

Assignment 07 - Using the Twitter API to access Twitter Data

CS 581: Online Social Networks
Spring 2021

Assignment Description:

This project has two parts. Write a one-page report describing your program. The report must include the following labeled sections:

- PURPOSE;
- INPUT
- OUTPUT
- WHAT THE PROGRAM DOES
- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

(Anything you want to share--students often talk about special issues that came up and how they addressed them, for instance. You may not have anything you want to include, and that is fine.)

Report

1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of this assignment is to write a program to retrieve some data from the Twitter API, and do some processing on that data as described below.

1.2 Input:

The inputs that this program takes from the user is the name of the twitter account screen names that it will begin retrieving information from or the word “stop” to end the program.

1.3 Output:

The outputs of this program include the User Screen Name, User Name, User ID, User Description, Location, Number of Friends and Number of Followers and a list of the 5 most recent followers and tweets.

1.4 What the program does:

Once the program takes in the needed twitter account screen name, it uses the tweepy python package to make Twitter API calls in order to receive the needed output information. The three methods used to get the necessary information in the output that were used through the tweepy API are “get_user”, “followers” and “user_timeline”.

1.5 Additional Information:

This assignment was pretty straightforward. My only issue was in the recent tweets and followers as I started off trying to use the cursor but since it is an iterator I wasn't able to use the cursor in a way to only get the last 5. In this case I just took the result as a list and I was able to iterate through the last 5 elements.