# COMP316 Course Project

The projects will entail original investigation into any area of application of natural language processing. Possible areas of application include *information retrieval*, *question answering*, *summarisation*, and *machine translation* which we will cover in class. You are free to do your project on any area of application, including those that will not be covered in class.

## Scope

Exercise a lot of care on choosing projects, otherwise you may choose a project that will take a lot of your time. It is in your best interest to choose a project that can be implemented using some existing NLP library.

## Important Dates

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| Abstracts | : | February 19, 2016 |
| Proposals | : | March 02, 2016 |
| Progress reports | : | April 06, 2016 |
| Oral presentations | : | May 04, 2016 |
| Final reports | : | May, 06, 2016 |

## Abstracts

Soon after choosing your project you are expected to submit an abstract on your idea. The abstract is just a short paragraph telling me who are the members of your group, describing the project you've chosen, sketching the general approach you intend to take and the kinds of data you're going to need for testing your implementation. The abstract mainly serves to give me a chance to help you get resources you may need, and to make sure that the project you have chosen is feasible.

## Proposals

The proposal is a one page description of what exactly you plan to do, designed to convince me that you've got a plan for the project and that you've started working on the project. The plan should have a set of activities that you will undertake up to completion of the project and their timeframes. When you submit your proposals, you should have your groups and topics completely firmed up.

## Progress report

The progress report is meant to give me picture on whether you will be able to finish your project or not. You are expected to report against the activities you set out in your proposal.

## Oral Presentation

Each group is expected to give a 15 minute presentation. The presentation will be followed by 5 minutes of questions & comments from the audience and another 5 minutes for software demonstration.

The presentations will be graded by your peer groups using a defined assessment criteria. Each of the peer groups will sit after the presentation to reconcile their mark for all the other groups. A group's final mark for oral presentations is given by the average of the marks given by the peer groups.

## Final write-up

The final write-up should not be more than 8 pages. It should describe your approach, results, data analysis, and so on. Submission of the milestones is required, but you will only receive a grade at the end, based on your write-ups and presentation, so don't stress about the formatting or polish of the intermediate submissions.

Individual self-evaluation reports for each group member should be submitted along with the final write up. These reports should not be more than half a page long. The report should give the student's contribution to the group and his own rating of how much of his/her expected contribution did he/she contribute.

## Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria

The learning outcomes from which the Assessment criteria is going to be drawn are:

1. Show sensitivity to linguistic phenomena and an ability to model them with formal grammars.

2. Ability to sample machine learning techniques and assessing which ones are suitable for a given problem.
3. Understand and carry out proper experimental methodology for training and evaluating empirical NLP systems.
4. Ability to implement an NLP solution using some NLP library.