# Entrance exams

- Entrance Exam 1:
  - Covers course expectations & policies
  - Posted on Canvas/Github
  - **Due date**: Aug 29 (Section 1) / Sep 1 (Section 2)

- Entrance Exam 2:
  - Technical exam
    - Can complete in groups of <= 3
    - Take home, internet use encouraged
    - If it’s easy, great .. if it’s hard, that’s Ok. Goal is everyone starts from level set
  - Posted on Github
  - **Due date**: Sep 8 (Section 1) / Sep 12 (Section 2)

# What will you learn?

- Birds eye view:
  - How to represent written and spoken language in a useful way
  - How to frame language understanding as a tractable statistical inference problem
  - How to evaluate the performance of language and speech processing systems
  - NLP systems building experience

- Canopy view:
  - State-of-the-art language modeling methods
  - Common NLP tasks (e.g., NER, QA) and their relation to various technologies (e.g., chatbots)
  - A perspective of how NLP has evolved and where it's headed
  - You will learn to use powerful tools within the NLP ecosystem
    - DL packages (e.g., Pytorch, Tensorflow, MXNet)
    - The *transformers* library
    - GPU computing