Dylon Hill

Directed Study

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For this upcoming semester I am interested in taking a directed study of machine learning. Machine learning resides under the area of study of computer science. It mainly focuses on the creation of computer programs that are capable of retrieving data from various sources, which end up helping the programs to learn a certain topic without being specifically programmed to do so. It is becoming a new part of today’s technology, as computers allow for more precise and efficient solutions to problems. For example, IBM has created a machine learning system called Watson. In one of Watson’s applications, he was programmed to access a medical database where he would learn everything there is to know about how to diagnose certain medical issues. Watson to this day is putting human intelligence to shame, with his extreme speed and accuracy. Watson is one of many examples of machine learning used in today’s world. This has driven me to learn more about machine learning. My goal for my directed study is to understand the basics of machine learning and create my own program for the application of my science fair project. I expect to go through an in-depth online course, just to get my bearings. Then, through the assistance of Ms. DeBoisblanc, I will figure out ways to incorporate a recommendation program for a web application that has already been created for my science fair project. Ms. DeBoisblanc will be able to asses my progress through my final project outcome, me pushing my code twice a week to an online repository, and my grade on the online course. We plan to meet every day during G block to work on both the recommendation program and get an update on where I am in the 4 week online course.