

# Foundations of Machine Learning

EEL 5840

**Class Periods:** Tuesday 10:40-11:30AM and Thursday 10:40AM-12:35PM

**Location:** NEB 100

**Academic Term:** Fall 2021

## **Instructor:**

Alina Zare

[azare@ece.ufl.edu](mailto:azare@ece.ufl.edu); Contact through the Canvas for all course-related communication.

Office Hours: Thursdays, 12:45-1:45pm

## **Teaching Assistant/ Supervised Teaching Student:**

Please contact through the Canvas

- TBD

## **Course Description**

Engineering and hardware concepts pertaining to design of intelligent computer systems.

## **Course Objectives**

Understand and utilize the concepts of machine learning for data science and electrical engineering. Focus on tools for multivariate data analysis and how to handle uncertain data with probability models.

## **Required Textbooks and Software**

- Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning
- Christopher Bishop
- Springer 2006
- 978-0387310732
- A laptop with Python 3.4.3 or later, Pytorch and Git installed will be required. Please see:  
<https://www.eng.ufl.edu/students/resources/computer-requirements/>

## **Approximate Course Schedule**

Week 1:	Overview of machine learning with polynomial curve fitting (Module 00)
Week 2:	Polynomial curve fitting, Overfitting and Experimental Design (Module 01)
Weeks 3-4:	Maximum Likelihood, Maximum A-Posteriori and Regularization (Module 02)
Week 5:	Probabilistic Generative Models (Module 03)
Week 6:	Gaussian Mixture Models (Module 04)
Weeks 7-8:	Non-parametric approaches: K-means, K-Nearest Neighbors, Fuzzy- & Possibilistic C-Means (Module 05) / <b>Mid-term Exam</b>
Week 9:	Curse of Dimensionality (Module 06)
Week 10:	Principal Components Analysis (Module 07)
Week 11:	Multi-dimensional Scaling and ISOMAP (Module 08)
Week 12:	Linear Discriminants and the Perceptron (Module 09)
Week 13:	Multilayer Perceptrons and Neural Networks (Module 10)
Week 14:	Backpropagation (Module 11)
Week 15:	Deep Learning, Exam Review and Project Discussion (Module 12) / <b>Project Due</b>
Week 16:	<b>Final Exam</b>

## **Attendance Policy, Class Expectations, and Make-Up Policy**

**Assignment Requirements:** Requirements for all assignments in this class are listed below. For maximum credit, along with correct, substantial answers, I expect high quality professional looking code and documents. Complete your assignments with care and ensure that your submission illustrates that you understand the concepts the assignment is trying to emphasize.

- For all assignments that require submission of code, turn in clean, easy to read, easy to run, and well

commented Python 3.4.3+ code. Points will be taken off if code cannot be run and/or easily understood. For example, do not use one letter variable names, do not include “magic” numbers/parameters in your code that are unexplained, etc.

- Complete all assignments in the format assigned. For example, if a PDF document is requested and a Word DOC is submitted instead, you will lose points.
- Assignments will be assigned (and will need to be submitted) via GitHub or Canvas. In Github, each assignment will have its own repository. You should keep all files associated with an assignment within its repository. Be sure to pay attention and follow any required file naming convention for all assignments.
- For full credit, assignments should be turned in on time. Assignments turned in after deadline but within 48 hours of due date and time will receive a 25% grade penalty. Late assignments will not be accepted 48 hours after due date/time.

This class will be recorded and videos posted online. So, the course can be completed asynchronously - meaning you do not need to meet at a certain time to successfully complete the course. However, assignments and materials will be covered on a schedule. In order to do well in the course, all assignments must be submitted in a timely manner.

Excused absences must be in compliance with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance>) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/graduate/regulations/>

### ***Evaluation of Grades***

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Percentage of Final Grade</b>
Homework (with one assignment drop)	10 each	40%
Midterm Exam	100	20%
Final Exam	100	20%
Project	100	20%
		100%

### ***Grading Policy***

<b>Percent</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Grade Points</b>
93.0 - 100.0	A	4.00
90.0 - 92.9	A-	3.67
87.0 - 89.9	B+	3.33
83.0 - 86.9	B	3.00
80.0 - 82.9	B-	2.67
77.0 - 79.9	C+	2.33
73.0 - 76.9	C	2.00
70.0 - 72.9	C-	1.67
67.0 - 69.9	D+	1.33
63.0 - 66.9	D	1.00
60.0 - 62.9	D-	0.67
0 - 59.9	E	0.00

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades>

For full credit, assignments should be turned in on time. Each homework assignment will be weighted equally. The

lowest homework assignment grade will be dropped. If you feel a graded assignment or exam needs to be re-graded, you must discuss this with the instructor within one week of grades being posted for that assignment/exam. After one week, items will not be considered for re-grading. The class will be graded on a curve.

**Any student found to have cheated or plagiarized on an exam or assignment will be given a grade of 0 for that exam or assignment and the evidence will be reported to the Dean of Students for the determination of any additional disciplinary action.** Unless an assignment is specifically structured as a group project, duplicate assignments written in collaboration with others are not acceptable. Although it is permissible to discuss the homework with others, these discussions should be of a general nature. All work at a detailed level must be done on your own. Students submitting the same or similar solutions to the homework will be considered as having cheated. No statements or actions made by anyone can alter this policy. Please review what constitutes plagiarism: <https://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/copyright/plagiarism>

### ***Students Requiring Accommodations***

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

### ***Course Evaluation***

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

### ***In-Class Recording***

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

### ***University Honesty Policy***

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Conduct Code (<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

### ***Commitment to a Safe and Inclusive Learning Environment***

The Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering values broad diversity within our community and is committed to individual and group empowerment, inclusion, and the elimination of discrimination. It is expected that every person in this class will treat one another with dignity and respect regardless of gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and culture.

If you feel like your performance in class is being impacted by discrimination or harassment of any kind, please contact your instructor or any of the following:

- Your academic advisor or Graduate Program Coordinator
- Jennifer Nappo, Director of Human Resources, 352-392-0904, [jpennacc@ufl.edu](mailto:jpennacc@ufl.edu)
- Curtis Taylor, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 352-392-2177, [taylor@eng.ufl.edu](mailto:taylor@eng.ufl.edu)
- Toshikazu Nishida, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, 352-392-0943, [nishida@eng.ufl.edu](mailto:nishida@eng.ufl.edu)

### ***Software Use***

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

### ***Student Privacy***

There are federal laws protecting your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. For more information, please see: <https://registrar.ufl.edu/ferpa.html>

### ***Campus Resources:***

#### ***Health and Wellness***

##### **Covid-19 Protocols:**

- You are expected to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings even if you are vaccinated. Please continue to follow healthy habits, including best practices like frequent hand washing. Following these practices is our responsibility as Gators.
- If you are sick, stay home and self-quarantine. Please visit the UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website about next steps, retake the questionnaire and schedule your test for no sooner than 24 hours after your symptoms began. Please call your primary care provider if you are ill and need immediate care or the UF Student Health Care Center at 352-392-1161 (or email [covid@shcc.ufl.edu](mailto:covid@shcc.ufl.edu)) to be evaluated for testing and to receive further instructions about returning to campus. UF Health Screen, Test & Protect offers guidance when you are sick, have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or have tested positive yourself. Visit the [UF Health Screen, Test & Protect website](#) for more information.

##### **U Matter, We Care:**

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing

staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

**Counseling and Wellness Center:** <https://counseling.ufl.edu>, and 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

**Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, Assault, or Violence**

If you or a friend has been subjected to sexual discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, or violence contact the **Office of Title IX Compliance**, located at Yon Hall Room 427, 1908 Stadium Road, (352) 273-1094, [title-ix@ufl.edu](mailto:title-ix@ufl.edu)

**Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)**

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

**University Police Department** at 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies), or <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>.

Academic Resources

**E-learning technical support**, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu).  
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

**Career Resource Center**, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling; <https://career.ufl.edu>.

**Library Support**, <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

**Teaching Center**, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.  
<https://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>.

**Writing Studio, 302 Tigert Hall**, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.  
<https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>.

**Student Complaints Campus:** <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>; <https://care.dso.ufl.edu>.

**On-Line Students Complaints:** <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>.