

Course Description

CAI2300C | Introduction to Natural Language Processing | 3.00 credits

Students will learn the fundamental concepts of Natural Language Processing (NLP) and text processing. In addition, focus will be on knowledge and skills necessary to create a language recognition application. Prerequisite: CAI2100C and recommended preparation: COP1047C or equivalent knowledge of Python programming language.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: Students will describe standard techniques in Natural Language Processing and associated applications by:

- 1. Exploring AI For NLP, Applications of NLP, NLP data processing, BOW, and Algorithms in NLP
- 2. Processing textual data by sentence segmentation, tokenization, lemmatization, stop word removal, etc
- 3. Applying data preprocessing techniques like document similarity, Word Vectors, Cosine similarity, etc
- 4. Distinguishing between NLP models and algorithms

Competency 2: The students will describe the data acquisition process in NLP by:

- 1. Comparing different types of NLP datasets
- 2. Identifying and examining various data storage methods
- 3. Examining curated data sources and interpreting their usage in NLP domain
- Downloading and processing data using the NLTK library. e) Applying data visualization techniques specific to NLP

Competency 3: The students will explore NLP Data Preprocessing by:

- 1. Utilizing proprietary and open-source libraries and data visualization techniques
- 2. Exploring and applying various vectorization techniques
- 3. Exploring and applying the methods of document similarity and vector visualization
- 4. Distinguishing between various distance measurement techniques
- 5. Defining and understanding the various processes associated with the NLP data pipeline

Competency 4: The students will describe, compare, and train different machine learning models by:

- 1. Describing and applying NLP classifiers to train machine learning models
- 2. Describing neural networks and their working principles. Understanding various language models
- 3. Defining and summarizing various Neural Language Models, N-gram Models, and Sequential Models
- 4. Defining and demonstrating Recurrent Neural Networks and Named Entity Recognition (NER) models through various activities and use cases

Competency 5: The students will explore NLP Model deployment by:

- 1. Identifying and exploring various machine learning model deployment platforms
- 2. Describing and classifying various types of chatbots by their applications
- 3. Implementing Language Detection, Transliteration, Translation, and Sentiment Analysis for different language scenarios
- 4. Using different tools to create and deploy chatbots, pre-existing chatbot frameworks, and Chatter On
- 5. Using cosine similarity in neural networks to train chatbots

Competency 6: The students will discuss and describe advanced models in NLP by:

- 1. Exploring the most recent developments in the NLP space
- 2. Explaining the workings of LSTM, Transformers, and BERT
- 3. Examining several NLP pre-trained models
- 4. Comparing the workings, performance, and architectures of Distil BERT, RoBERT, GPT, GPT-2, BERT, and BART models of NLP
- 5. Summarizing various types of learning fast learning techniques, Zero-shot, One-shot, and Few-shot
- 6. Evaluating various ethical issues in language models

Updated: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes:

- Use quantitative analytical skills to evaluate and process numerical data
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society
- Use computer and emerging technologies effectively

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