Course Syllabus

Course	CISC 7404 Spring 2025
Time	19:00-22:00, Thursdays
Location	E12-G005
Description	This course introduces decision making
Instructor	Steven Morad <smorad at um.edu.mo>
Office Hours	11:00-12:00 Mondays and Tuesdays
Grading	• Assignments: 30% • Quizzes: 30% • Final Project: 30% • Participation: 10%
Late Work Policy	• −15% 0-1 days late • −30% 1-2 days late • −50% 2-3 days late • −100% 3+ days late
Late Quiz Policy	Lowest Quiz Grade Dropped
Prerequisites	• Linear Algebra • Multivariable Calculus • Programming in Python • Introduction to Deep Learning
Preliminary Schedules, Subject to Change	
Lecture	• Week 1 (01.08): Introduction • Week 2 (01.15): Bandits (S&B 2) • Week 3 (01.22): Decision Processes (S&B 3) • Week 4 (02.12): Dynamic Programming (S&B 4) • Week 5 (02.19): Monte Carlo Methods (S&B 5) • Week 6 (02.26): Q Learning (S&B 6) • Week 7 (03.05): Policy Gradient (S&B 13) • Week 8 (03.12): Actor Critic (S&B 13) • Week 9 (03.19): Modern Actor Critic • Week 10 (03.26): Model-Based RL • Week 11 (04.02): Offline RL • Week 12 (04.09): Memory and POMDPs • Week 13 (04.16): Imitation Learning • Week 14 (04.23): Learning from Human Feedback • Week 15 (04.30): Project Presentations
Assignment	• Due Week 6 (02.26): Dynamic Programming • Due Week 9 (03.19): Q Learning • Due Week 12 (04.09): Policy gradient • Due Week 15 (04.30): Final Project
Quiz	• Week 3 (01.22): Bandits • Week 8 (03.12): Classical RL • Week 13 (04.16): Modern RL