

## Course Information

January 7, 2002

**Course Web Page:** <http://www.classes.cec.wustl.edu/~cs527>.

**Prerequisites:** You must be able to program in some high-level programming language. Some algorithms and probability & statistics background is also recommended.

**Time:** Monday and Wednesday, 1:00-2:30pm (Cupples II, 202)

**Professor:** Dr. Sally Goldman (Bryan 515, x5-7545, sg@cs)

**Teaching Assistants:** Michal Bryc, Justin Domke, Ken Swanson and Sean Waters.

**Office Hours:** Office hours are posted on the course web page.

**Text Book:** The text book for this course is *Machine Learning* by Tom Mitchell (McGraw-Hill, 1997). The text book is expensive for its size and thus I have put a copy on reserve in Olin Library for anyone who would prefer not to buy the book.

**Homework Assignments:** There will be six homework assignments. I expect you to spend about 5-7 hours per week outside of class. So for a two week homework you should expect to spend 10-14 hours. (For every class period missed you should expect to spend an additional 3 hours out of class.)

**Late Policy** Homeworks are to be handed in at class. If for you are unable to attend class, your homework must be submitted in my mail box (S. Goldman) in the CS office (Bryan 509) by 12:45pm on the day it is due. Late homeworks will be accepted up until the Monday after they are due. One-tenth of the possible points will be deducted from your homework per work day it is late.

**Policy on Collaboration:** For CS 527A the collaboration policy is as follows.

- All material turned in for credit must be your own work.
- You may discuss ideas with other students, but you must not share any written material (including code) and you must write up all solutions on your own.
- Any source of help (other than the instructor and TAs) must be appropriately named and credited on your cover sheet.
- You must be completely finished with your own assignment before looking at any other student's assignment (in order to compare solutions or help them with it).

*Violations of the collaboration policy carry severe penalties.* The minimum violation will be a negative score in the amount of the assignment. Courses can be difficult and time consuming, but that's not an excuse to cheat! To avoid getting into a stressful situation, be sure to start early so you have enough time to get help from the instructor and/or TAs. Also, remember that if you run out of time, it's much better to turn in a partially done solution (with a note explaining what is missing or not working) than to sacrifice your academic integrity. If you have questions about any of this, or if you need advice for specific situations, please ask Professor Goldman.

**Exams:** There will be a midterm exam and a final exam.

**Course Grade:** The homeworks and exams will be weighted as follows: homeworks—65%, midterm—15%, and final—20%. For the course grade, 85% is the minimum A, 75% is the minimum B, 65% is the minimum C, and 55% is the minimum D.