CS410 DSO: Text Information Systems: Course Introduction

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Motivation: Harnessing Big Text Data

• Text data is ubiquitous and growing rapidly
  – Internet
  – Blogs
  – News
  – Email
  – Literature
  – Twitter
  – …

→ Knowledge → Many applications!
Main Techniques for Harnessing Big Text Data: Text Retrieval + Text Mining

Big Text Data → Small Relevant Data → Knowledge → Many Applications

Text Retrieval

Text Mining
Design of CS410: Overview

Online Videos + High Engagement

MOOC 1
Text Retrieval

MOOC 2
Text Mining

Project & Tech Review

Big Text Data

Small Relevant Data

Knowledge

Many Applications
Design of CS410: Goals

- Emphasize **both theory and practice**
  - **Theory**: basic concepts and general principles are applicable to all applications ➔ Lectures + Quizzes + Exams
  - **Practice**: specific practical skills are **immediately** useful ➔ Programming assignments
  - **Integration** of theory and practice ➔ Course projects
Design of CS410: Goals

• **Personalized** learning
  ➔ Self paced + Choices of project & technology review

• **Collaborative** learning
  ➔ Forum-based interactions and collaboration
  ➔ Group projects, group technology reviews
Design of CS410: Format & Grading

Synchronous Weekly Office Hours via Video-Teleconferencing
Asynchronous Question Answering & Discussion via Forums

MOOC 1
Text Retrieval
- Lecture Videos
- Quizzes
- Exam
- Programming 25%

MOOC 2
Text Mining
- Lecture Videos
- Quizzes
- Exam
- Programming 20%

Course Project
- Topic Selection Proposal 5%
- Progress Report 5%
- Software Deposit Presentation 65%
- Tech Review 20%

Extra Credit: + 5%
You have Complete Control over Your Grade!

- **A+:** [95, 100]
- **A:** [90, 94]
- **A-:** [85, 89]
- **B+:** [80, 84]
- **B:** [75, 79]
- **B-:** [70, 74]
- **C:** [60, 69]
- **D:** [55, 59]
- **F:** <55

5% Extra Credit would help move your grade up by one bracket
If you have already taken the MOOC(s)

• You can and are **encouraged** to **finish** all the quizzes and most programming assignments **much earlier**

• However, you cannot take an exam earlier, and some programming tasks may require synchronization and thus cannot be finished earlier than scheduled

• Enjoy **more time** to work on your **course projects** (if you want to)!
Forum Discussion

• **Forum (Piazza)** is the **primary** way of interactions and engagement
  – Asynchronous discussion enables **participation of everyone**
  – Enables **faster question answering** without waiting until an office hour
  – Facilitates **identification of difficult concepts** to be covered in office hours
Protocol of Question Answering

• As soon as you have a question or issue to discuss, **post** it immediately on Forum

• If the question is not answered in a timely manner on Forum or addressed adequately, **email** the question to all of us (i.e., the instructor and TAs) using a subject line containing the keyword “CS410DSO”

• If you don’t receive a reply from us by email in a timely manner, **join an office-hour** (i.e., a video-conference)
Format of Office Hours

• TAs and the instructor will hold **weekly** office hours at **published time slots** using **video-conferencing (Zoom)**

• Students can **join/leave** an office hour **as needed** at any time

• **Priority** list in descending order:
  – **High:** Issues posted on Forum, but unresolved even after email communications with the TAs/Instructor
  – **Medium:** Other unresolved issues on Forum
  – **Low:** Any questions or issues not posted on Forum, brought by a student joining an office hour (first come, first serve)
How to Get the Most out of CS410 DSO?

• **Plan ahead** based on your own schedule, and **act early**
  – Allocate **sufficient time** for the preparation of **two proctored exams**
  – Try to complete quizzes and programming assignments ahead of time whenever possible

• Post questions on Forum **immediately** whenever have difficulty in understanding any part of the course materials

• Leverage **collaborative learning**
  – Actively participate in forum discussions (you’ll learn from reading posts on Forums)
  – Earn up to 5% **extra credit** by making effort to answer others’ questions on Forums (your effort will be logged on the Forum)
For more information, visit the course website:

https://courses.engr.illinois.edu/cs410/fa2020