**Natural Language Processing**
**Spring 2018**
**Project #2 Proposals**

Final projects for NLP may be completed individually or in groups of up to three students. The topics of your projects may involve any aspect of NLP, even if it is something that we are not covering in class. Possible areas include, but are not limited to, word statistics, smoothing techniques, part-of-speech tagging, information retrieval, syntactic parsing, semantics, lexical semantics, word embedding vectors, machine translation, etc. (I listed topics that have been or, time permitting, will be discussed in class. You are welcome to be creative and think of something entirely different.) Warning: Do not choose an idea that would require IRB approval, because you would not have enough time to obtain it.

Each group (or individual working alone) must submit a project proposal. The purposes of the proposal are for me to make sure that each project has an appropriate scope, and for me to give suggestions and other feedback. Please use 1 ½ line spacing and any standard 12 point font. I am not going to specify a page requirement; my guess is that a typical proposal will be 1 to 3 pages long, but however much space you need to cover the necessary content is fine. Your proposals should include at least the following:

- A brief introduction describing and motivating the basic idea. What are you going to do, and why is it interesting and/or important?

- If you have done any background research when coming up with your idea, summarize what you have learned so far. In this case, you should include a bibliography listing the sources you have used and cite them when you discuss related content. You may use any reasonable format for citations and references. If you want a suggestion, go with IEEE standard format. A document with examples is here: https://www.ieee.org/conferences_events/conferences/publishing/style_references_manual.pdf.

- A section describing the work in more detail. If you are going to develop a system, describe what it will do specifically, how it will work (i.e., what methods or algorithms will be used), and what the input/output will be like. If you are doing statistical analysis, explain how the data will be obtained and what the results will measure.

- Explain how you will evaluate your project.

- Describe what you intend to demo to the class at the end of the semester. Presentations will take place during the slot assigned to us for the final exam week. (The length of the slots will depend on the number of projects but will probably be in the range of 8 to 10 minutes each.)

- Describe what you intend to submit to me at the end of the semester. *All material must be submitted to me electronically 24 hours before the slot we are using for the presentations.* Submissions should include a short write-up explaining what you did and your results.

*Proposals are before midnight the night of Thursday, April 5.* Make sure the names of all group members are included in the proposal. Each group (or individual working alone) should e-mail an electronic copy of the proposal to me (at CarlSable.Cooper@gmail.com) before the deadline.