



Georgetown  
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# About this course

# What is Natural Language Processing (NLP)

- Closely related to the fields of computational linguistics and machine learning
  - Linguistics is concerned with language itself; its structure and how we represent it, the nature of meaning derived from it, the application of logic and reasoning over it etc..
  - In contrast, NLP is aimed at building computational methods that enable computers to process human language with the goal of performing some task. Examples include text search, question answering, conversing with humans etc..
  - NLP relies heavily on various machine learning methods, for example deep neural networks, but uses them as a means to accomplish specific tasks. However, many novel ideas and progress in ML have come from NLP, for example transformers (BERT); NLP and ML have a symbiotic relationship.