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# Machine Learning

CS 445/545  
Winter Quarter 2016

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**Time :** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00-3:50pm

**Location:** Cramer Hall, Room 53

**Instructor:** [Melanie Mitchell](#), FAB 120-24, (503) 725-2412, [mm-AT-pdx.edu](mailto:mm-AT-pdx.edu)  
Office hours: M,W 2-3pm, or by appointment.

**Teaching Assistant:** Jordan Witte, [jwitte-AT-pdx.edu](mailto:jwitte-AT-pdx.edu).  
Office hours: T,Th 1pm-2pm, in CS Fishbowl (just outside FAB 120).

**Course Mailing List:** [ML2016@cs.pdx.edu](mailto:ML2016@cs.pdx.edu)

**Prerequisites:** Undergraduate-level courses in calculus, linear algebra, and probability and statistics. Facility in at least one high-level programming language.

**Main topics::** Perceptrons, neural networks, evaluating classifiers, support vector machines, ensemble learning, Bayesian learning, unsupervised learning, evolutionary learning, and reinforcement learning

**Textbook:** No textbook. Readings will be assigned from materials available on-line.

**Relation to CS 441/541 (Artificial Intelligence):** A couple of the same topics will be covered (e.g., neural networks), but these will be covered in more depth and at a more theoretical level in this course than in CS 441/541. Otherwise, the topics in this course differ from the topics covered in CS 441/541.

**Homework:** The class will have several homework assignments, involving writing code for and/or experimenting with various machine learning methods.

**Late homework policy:** Students must request and be granted an extension on any homework assignment *before* the assignment is due. Otherwise, 5% of the assignment grade will be subtracted for each day the homework is late.

**Exams:** The class will have an in-class final exam. There will also be weekly short in-class quizzes to test basic understanding of the material presented in class and in the readings. You are allowed to bring in one double-sided page of notes for each quiz, and four double-sided pages of notes for the final exam.

**Grading:** Homework 50%, Quizzes 20%, Final exam 30%.

**Academic integrity:** Students will be responsible for following the [PSU Student Conduct Code](#).

**Students with disabilities:** If you are a student with a disability in need of academic accommodations, you should register with the [Disability Resource Center](#) and notify the instructor immediately to arrange for support services.

**Syllabus (subject to change):**

Date	Topics	Homework and Reading
Tuesday Jan. 5	Introduction to machine learning ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )  Perceptrons ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<b>Optional reading:</b> Chapters 1-3 of Michael Nielsen's <a href="#">online book on neural networks</a> covers the basics of perceptrons and multilayer neural networks.
Thursday Jan. 7	Perceptions, continued  Multilayer neural networks ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<a href="#">Homework 1</a> (Perceptrons), due Tuesday Jan. 19.  <a href="#">Data</a> (go to "Data Folder" and download "letter-recognition.data")  Here is the 1991 <a href="#">paper</a> that describes the data.
Tuesday Jan. 12	Quiz 1 (30 min)  Multilayer neural networks, continued	
Thursday Jan. 14	Support vector machines ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<b>Reading:</b> A. Ben-Hur and J. Weston, <a href="#">A User's Guide to Support Vector Machines</a>
Tuesday Jan. 19	SVMs, continued ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<a href="#">Homework 2</a> (Multilayer Neural Networks), due Tuesday Feb. 2.
Thursday Jan. 21	Quiz 2 (30 min)  Evaluating classifiers ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<b>Reading::</b> T. Fawcett, <a href="#">An introduction to ROC analysis</a> , Sections 1-4, 7
Tuesday Jan. 26	Feature Selection and Dimensionality Reduction ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<b>Reading::</b> L. Smith, <a href="#">A tutorial on principal components analysis</a>
Thursday Jan. 28	Quiz 3 (30 min)  Ensemble learning ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<b>Reading:</b> R. Schapire, <a href="#">A brief introduction to boosting</a>

Tuesday Feb. 2	Ensemble learning, continued ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<a href="#">Homework 3</a> (SVMs and Feature Selection), due Tuesday Feb. 16  <a href="#">Homework 3 Addendum</a>
Thursday Feb. 4	Quiz 4 (30 min)  Bayesian learning ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<b>Reading:</b> C. Haruechaiyasak, <a href="#">A tutorial on naive Bayes classification</a>
Tuesday Feb. 9	Bayesian learning, continued	
Thursday Feb. 11	Quiz 5 (30 min)  Bayesian learning, continued	
Tuesday Feb. 16	Bayesian networks ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<b>Reading</b> S. Wooldridge, <a href="#">Bayesian Belief Networks</a>  <a href="#">Homework 4</a> (Bayesian Learning), due Thursday Feb. 25
Thursday Feb. 18	Quiz 6 (30 min)  Bayesian networks, continued	
Tuesday Feb. 23	Unsupervised learning, part 1 ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<b>Reading:</b> <a href="#">Chapter 8</a> from Introduction to Data Mining by Tan, Steinbach, and Kumar, pp. 487-515, 532-541, 546-552.
Thursday Feb. 25	Unsupervised learning, part 2 ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )  Choosing the K in K-means ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<a href="#">Homework 5</a> (K-means clustering), due Tuesday Mar. 8  Optdigits <a href="#">data</a>
Tuesday March 1	Quiz 7 (30 min)  Evolutionary learning, part 1 ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )  Evolutionary learning, part 2 ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<a href="#">Robby the Robot C code</a>
Thursday March 3	Reinforcement learning ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	<b>Reading:</b> M. E. Harmon and S. S. Harmon, <a href="#">Reinforcement learning: A tutorial</a>
Tuesday March 8	<b>Guest Lecture</b> , Will	Optional (ungraded) homework

	Landecker (Data Scientist, Lyft): <a href="#">Machine Learning in the Trenches</a>  Reinforcement learning, continued	(written assignment to review for final)
Thursday March 10	Deep learning and deep reinforcement learning ( <a href="#">pptx</a> , <a href="#">pdf</a> )	
Monday March 14	Final exam: 10:15am - 12:05pm	