

CS412: An Introduction to Data Mining

Course Objective

Provide a comprehensive overview of the fundamental concepts and techniques of data mining.

- Be able to understand the key concepts of data mining techniques, including data preprocessing, data warehousing and cube, frequent pattern mining, classification, clustering.
- Be able to apply the key data mining techniques to realistic setting, evaluate and analyze the mining results.

Basic Information

Class meeting: 1404 SC, 11:00am-12:15pm T/R

Instructor: Hanghang Tong (htong@illinois.edu)

TAs:

- Xinyu He (xhe34@illinois.edu)
- Baoyu Jing (baoyuj2@illinois.edu)
- Zhichen Zeng (zhichenz@illinois.edu)

Office hours:

[All CT time, all on Zooms. Note that each of us have a different zoom link & pwd – please refer to canvas for the detailed schedule & zoom info]

Online resources:

- Piazza: <https://piazza.com/illinois/fall2025/cs412>
- Canvas: <https://canvas.illinois.edu/>

Schedule (Tentative, subject to slight adjustment)

- Class Outline / Chapter 1: Introduction
- Chapter 2: Data, Measurements, and Data Preprocessing
- Chapter 3: Data Warehousing and Online Analytical Processing
- Chapter 4: Mining Frequent Patterns, Associations, and Correlations: Basic Concepts and Methods
- Chapter 6: Classification: Basic Concepts
- Chapter 8: Cluster Analysis: Basic Concepts
- Chapter 10: Deep Learning

Coursework and Grading

- Assignments, Programming Assignments, and Exams
 - Written Assignments: 45% (three homework assignments expected)
 - Midterm exam 1: 15%
 - Midterm exam 2: 20%
 - Midterm exam 3: 20%
- For students taking 4th credit

- For students registering 4 credits: 25%. The overall scores will be scaled proportionally
- Group project: 2-3 members

Key Dates

- **Assignments**
 - A1: Aug. 26th out, Sep. 18th due
 - A2: Sep. 18th out, Oct. 21st due
 - A3: Oct. 21st out, Dec. 4th due
- **Exams**
 - Mid-term 1: 11:00am-12:15pm, Sep. 25th, (in class)
 - Mid-term 2: 11:00am-12:15pm, Oct. 28th, (in class)
 - Mid-term 3: 11:00am-12:15pm, Dec. 9th, (in class)
- **Project/survey (for students taking 4th credit)**
 - Project/survey proposal due: Sep. 16th
 - Mid-point report due: Oct. 30th
 - Paper/survey submission due: Dec. 2nd

Textbooks

Required: Jiawei Han, Jian Pei, and Hanghang Tong. Data Mining: Concepts and Techniques (4th ed), Morgan Kaufmann

Reference:

- Charu C. Aggarwal, Data Mining: The Textbook, Springer, 2015
- P.-N. Tan, M. Steinbach and V. Kumar, Introduction to Data Mining, Wiley, 2005 (2nd ed. 2016)
- Mohammed J. Zaki and Wagner Meira Jr., Data Mining and Analysis: Fundamental Concepts and Algorithms, Cambridge University Press, 2014

Mental Health

Diminished mental health, including significant stress, mood changes, excessive worry, substance/alcohol abuse, or problems with eating and/or sleeping can interfere with optimal academic performance, social development, and emotional wellbeing. The University of Illinois offers a variety of confidential services including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, psychiatric services, and specialized screenings at no additional cost. If you or someone you know experiences any of the above mental health concerns, it is strongly encouraged to contact or visit any of the University's resources provided below. Getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do -- for yourself and for those who care about you.

Counseling Center: 217-333-3704, 610 East John Street Champaign, IL 61820

McKinley Health Center: 217-333-2700, 1109 South Lincoln Avenue, Urbana, Illinois 61801

Sexual Misconduct Reporting Obligation

The University of Illinois is committed to combating sexual misconduct. Faculty and staff members are required to report any instances of sexual misconduct to the University's Title IX

Office. In turn, an individual with the Title IX Office will provide information about rights and options, including accommodations, support services, the campus disciplinary process, and law enforcement options.

A list of the designated University employees who, as counselors, confidential advisors, and medical professionals, do not have this reporting responsibility and can maintain confidentiality, can be found here: wecare.illinois.edu/resources/students/#confidential.

Other information about resources and reporting is available here: wecare.illinois.edu.

Academic Integrity

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Code should also be considered as a part of this syllabus. Students should pay particular attention to Article 1, Part 4: Academic Integrity. Read the Code at the following URL: <http://studentcode.illinois.edu/>.

Academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade. Every student is expected to review and abide by the Academic Integrity Policy: <https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1/part4/1-401/>. Ignorance is not an excuse for any academic dishonesty. It is your responsibility to read this policy to avoid any misunderstanding. Do not hesitate to ask the instructor(s) if you are ever in doubt about what constitutes plagiarism, cheating, or any other breach of academic integrity.

Religious Observances

Illinois law requires the University to reasonably accommodate its students' religious beliefs, observances, and practices in regard to admissions, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work requirements. You should examine this syllabus at the beginning of the semester for potential conflicts between course deadlines and any of your religious observances. If a conflict exists, you should notify your instructor of the conflict and follow the procedure at <https://odos.illinois.edu/community-of-care/resources/students/religious-observances/> to request appropriate accommodations. This should be done in the first two weeks of classes.

Disability-Related Accommodations

To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor and the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES, you may visit 1207 S. Oak St., Champaign, call 333-4603, e-mail disability@illinois.edu or go to <https://www.disability.illinois.edu>. If you are concerned you have a disability-related condition that is impacting your academic progress, there are academic screening appointments available that can help diagnosis a previously undiagnosed disability. You may access these by visiting the DRES website and selecting "Request an Academic Screening" at the bottom of the page.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Any student who has suppressed their directory information pursuant to Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) should self-identify to the instructor to ensure protection of the privacy of their attendance in this course. See <https://registrar.illinois.edu/academic-records/ferpa/> for more information on FERPA.

Assuring Non-Hostile Work Environment

In order to assure a non-hostile work environment for course staff, we will strictly enforce the following policy for the future assessment, including exams, assignments and course project. Any assessment containing language that conventionally would be judged as obscene, threatening violence, or of a clearly derogatory nature will be given a 0 without further grading.