University of Windsor

School of Computer Science
Faculty of Science

COMP-8730: Natural Language Processing & Understanding
Winter 2021

#	Title	Due Date	Grade Release Date
5	Presentation	Feb. 11, 2021, AoE	Feb 15, 2021, AoE

This course is research-oriented and project-driven in which a research project should be defined and completed in the field of NLP within one semester. The objectives of the research project are to provide graduate students with:
- An experience with research procedure, in general, and research in NLP, in particular.
- Hands-on experience with NLP.
- Advancing state of the art in NLP while passing a grad course.
- An opportunity to present a research outcome at an international computer science conference
- An opportunity to meet with scholars in the NLP community

In the research project, we propose a solution(s) to a problem by implementing an algorithm like a software project. However, there are differences in some respects. For instance, while a software project may implement an existing algorithm, a research project should propose and implement a *new* algorithm that improves or addresses a particular aspect of a problem that the current algorithms overlook. Roughly, a research project has the following milestones (phases):
1) Proposal
2) Literature Review
3) Proposed Method (Formal + Code)
4) Experiment (Evaluation)
5) Presentation (Paper + Talk)

In this course, a manual is prepared to guide the students through each milestone. The current manual is, however, about the progress report via a presentation and a talk for the first and second milestones and before starting implementation. Through this presentation and Q&A with the audience, we want to make sure that we are on the right track by receiving feedback.

Presentation
You're given 20-30 minutes talk followed by 5-10 minutes Q&A. Your presentation should include the followings:

1) *What is this all about? What is the story?*
   You should not assume that the audience knows the technical terms and details of your research domain. At this part of your talk, you could assume that you are presenting to your family!

2) *Why should we stay and spend our precious time listening to your talk? Why should we care?*
   In this part, you should motivate the audience to stay because you're trying to solve an important/interesting/helpful/ ... problem to the human society!

3) *Who else tried to solve the problem in the past (old history if exist up to now)?*
   This part is basically the summary of your literature review. Is this a problem of today's modern society? Does your problem has a deeper root in history and were there other *manual* methods to

solve the problem? At this part you have to explain the existing methods to your problem (if existed) or to the similar problems. Please avoid telling us that the problem that you're trying to solve never existed and you're the one (the only one) the found this. We don't simply believe you! History of science shows that problems are similar to each other in some respects.

4) *OK, why do you want to solve the problem that is already solved?!*
In this part, you have to shine. You should tell us that what gaps are in the existing methods and you want to fix which ones. The more gaps you could find, the better. Again, please avoid telling us that you want to fix all the gaps. We don't believe you! Be modest and just try to move the science gradually by taking small but firm steps. So, you could simply say that you want to fix one or two gaps.

5) *Can you explain your solution at a high level? We know that you have not started to solve, but you definitely have some idea to start. What are those?*
In this part, you explain your thought roadmap to address the gaps or solve the problem. The details of the method are not important here because there is not details yet!

Submission Guidelines
o   Submission includes presentation slides and the talk.
o   The talk should be delivered in class in front of the other classmates on the due date mentioned above.
o   The presentation slides must be submitted to Blackboard in one single pdf file, named COMP8730_Presentation_I_UWinId1_UWindId2.pdf