals are submitted.
  - Each student should:
    - clearly report his/her duties in the project
    - actively contribute to the project, and
    - if group, try to help the other team members.
  - Report dysfunctional group situations ASAP.

Questions?