CS886 - Trust and Online Social Networks
Fall 2018

Prof. Robin Cohen

Expected time and location: (Monday mornings 830am-1020am; DC2568)

In this course, we will examine the context of online social networks from the perspective of artificial intelligence, including an exploration of the subfield of trust modeling in multiagent systems and its application to social networking environments.

Background in artificial intelligence is beneficial but not essential. In an early lecture, a brief introduction to AI will be provided.

Students will be exposed to a variety of current research in a very topical area of study. They will have the opportunity to gain skill in oral communication (through detailed feedback provided on their class presentations) and in concisely conveying detailed academic work. Students will also learn important analytic skills, executed in a limited timeframe, through the group exercise.

Workload and Logistics

The class size will be limited to 15.

Each student in the class will be required to complete:
a) a 15 minute oral presentation of a research paper from a predetermined list, once for the topic of Trust and once for the topic of Social Networks
b) a one-page point-form summary of the above research paper to be distributed as a handout to the class, for each of the presentations in a)
c) a 10 minute oral presentation of the student's final research project
d) a final research project (student's choice), relevant to the course topic
e) a group-oriented in-class exercise (with an individual component)

The final grade will be computed as follows:

Each presentation and handout	10 marks each (40 marks)
Final project presentation	10 marks
Group exercise	10 marks
Final project	40 marks (due December 4 at 11am)

Schedule

This is a tentative outline for the course.

September 10 **...** Introduction to course
September 17 **...** Intro to AI; Intro to User Modeling, Trust Modeling
September 24 **...** First Half Presentations (5)
    October 1 **...** First Half Presentations (5)
  October 15 **...** First Half Presentations (5)
  October 22 **...** Intro to social networking; Guest speaker
  October 29 **...** Second Half Presentations (5)
 November 5 **...** Second Half Presentations (5)
November 12 **...** Second Half Presentations (5)
November 19 **...** In-Class Group Exercise
November 26 **...** Project Presentations (10)
  December 3 **...** Project Presentations (5); Wrap up of course
  December 4 **...** (NO CLASS) Final Projects due 11am
                Hardcopy to be placed in my CS mailbox, with softcopy followup

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