

FYS 100: AI for Everyone
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 12:30 – 1:35 pm in Bracy 02

Instructor

Dr. Ryan Dwyer

dwerry@mountunion.edu

Office: 147 Bracy Hall

Cell: (262) 506-8712

Office hours: M 11:15-12:15,

W 1:45 – 3 pm, or by appointment**

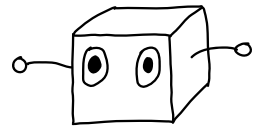
** I am available at many other times, either in person or via virtual meeting. Please reach out via email, text or phone if you have any questions about the course or advising.

Raider Guide: Aidan Spinola, spinolam2023@mountunion.edu.

Course Description: Have you ever wondered how your phone's voice assistant works? Or why it sometimes doesn't? In this class, you'll use artificial intelligence and your computer's camera, microphone, or other sensors to make your own game, music, or anything else you can imagine! In the process, you'll learn all about how AI works and what AI science fiction might (or might not) become reality, like self-driving cars, immersive virtual reality, or even an AI apocalypse. Additionally, I'll serve as your initial advisor and will help you explore the opportunities of a Mount Union education.

Course objectives:

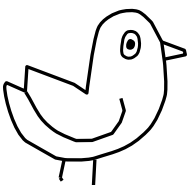
1. Build your own AI models
2. Explain AI failures
3. Write clearly about AI and its impact on society
4. Present your ideas clearly in formal and informal presentations
5. Learn more about how you learn and adjust to college—and how AI could help



Required Course Materials:

1. **Windows or Mac computer.** Bring to class charged so you can explore AI applications and collaborate with classmates. Computer is to be used for coursework only during class.
 - Please contact me or the IT Help Desk (330-829-8726 or Helpdesk@mountunion.edu) if you need assistance with your device, software, or internet access at any time.
2. ***You Look Like a Thing and I Love You***, by Janelle Shane, ISBN: 0316525243 (Available for ~\$20 new on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com), or about [\\$15 used](#)). We'll be using this book starting in October.

Attendance: Attendance and participation are critical to your success in this and all your other college classes. That being said, the safety and well-being of you and your classmates is our top priority. If you have any potential symptoms or exposure to COVID-19, please stay home and let me know via email or text.



Flipped Learning Model: Much of the course content will be delivered electronically through D2L Brightspace (d2l.mountunion.edu), so be sure to check D2L and your university email regularly. In general, new topics and ideas will be introduced through a video or reading assigned on D2L. In class, we will focus on applications and discussion of the material you first encountered online, so it's important that you come to class prepared to engage with the material. Please reach out if you have any questions about the class or material.

Grading:

Papers and Presentations	50%	Grades will be assigned on the following percent basis:		
Check-ins, Participation, and Exceptional Beginnings	20%	A = 93%+	A- = 90-92%	
Assignments	30%	B+ = 87-89%	B = 83-86%	B- = 80-82%
		C+ = 77-79%	C = 73-76%	C- = 70-72%
		D+ = 67-69%	D = 63-66%	D- = 60-62%
		F < 60%		

Papers: Two papers (5 pages) will be assigned during the semester.

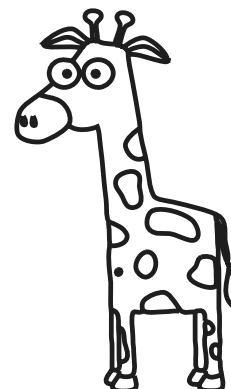
Presentations: Two oral presentations (3-5 minutes long) will be assigned during the semester.

Check-ins: Online activities will be assigned throughout the semester; to demonstrate that you have completed the activities and are ready for class, short “check-in” quizzes will be assigned.

Participation: We will also discuss AI and college life throughout the semester; your participation in classroom discussions is an important part of your learning. You should contribute to classroom discussions at least weekly. Your contributions should indicate you engaged with the material—you're not graded on whether they are right or wrong. **If you find it difficult to contribute for any reason, contact me as soon as possible. Reasonable accommodations will be made.**

Exceptional Beginnings: There will also be “all or nothing” assignments designed to help you learn more about strategies for success in college.

Assignments: Throughout the semester, there will be a variety of short assignments (writing, short informal speaking, discussion board posts...) that are designed to help you engage with the material.



COURSE EXPECTATIONS

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Academic Integrity is at the heart of the mission and values of the University and is an expectation of all students. Maintaining academic integrity reflects your character and ensures that you are achieving the outcomes of this course and that your grades accurately reflect your learning and understanding of the course material. Cutting corners or cheating in this class will result in cheating yourself out of learning. All work you submit in this course should be yours and your alone.

Academic integrity is a partnership between me, as the instructor, and you, as the student. My role, as instructor of this course, is to facilitate learning and to provide you with clear guidelines and feedback to help you maintain your academic integrity. Your role in this course is to take responsibility for your learning, complete all assignments in an honest manner, and ask for clarification from me if you are unsure of how to do so.

Students who are found responsible for committing academic dishonesty will receive a zero for the assignment. The academic dishonesty issue will also be brought to the Office of Academic Affairs who may impose additional sanctions as provided in the University policy regarding Academic Honesty.

To ensure you have an accurate understanding of what is expected in this course, please refer to the *Academic Honesty* section of the University Catalogue. Please note that the standards outlined in that policy apply to all course types, including online courses.

CLASSROOM AND ONLINE CONDUCT:

Professionalism is always expected, and we must show respect for one another in all circumstances. This includes both in-person and online forums. We will show respect for one another by exhibiting patience and courtesy in our exchanges. We will not judge the questions of others. Appropriate language and restraint from verbal attacks upon those whose perspectives differ from your own is a minimum requirement. Bullying will not be tolerated. Courtesy and kindness are the expected norm. Think before you type or speak. Remember, typing in all CAPS is the same as yelling, and sarcasm comes across differently when written.

COURSE FLEXIBILITY:

Every course syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor, and in these unpredictable times students and faculty should expect, anticipate, and plan for change as a likely part of the semester. Flexibility will be more important than ever on the part of instructors and students to adapt to changes that may have to occur to course instruction. Changes may come with little advanced notice, could impact the way in which the class meets and conducts coursework, and may be temporary or last the rest of the semester. It is important to remember that your Mount Union email account is the official method of communication and will be used by University faculty and officials to communicate any notices, updates, or changes regarding your courses and all other aspects of your University life.

OTHER CAMPUS RESOURCES

CENTER FOR STUDENT SUCCESS:

The Center for Student Success provides numerous support services for students on campus. If you need help getting organized, developing better study techniques, preparing for internships, getting ready for your career and/or graduate school, or making choices related to your major, we can help! To make an appointment for any of these services, please stop by the Center for Student Success (in HPCC across from the radio station) or reach out to Jody Bryan to make an appointment (studentsuccess@mountunion.edu or 330-823-8685).

Please also be sure to keep an eye out in your email for messages from *Starfish*. Whether the email includes a kudo for a job well done, a concern a professor may have, or directions for improvement, these messages are meant to be helpful and point you in the right direction. If you get an email, **take action** – talk to your professor, advisor, or someone in the Center for Student Success to make sure you're on a path to success!

INTEGRATIVE CORE SUPPORT:

The Integrative Core Office (IC Office) is in place to work with all UMU students. The IC Office has an open-door policy that does not require appointments for individual consultations, but if you prefer, you can schedule an in-person or virtual appointment. We can help you with FYS courses and your Foundations (HANS) courses. Stop in KHIC 233, call 330-829-8229, or email icore@mountunion.edu.

DWOC STUDIO:

The Digital, Written and Oral Communication (DWOC) Studio is in the Mount Union Library (KHIC), across from the circulation desk. Its mission is to provide a space, technologies, and peer consultations to Mount Union students who are working on writing, oral presentations, and multimedia projects. Consultants provide help with critical thinking at the beginning stages of a project and with support through the writing, speaking, and production process, and can help with essays, reports, employment and graduate school documents, public speeches, PowerPoints, videos, audio projects, ePortfolios, and with the [WOC Portfolio](#) required of all second year students as part of the [Integrative Core](#). Online consultations are available. See the [DWOC Studio website](#) for more details.

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT:

The University of Mount Union values disability as an important aspect of diversity and is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. Student Accessibility Services (SAS) is the campus office that collaborates with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations based upon appropriate documentation, nature of the request, and feasibility. If you have, or think you have, a temporary or permanent disability and/or medical diagnosis in any area such as, physical or mental health, attention, learning, chronic health, or sensory, please contact SAS. The SAS office will confidentially discuss your needs, review your documentation, and determine your eligibility for reasonable accommodations. Accommodations are not retroactive, and the instructor is under no obligation to provide accommodations if a student does not request accommodation or provide documentation. Students should contact SAS to request accommodations and should discuss their accommodations with their instructor as early as possible in the semester. You may contact the SAS office by phone at (330) 823-7372; or via e-mail at studentaccessibility@mountunion.edu.

LIBRARY SERVICES:

Located in KHIC, the Mount Union Library offers their assistance to students at any stage in the research process. In addition to providing access to a wide range of books, ebooks, and scholarly articles, the librarians also offer their expertise in finding information to help students with their research project, no matter the discipline or topic. Whether it be a quick question about finding that last elusive source for a paper, scheduling a longer consultation to go over their projects in greater depth or learn the fundamentals of researching, or anything in-between, the reference librarians are there to make students' lives a little easier. Students also have access to Ohiolink, a statewide library system that greatly expands the amount of materials students can obtain at no cost. For questions or setting up consultations, students can drop by the Reference Desk on weekdays from 9 am to 4 pm, by email at referencedesk@mountunion.edu, or texting or calling the reference phone at (330) 257-5742.

COUNSELING SERVICES:

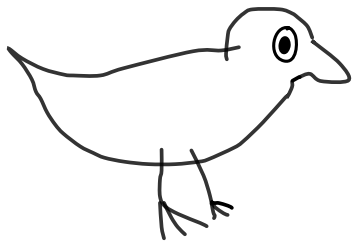
The aim of counseling at Mount Union is to assist students in becoming socially and emotionally healthy. Counseling is a partnership between client and counselor, meant to help students find solutions and possibilities in life. In the Office of Counseling Services, state licensed counselors help Mount Union students move toward life goals, while teaching the coping skills needed for the future. Counseling staff members provide free and confidential counseling by appointment to enrolled students. Walk-in hours are also available as well as E-Therapy services for those students studying abroad and completing clinicals. The Department of Counseling Services is located within Suite 200 of the Alliance Aultman Community Hospital Professional Building located at 270 East State Street. To schedule an appointment call (330) 823-2886 or email counselingservices@mountunion.edu.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

To promote your personal health as well as the health of those around you, it is important to wear a face mask, and regularly wash or disinfect your hands. If you feel sick, do not attend class or student gatherings. Rather, communicate with your instructor and complete what coursework you can remotely. Stay at home or in your residential space and follow University policies regarding your return to the classroom environment. The University's student health center may be reached at (330) 823-2692.

In addition, if you need assistance with your basic living needs such as food, clothing, or hygiene during this time, please contact Raider's Cove at Raidercove@mountunion.edu.

For unrelated drug and alcohol wellness services, students can contact Kelleen Weber in Alcohol, Drug, and Wellness Education (330) 829-6660. For spiritual services, the Interim University Chaplain, Stephen Dages, can be contacted at (330) 829-8715.



Tentative Schedule: The tentative schedule below is subject to change to better meet the needs of the students and instructor.

	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
1	8/23 Introduction to FYS and AI	8/25 Building classifier AI models RaiderFest (4-6 pm)	08/27 Building regression AI models Add/drop deadline
2	8/30 Evaluating classifier and regression models	9/1 Exceptional Beginnings: Time Management and Note Taking	09/03 Building an AI model project (paper + presentation) & Dynamic Time Warping models
3	9/6 Labor Day (No classes)	9/8 Interesting inputs and outputs I	9/10 Interesting AI inputs and outputs II + Project work time
4	9/13 AI Project revisions / group work	9/15 AI Project revisions / group work	9/17 Presentation skills Building an AI Model Paper draft
5	9/20 AI Model draft paper feedback & writing skills Draft AI model paper due	9/22 Draft presentations	9/24 Draft presentations
6	9/27 Draft presentations	9/29 Exceptional Beginnings: Academic Honesty, Plagiarism, and Advising Prep	10/1 Advising Meetings Final AI Model Paper Due
7	10/4 Advising Meetings	10/6 Advising Meetings Final AI presentation due	10/8 AI Weirdness: Intro + Ch. 1, What is AI?
8	10/11 AI Weirdness: Ch. 2, Where exactly are AIs?	10/13 AI Weirdness: Ch 3, How does it actually learn?	10/15 No class – Fall break Last day to switch to S/U grading
9	10/18 (Monday) No class – Fall break	10/20 AI Weirdness: Ch 5 and Introduction to the AI Weirdness paper	10/22 AI Weirdness Ch 6-7
	10/19 (Tuesday) Monday classes: Ch 4. It's trying! (AI Doom)		
10	10/25 AI Weirdness, Ch. 8-10: Is an AI like a human brain?	10/27 Exceptional Beginnings: Lester Sanders	10/29 AI Weirdness wrap-up
11	11/1 Registration & AI ethics AI Weirdness paper due Last day to Withdraw from classes	11/3 AI ethics and the future of AI	11/5 The singularity?
	11/2 Tuesday (Sophomore Registration)	11/4 Thursday Registration!!	
12	11/8 Will AIs be good or evil? Future of AI reflection assigned	11/10 Final AI Project	11/12 Final AI Project ideas
13	11/15 Work on AI Project	11/17 Work on AI Project	11/19 Future of AI reflective presentations
14	11/22 Future of AI presentations	11/24 🍂 Thanksgiving	11/26 Break 🍂
15	11/29 Exceptional Beginnings: Diversity, Equity and inclusion	12/01 Work on AI Project	12/03 Draft AI Project due & AI Project peer-review
16	12/06 AI Project peer-review	12/08 AI Project revisions	12/10 Final AI Project submitted Course conclusions...
17	12/12 Sunday 6 pm (first final exam time slot 12/13	12/15 1-4 pm Final Exam for FYS 100	12/16 Thursday -Last day of final exams