

MSDS 631: Course Information

Summer 2021

Course Title: Deep Learning Neural Networks
Course Number: MSDS 631
Lecture Time: Tues/Thurs, 10am - 12pm Pacific
Zoom Link: See Canvas

Instructor: Michael Ruddy
Contact: mruddy@usfca.edu · MSDS Slack
Office Hours: Tues/Thurs, 1 - 2pm Pacific

Assessment

The MSDS Program considers a grade of “A” to represent exceptional work with respect to both the instructor’s expectations and peer student achievements. A grade of “B” represents the expected outcome, what is called “competence” in a business setting. A grade of “C” represents achievements lower than the instructor’s expectations for competence in the subject. A grade of “F” represents little or no work in the course. Your grade will be computed according to the following weights:

20% Professionalism: Students will attend each live lecture (unless given prior permission for watching recording), participating in all quizzes/polls, and will be ready to respond if called upon. Additionally students will follow the code of conduct (below).

20% Assignments: There will be 3 Homework Assignments. These will be graded for correctness. For homeworks, if it is turned in late, there is a 10% score reduction for each day after the due date.

20% Quizzes: There will be 3 live quizzes administered over Canvas.

10% Labs: There will be some Lab assignments which will be graded for completion. Completion means each problem has been reasonably attempted or the student indicates *in detail* why they confused or unable to complete it. Labs turned in late receive half credit if they are received within a week of the due date.

30% Final Project: Students will complete a final project that includes two presentations and a GitHub repository (each worth 10% of their total grade). Students will work in teams of two to complete their final project.

Code of Conduct: As students will often be asked to share and discuss their work, and work on assignments with their peers, the code of conduct **MUST** be followed. Students are expected to be highly respectful of their peers and instructor during and outside of class to help foster an inclusive environment where everyone is comfortable making mistakes and contributing. I pledge to also follow this code of conduct. When working as a group, it is

every group member's responsibility to make sure everyone has input and understands the answers given. Students are also expected to be respectful of the instructor and other MSDS faculty.

Other Important Information

Academic Integrity: As a Jesuit institution committed to *cura personalis* — the care and education of the whole person — USF has an obligation to embody and foster the values of honesty and integrity. All members of the USF academic community are responsible for maintaining the standards of honesty and integrity. Students are expected to be familiar with and uphold the University's Honor Code (<https://myusf.usfca.edu/academic-integrity/honor-code>)

Non-Discrimination Policy: All students are expected to adhere to the university's non-discrimination policy (see <https://myusf.usfca.edu/human-resources/policies-procedures/non-discrimination-policy>). All students should feel welcome and be comfortable giving input and listening to their peers.

Attitudes that discriminate against fellow students, however, are **not welcome** in the classroom and hinder yours and your peers educational experience. Any attitude, belief, or language that implies that one person or group of people is superior to another (including but not limited to racist, sexist, xenophobic, ableist, and/or homophobic ideology) is also not welcome. Such beliefs are destructive to our classroom community and will hinder our ability to learn from each other.

Students with Disabilities: If you are a student with a disability or disabling condition, or if you think you may have a disability, please contact USF Student Disability Services at 415 422-2613 within the first week of class, or immediately upon onset of disability, to speak with a disability specialist. If you are determined eligible for reasonable accommodations, please meet with your disability specialist so they can arrange to have your accommodation letter sent to me, and we will discuss your needs for this course. For more information, please visit: <http://www.usfca.edu/sds> or call 415 422-2613.

Learning & Writing Center: The Learning and Writing Center provides assistance to all USF students in pursuit of academic success. Peer tutors provide regular review and practice of course materials in the subjects of Math, Science, Business, Economics, Nursing, and Languages. <https://tutortrac.usfca.edu>. Students may also take advantage of writing support provided by Rhetoric and Language Department instructors and academic study skills support provided by Learning Center professional staff. For more information about these services contact the Learning & Writing Center at 415 422-6713, email: lwc@usfca.edu, website: www.usfca.edu/lwc

Counseling and Psychological Services: Lots of college students experience mental health struggles. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) can help with sadness, anxiety, loneliness, college adjustment, relationship struggles, and other concerns not requiring medical intervention. For more information see <https://myusf.usfca.edu/caps>.

Confidentiality, Mandatory Reporting, and Sexual Assault: As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a **safe** learning environment on our campus. I also have a mandatory reporting responsibility. I am required to share information regarding sexual misconduct or information about a crime that may have occurred on USF's campus with the University. Here are other resources:

- For information on reporting any sexual misconduct see <https://myusf.usfca.edu/hps/red-folder/sexual-assault>
- Students may speak to someone confidentially, or report a sexual assault confidentially by contacting Counseling and Psychologist Services at 415 422-6352
- For an off-campus resource, contact San Francisco Women Against Rape (SFWAR) 415 647-7273 (www.sfwar.org).

Student Accounts: Students who wish to have the tuition charges reversed on their student account should withdraw from the course(s) by the end of the business day on the last day to withdraw with tuition credit (census date) for the applicable course(s) in which the student is enrolled. Please note that the last day to withdraw with tuition credit may vary by course. The last day to withdraw with tuition credit (census date) is applicable only to courses which meet for the standard 15-week semester. To find what the last day to withdraw with tuition credit is for a specific course, please visit the Online Class Schedule at www.usfca.edu/schedules.

* The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus at his discretion.