CSCI544: Projects Submission Instructions

Project proposals are the first step to deliver your projects. You can still change some goals and steps after writing your proposals, but the more time you spend to clarify your goals for yourself at this stage before submitting your proposal, the easier time you will have to implement your ideas and achieve your goals.

1 Introduction

Grading breakdown of the course project and deadlines:

Proposal	10%	Oct 4
Status Report	10%	Nov 3
Poster Presentations	10%	Nov 29 – Dec 1
Final Report	60%	Dec 1
Self-evaluation	10%	Dec 3

The deadlines are before the start of class.

2 Project Topic

The goal of your project is to solve an interesting problem, demonstrating your mastery of using NLP on a focused area. Your written assignment was a brain teaser to warm up yourself to achieve this goal.

3 Proposal Write-up

Each group should submit a single **2-page** proposal (excluding references). Proposals should be submitted using the "Project Proposal" assignment on

Blackboard (it's a group assignment). Use the [standard ACL template](#) for formatting your proposal. The proposal should include a title, and four sections:

1. Project Domain & Goals
2. Related Work
3. Datasets
4. Technical Challenge

Project Domain & Goals

This section should clearly explain what your project is about. What sort of problem will your project address? Why do we need NLP to address the relevant challenge? What problems will you be able to solve if you successfully implement your ideas?

Related Work

Include related similar works and explain what will be your additional contribution to the existing works.

Datasets

Will you prepare your dataset or will you use existing benchmarks? Where will the data for your project come from? Be specific! Include URLs for the sources you plan to use. How will you process the dataset? Are there existing standard preprocessing and cleaning that you will use or will you have to develop your own procedure?

Technical Challenge

What is the hard technical problem you will solve? Why is it hard? How does it go beyond the material you have seen in the course syllabus as well as related existing work? How will you know if you succeed in addressing the challenges, i.e., evaluation?

3. Project Status Report

The status report is a 2-page document in which you explain the progress you have made after submitting your proposals. It should have three sections:

1. Tasks that have been preformed by them.
2. Risks and challenges that you think you need to address by the project deadline.
3. Your plan to mitigate the risks and address the challenges.

If you encounter a significant challenge that requires changing your project direction, you need to explain why it is the case and what will be the updated version.

4   Poster Presentation

You will present your work in a poster session in the last week of class. Each team will design and print a 24in × 36in poster that explains their research; teams may also have a live demo to accompany their poster. During the poster session, students and instructors will circulate around the class to learn about the research of the various teams. Posters will be peer-graded.

5   Project Final Report

Your final report will be a 4 page report (excluding references) in the format of a short paper. You are free to format your report but a good format is Introduction + Methods + Experiments + Results&Discussion + Conclusions. You can also check short papers, presented at ACL conferences, to learn how to write a good report. Additionally:

1. Upload your code on Github and provide the link in your report. It is OK if it is a private repository but the course instruction team should have access to your repository.

2. We highly recommend you submit your final project report on Arxiv. The primary benefit is for students of this course in the future to be inspired from your work. It will also document your effort for your future reference.