In this course (Neuroinformatics), you will work towards learning and growing in areas and skills that you are having difficulty with, and that will benefit you in your time in IIIT Hyderabad and beyond. Below you will develop your own personal goals. This is meant to be a living document: you will self-assess relative to your goals throughout the semester, track your progress on your goals, check on them periodically with us, and update them as needed. As you write your personal goals, please take into account the 5 course components: class participation, problem sets/reading notes, group work, class presentations, final paper. Think of which of these you would like to invest in most, and set challenging but realistic goals for improvement and growth in those.

Attached is a table for you to create your SMART Goals for this semester. The goals you set should be academic – related to skills you want to improve using this course. Please ensure at least one goal applicable to each component of the course that you would like to apply yourself to. Feel free to add a personal wellness goal for maintaining physical and/or mental health.

Be sure that the goals you are writing are complete SMART goals. A SMART goal is:

● **Specific:** Your goal should be a statement that focuses on just one specific thing that you can measure and track throughout the semester. For example, “I will do well in PSY338” is not specific. How will that be judged? Instead, choose a more specific goal like, “I will complete my weekly reading by Friday so I have time to think about the paper before completing the reading prompt.”

● **Measurable:** Unless you can chart your progress, your goal is not measurable. Think of it like a science experiment. Whatever evidence you are using to show that you are reaching your goals must be observable (in particular, we will want to see evidence that you have achieved your goal! Though note that we don't have to see it with our own eyes -- we believe you and follow the honor code). “I will pay more attention in class” is an example of a statement that is hard to measure. “I will close all social media apps and make sure to not turn them on during class” is much more measurable.

● **Attainable:** Try for a goal that is within your range, but only if you really push yourself. Don’t set goals that you have already achieved, or ones that are not realistic. One way to think of goals is to have them revolve around a behavior (reviewing material from last week before each class, practicing your class presentation at least 3 times in advance, following up on at least 2 references (even just to skim) to round out your class presentation, speaking up at least once per precept, etc.).

● **Relevant:** We can all set goals for trivial things in life, but the goals you set here must be relevant to you as a student in this class and actually pertain to you growing academically this semester.

● **Timed:** Goals should have clear steps and a clear timeline to a) check in on those steps in order to evaluate how you’ve done and alter your plans, and b) reach the goal.

Feel free to set only 2-3 high level goals and then break them into steps that are more immediate and measurable, or to assign more goals, each of them measurable. This table is just a skeleton -- use it in a way that is helpful to you. Below it you will find some questions about your goals, as well as space to track your progress every week (note that what you write here will be visible to us throughout the semester).

WN – Week N

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Specific goal** | **(opt) Steps to reach goal (break into 2-3 steps)** | **(opt) Timeline for each step** | **(opt) Why is this important to me?** |
| **GOAL 0: Decide on some potential datasets to be used for the Project** | 1. Identify different broad areas of interest and see available datasets in that area. 2. Narrow down to smaller and smaller topics and zero down on some specific datasets. | 1. W1 - 3 days 2. W1 - 4 days | I want to progress my project; by starting early and applying all the thing I have learned in the class to it. This way, I will have a practical understanding of all the theory. |
| **GOAL 1: Formulate the research question we want to answer in the dataset we picked** | 1. Discuss with Professor about various questions we can answer with the picked datasets. | 1. W2 |  |
| **GOAL 2:**  **I want to be comfortable in identifying the artifacts introduced by various preprocessing techniques on EEG data.** | 1. **Complete chapter 7,8,9 (Part-II) of the textbook** 2. **See practical examples, search in the internet for any such “wrong interpretations happened” in previous literature.** | 1. W1 whole |  |
| **GOAL 3:**  **Get familiar with MATLAB.** | 1. Complete take home activities from class. | 1. W1 whole | I am more familiar with Python and have not used MATLAB before. I want to get familiar with it as soon as possible, to follow TB/class examples. |
| **(opt) Wellness goal: I understand that productivity demands a decent chunk of sleep and hence, won’t be submitting course assignments at 3 AM!** |  |  |  |

**How my goals relate to the following course components**:

1) Completing assigned readings and submitting questions and feedback on the readings andassigned videos >= 12 hrs prior to class. Highlights of the textbook PDF with notes will also help track progress. Your textbook PDF should be a live document that is shared with the TA and faculty instructor - Goal 0, Goal 1, WG

2) Take-home problem sets (teams of 2 – you are encouraged to collaborate in pairs):

3) Quiz 1, Quiz 2, and Mini-Quizzes - Goal 2

4) Class participation (attendance and asking Qs,starting discussion threads on Moodle, etc) – Goal 1, 3

5) Final project (teams of 2) - 3 presentations : Goal 0, Goal 1

6) Final project (teams of 2) - final team report and peer reviewing: Goal 0, Goal 1

**Goal tracking:**

Feel free to use this to reflect every week on your progress, list evidence for progress (link to a shared Google Drive live document for example where you’re reading the textbook and making notes in the PDF, link to your GitHub, etc to show how exactly you’re meeting your goals above) , and document changes in goals.

Week 1 - 2 (Aug 11) – I did find some datasets and zeroed on one dataset, along with the formulation of research question. Coming to goal 3 which is about preprocessing EEG data, I was familiar with the slides and class content, hence I felt reading the textbook is not necessary. Hence I skipped the TB reading(This I feel was wrong now after the quiz). All the in class activities, I was able to complete.

Week 3 – 4 (Aug 25) – More of preprocessing stuff, The goals I planned for the first two weeks actually got stretched to 3 and 4 as the preprocessing took a lot of time to get covered in class (it actually requires the time, I wrongly estimated 2 weeks would be enough for preprocessing). After that, I started preprocessing on the dataset we selected for project.

Quiz - 1 Reflection - I was confident after I wrote the quiz, however I missed many aspects to consider, especially in practical scenarios given (in Q1 and Q2). I am actually not sure on what was missing (is it actually because of the missed TB reading? Or should I work more on project ? etc, need to talk to sir regarding this in the next class).

I will update my Goals for the next month after talking to sir once.