



# Northeastern University

## CS6220 51972 Data Mining Techniques

Summer 2021

Welcome to Data Mining Techniques!

My name is Sara Arunagiri and I am happy to facilitate this course and share the excitement of learning with you. For convenience, this welcome message is formulated as an FAQ.

### **Where can I find the course material?**

All course related material is published on Canvas learning management system (LMS) (<https://northeastern.instructure.com/>)

### **This course is listed as an online course, however now with COVID-19 adjustments, all in-person courses are offered on NUFLEX and have an online possibility. What's the difference between this one and the ones offered on NUFLEX?**

This course was designed to be online, even before the COVID-19 period, and it has a different paradigm compared to original in-person courses. These are designed to enable learning in an effective way by providing the following important elements - course material, flexibility, structure, peer group, and facilitators. They cater to, and are highly appreciated by students who are reasonably motivated and value flexibility due to personal preference or work/personal circumstances that make in-person presence challenging. These courses have minimal in-person interactions and there are few live sessions. There are no live-lesson-sessions. The live lessons are focused on providing information related to Data Science that will enrich and broaden your perspectives and steer you along a life-long exciting learning path. Hope this information helps you set the right expectations from this course.

Congratulations on making the decision to embrace the new and increasingly popular mode of learning! It is a pragmatic choice for a life-long continuing education and professional enhancement. Relax, follow instructions, and enjoy learning at your pace.

### **What's Canvas LMS?**

Canvas, Northeastern's learning management system (LMS), is used for basic teaching tasks like posting lesson content, grading, creating assessments, and publishing announcements related to course.

### **What do I need to access Canvas?**

- A computer with an Internet connection

- A Northeastern myNEU account with a Northeastern email address (you may visit <http://my.northeastern.edu> to obtain your myNEU account)

### **I am new to Canvas LMS, where can I find more information about it?**

You may find informative resources at <https://canvas.northeastern.edu/student-resources/>

### **What are the important tabs on the navigation menu of the course?**

Here's an introduction to some items of navigation menu.

- Weekly lessons can be found under the "Modules" tab.
- Information about your instructor and teaching assistants can be found in the tab called "Faculty Information"
- Virtual office for online office hours, both for TAs and for Instructor, may be accessed via the "Office Hours" tab.
- There's a thread on the discussion forum for each week's lesson and these can be found under the tab "Discussion"
- Assignment documents can be found under the "Assignments" tab; this is also an assignment submission portal. The first file in this section is the 'General Assignment Instructions', please read this before you start doing your assignments.
- Schedule of assignment submissions and other activities can be found in "Course Schedule".
- Deadline extensions can be availed by making requests in the table at "Deadline Extension Requests" as per the rules stipulated in the document "Assignment related information" in the "Assignment" section.

### **How do we communicate with the instructor and TAs?**

Communication between instructor and students is through

- Announcements
- Video conferencing during office hours and other sessions as required
- Notes posted on the discussion board
- Private email exchanges
- Private phone calls when required
- Scheduled live sessions

### **What are the Announcements on Canvas?**

For online courses, Announcements are an important means for the Instructor to communicate with the students and during the term, from time to time, I post information required for you to complete your course successfully. I always make sure that I do not post any redundant announcements and messages, so, **please make it a point to attentively and fully read all messages and announcements** including this one.

### **Is the course material (Modules) available on the first day of the course?**

In this course, it is a norm to publish the first two modules on the first day of the course which is followed by a weekly schedule of publishing one lesson module and the related assignment.

**Can you (the instructor) help us with problems accessing Canvas?**

Unfortunately, I cannot help you with these issues. There are specialized teams of people meant to help you, the NU online Technical Support team at the helpdesk. When you contact them with a problem, if they suggest any changes in the settings of the website, you may communicate that information to me and I can definitely look into making those changes to help accessibility.

**How do I contact the helpdesk?**

Phone number 617-373-4357 or email [help@northeastern.edu](mailto:help@northeastern.edu)

**Can I see all the lesson modules at once on the course website?**

No, we upload one lesson module every week. The norm is to upload the lesson module one week in advance and the assignment is due at the end of the week. (e.g., the module for the week of 14<sup>th</sup> Jan is uploaded on the 8<sup>th</sup> Jan and the assignment is due by the 21<sup>st</sup> Jan)

**Questions related to assignment submission?**

*Where to submit:* All submissions are done via Canvas LMS using the 'Assignment' tab. **We cannot accept any submissions emailed to us directly.**

*Time zone of deadline:* Submission deadline for each assignment is specified clearly in **Eastern Time.**

*Number of attempts:* Although we permit unlimited number of attempts on your submission, we only grade the last attempt before the deadline. Make sure all documents required for grading are attached in this attempt; remember we do not review earlier attempts.

**What's the platform used for peer-to-peer interactions in this course?** Peer-to-peer interactions and all collaborative activities are done using the course 'Discussion Forum'.

**What can we do if we cannot complete an assignment on time, can we ask for a deadline extension?**

Yes, without an exception, whoever needs an extension needs to enter their details in the 'Deadline Extension Request' tab of the Navigation Bar.

Here are the rules:

- a. Each student gets a 7-day assignment-deadline extension quota. You do not need to use it for collaborative activities.
- b. The Seven days can be used for one assignment or split into at the most three assignments and no more, e.g., two days for Assignment 1, three days for Assignment 4, and two days for Assignment 6.

- c. You cannot get any extension for the final Assignment, which would be the project report and presentation.
- d. There's a late penalty of 10% per day beyond your quota of 7 days, and there are no exceptions on this.
- e. No assignment will be accepted beyond 7 days after the deadline even with the 10% penalty per day.

If you have any questions about these rules please check with your instructor, please don't make assumptions.

### **What is the process for requesting an extension?**

Let's use an example to illustrate the process. Assume your name is James Bond and you would like a 3-day extension for Assignment 4 with an assumed deadline of 15 March.

Go to the "Deadline Extension Request" page which has a table with columns shown in this illustration.

- If this is your first request for extension, create an entry in the table and populate it with your information as below and click save. Make sure your information has gone through by checking the table again. If we don't find your entry here when we grade, we will deduct 10% per day from your score.
- For subsequent requests, you may just append additional information in all columns except the first two ('Sl. No,' and 'Name')

Sl. No	Your Name	Assignment Number	Original Due Date	Number of days Extension Requested	New Due Date	Total days of Extension Including the latest Request
1	James Bond	Assignment 1 Assignment 4	20 <sup>th</sup> January 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Two Three	22 <sup>nd</sup> January 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Five

### **Who are the faculty members in the lesson videos?**

The courses and the lesson videos at NEU are designed and created by a team, which includes professionals with industrial experience in the field. Me, (your instructor), and my teaching assistants, are responsible for facilitating this course as a team and we will help you through this learning experience.

### **Where can I find more information about the instructor?**

In the faculty profile on the course page. The Instructor and the Teaching Assistants (TAs) are a team to help you during this course. You will be informed of the TAs and their office hours within a few days.

**How much face-to-face (via video conferencing not in-person) time do we have in this course? Where can we find more information about office hours?**

I, your instructor, hold office hours for four hours a week and am available to talk to you during these hours at my virtual office. To communicate with me either by audio, video, or chat, during the office hours, you access my office hours using the “Office Hours” tab on the navigation menu of the course page and follow instructions to join the session. In addition, we may schedule additional virtual meetings as required.

My teaching assistants (TAs) hold in-person office hours on Boston campus when it is safe to do so considering CPVID-19. Details can be found in the Faculty profile.

**When does the course end?**

Your final submission deadline will be during the second week of August. However, you are expected to be available online till 24<sup>th</sup> August, because that’s the faculty deadline for submitting grades to the University.

Hope you enjoy this class.

Let me know if you have any questions at this time.

Best wishes, Sara Arunagiri