Instructions for the Final Project

6771 Reinforcement Learning (Fall 2025)

1 Presentation — 10% (Deadline: December 12)

For the final presentation, we have created a shared space in *Panopto* where every group can record and upload their video and hold discussions.

1.1 Accessing the shared space

The link to the shared folder is:

`https://uva.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Sessions/List.aspx?folderID=148bef5d-d6d9-431c-b541-b3a800547f74`

Please click the link above. If you can successfully see the folder, then you already have access (congratulations!).
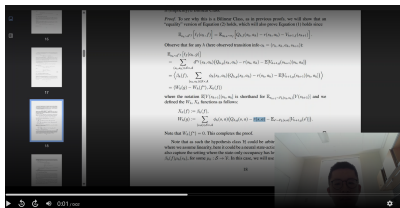
If not, it is likely because you have never used Panopto before, which prevents me from granting you access. In that case, still click the link, and then click the "Authorize" button when prompted with "Panopto is requesting access to your account." After this authorization step, I will be able to give you access. Please complete this **as soon as possible** and **notify me** after you have authorized Panopto.

While each group only needs to upload one video, *every member* must have access to the shared folder, since everyone will need to participate in the discussions.

1.2 How to record or upload a video

Record in browser   You may record directly in the browser by clicking the "Create" button and selecting "Panopto Capture." After recording, the video will be automatically placed in the shared folder. If it is an unsuccessful attempt, you will need to delete it manually.

Note from my own experience: if you record in the browser with the camera on, the camera view may occupy a large portion of the screen (as shown below), potentially blocking your slides. If this happens, please turn off the camera or find another setup that avoids the issue.

Record externally and upload   You may also record the video using other tools (e.g., Zoom) and upload it by selecting "Create" and then "Upload Media."

1.3 Length and Title

The suggested length is 10–15 minutes. Shorter presentations are fine; longer ones are not. Please title your video as: **"Project Name [List of all group members' names]"**.

2 Presentation Discussions – 5% (Deadline: December 19)

Please watch other groups' presentations and participate by leaving comments or questions, or by answering others' questions under the videos. The goal is simply to encourage everyone to view each other's work and exchange ideas.

We will lightly grade participation in these discussions. As a guideline, providing 2-3 high-quality comments is sufficient to receive full credit.

3 Report – 10% (Deadline: December 17)

Write a report in NeurIPS format with at most 8 pages (excluding references) and an unlimited appendix. Reports shorter than 8 pages are completely fine—please do not lengthen the report unnecessarily.

Our grading for the final report will be more critical than for the proposal or midterm.

3.1 Requirements

We emphasize **writing clarity** and **rigorous experiments** (when applicable). Your report should include:

- Clear motivation for the problem
- Clear presentation of necessary preliminaries
- Discussion of essential related work
- Self-contained description of your methods and a reproducible experimental setup
- Careful, well-justified conclusions drawn from your experiments

Some elements often emphasized in conference papers are *not required* here, such as **novelty** and **completeness**. It is perfectly fine if your project focuses on reproducing prior results or evaluating existing approaches. You also do not need to complete every plan in your proposal. Of course, these additional elements may help your score.