

COM SCI 263: Natural Language Processing

Assignment 1

Assignment Overview

The objective of this assignment is to enhance your understanding of research papers in the field of Natural Language Processing, develop critical reading and presentation skills, and to evaluate and present scholarly work effectively.

You are required to select one research paper from the [provided list](#) and prepare **reading notes** and a **10-minutes recorded presentation** based on the chosen paper. Please use the above sheet to sign up for reading and presenting one of the papers on the sheet “Paper Assignments”. Please be aware that each paper is limited to a maximum of six signup slots, available on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition, you are also required to sign up on the sheet “Paper Reviewers” to conduct **three peer reviews** of other students’ presentations. The peer review will count towards the course participation grade. Further details regarding the peer review process are provided in the “Peer Review” Section.

Reading Notes

You are required to use [this latex template](#) to format your summary. Within the latex template it lists components that you should have in your paper summary. The components include:

- Summary: Provide a one page summary of the paper, including an overview of the related works, methodology, contributions, and results.
- Notes: The notes don’t have to be long: focus on adding value to what’s already in the paper.
- Contributions: In a nutshell, what did you like about this paper?
- Clarifications: What was hard to understand or easy to miss? Write something here to help other readers.
- Misgivings: Did the paper do anything poorly?
- Future Works: What questions came to mind? What papers should you (or someone else) now write?
- Industrial Application: What are the industry applications?

Presentation Expectations

The 10-minute recorded presentation should discuss the following aspects of the chosen paper:

- Overview of Related Works: Summarize the related works cited in the paper and their relevance.
- Methodology: Explain the methodology employed in the research, including data collection or dataset usage, analysis of the techniques, and any experimental setup.
- Novel Contributions: Highlight any novel contributions made by the authors, such as new algorithms, frameworks, or theoretical insights.
- Results: Present the key findings and results obtained from the research.
- (Up to 10% Bonus) Experimental Demo: Run the code from the paper that was presented (or find a similar work that has code or an online demo available), and find examples to test the model’s ability in an interactive fashion.

All presentations will be posted on BruinLearn for other students to watch and review.

Peer Review

Each student will need to choose three presentations to review and give short comments, according to a rubric below (Table 1). Please use the same [sheet](#) to sign up for three presentations to review on “Paper Reviewers”. **Please make sure to sign up three different papers other than the paper you choose to present.** Each cell aligns with a presenter for a paper. The rubric outline the key criteria against which the presentations will be assessed, covering areas such as content clarity, organization, delivery style, and overall effectiveness. You are also encouraged to prepare your presentation with the evaluation rubrics in mind.

Submission

You will submit the recorded presentation in video format (MP4, MOV) to [bruinlearn](#) and reading notes (PDF) to [gradescope](#). **The assignment is due Monday, April 22nd at 11:59PM.** You will also submit the peer review to [gradescope](#), **the peer review is due on Wednesday, May 1st at 11:59PM.**

Presentation evaluation rubrics					
Criteria	Excellent (5)	Good (4)	Satisfactory (3)	Needs Improvement (2)	Unsatisfactory (1)
Clarity	The presentation is exceptionally clear and well-organized, making it easy to follow the content.	The presentation is clear and mostly well-organized, with a few minor issues.	The presentation is generally clear, but some parts are confusing or disorganized.	The presentation lacks clarity, making it difficult to understand the main points.	The presentation is extremely unclear and incoherent.
Engagingness	The presenter maintains excellent interactiveness, enthusiasm, and effectively engages the audience.	The presenter maintains good interactiveness, enthusiasm, and engages the audience well.	The presenter attempts to engage the audience but lacks consistency or enthusiasm.	The presenter makes little effort to engage the audience, resulting in disinterest.	The presenter is completely disengaged from the audience.
Accessibility	The presenter uses simple language, avoids jargon, and ensures everyone can understand the topic.	The presenter uses mostly simple language, but occasional jargon might confuse some.	The presenter uses complex language or jargon occasionally, making it hard to grasp.	The presenter heavily relies on technical terms and jargon, excluding many listeners.	The presentation is filled with incomprehensible jargon and technical terms.
Content/ Context Knowledge	The presenter demonstrates an exceptional understanding of the paper's content and context.	The presenter demonstrates a good understanding of the paper's content and context.	The presenter demonstrates a basic understanding of the paper but lacks depth.	The presenter's understanding of the paper is shallow, leading to inaccuracies.	The presenter displays a complete lack of understanding of the paper.
Presentation Skills	The presenter effectively uses visuals, body language, and tone, enhancing the overall presentation.	The presenter uses visuals and body language effectively, contributing to the presentation.	The presenter uses visuals and body language, but they do not significantly enhance the presentation.	The presenter's use of visuals and body language is ineffective and distracting.	The presenter does not use any visuals or body language, detracting from the presentation.
Time Management	The presenter adheres perfectly to the allotted time, balancing content delivery effectively.	The presenter stays within the time limit, with minor deviations, maintaining a good balance.	The presenter slightly exceeds or falls short of the time limit, with noticeable imbalances.	The presenter significantly exceeds or falls short of the time limit, disrupting the flow.	The presenter completely disregards the time limit, leading to an incomplete presentation.
Overall Impression	The presentation is exceptional, leaving a lasting impact on the audience.	The presentation is good, leaving a positive impression on the audience.	The presentation is average, neither impressing nor disappointing the audience.	The presentation is below average, disappointing the audience.	The presentation is a complete failure, leaving a negative impression on the audience.

Table 1