

COMP8400 – Algorithms and Techniques for Data Mining

Course Administration Handout 2016

Last update 4 February 2016

Introduction

This document provides a brief description of the administrative arrangements for COMP8400 in 2016. Further details are available on the COMP8400 Web site and the Wattle site for COMP8400:

<http://cs.anu.edu.au/courses/comp8400>

<https://wattle.anu.edu.au>

Course coordinator and lecturer

The course coordinator and lecturer for COMP8400 is Peter Christen. His office is in the CSIT (Computer Science) building (no. 108), office no. N322 (3rd floor).

Peter's contact hours will be made available on the COMP8400 Wattle site. If you would like to make an appointment outside of his office hours, then please contact Peter first via e-mail.

The preferred way to contact Peter is via e-mail using the course e-mail address:

comp8400@anu.edu.au

Textbook

Most of the course content will be based on the third edition (2011) of the book *Data Mining – Concepts and Techniques*, by Jaiwei Han, Micheline Kamber and Jian Pei (Morgan Kaufmann publisher). The Coop Bookshop on the ANU campus has copies available, as has the ANU Library.

Lectures and labs/tutorials

Make sure to check the ANU timetable for any changes!

The COMP8400 lectures and labs/tutorials in 2016 are currently scheduled according to the following timetable:

- Lectures: Thursday 9–11, CSIT N101 (seminar room, TBC), ground floor of building 108.
For details of the lecture room please see the ANU campus map at: <http://www.anu.edu.au/maps#show=11360>
- Labs: There will be four lab sessions, held on Thursday 11–13 in the CSIT computer lab N115/N116 (ground floor). Depending upon student numbers we might offer a second lab slot.
The first lab will be in week 3.
The tutor for the labs will be Jeffrey Fisher (jeffrey.fisher@anu.edu.au).
- Tutorials: There will be four tutorial sessions, held on Thursdays 11–12.
The tutorials will take place in the CSIT seminar room N101 (same as lecture room). Details of any room changes will be advertised in the lectures.
The first tutorial will be in week 4.

For a detailed lecture schedule please consult the COMP8400 Wattle site.

All slides presented in the lectures will be made available on the COMP8400 Wattle site at least one day before the actual lectures.

Please print the 4-up lecture slides and bring them into the lectures to annotate with your own notes.

Assignments

There will be two written assignments for COMP8400 in 2016 (dates to be confirmed in the first two semester weeks):

- Assignment 1: Due on **Wednesday 30 March, 5 pm** (week 7, the last week before the semester break)
- Assignment 2: Due on **Wednesday 18 May, 5 pm** (week 12, the second-last semester week)

If these dates clash with other assignments for a large percentage of students, then we might change them. Detailed assignment specifications will be made available on the COMP8400 Wattle site.

Assignment extensions will only be granted in unforeseeable circumstances beyond the control of the student, and will require supporting documentation (e.g. serious illness supported by a medical certificate).

Without an explicit extension from the course coordinator, late assignments will be penalised at the rate specified on the assignment document.

From the date that your assignment marks are released electronically on Wattle, you have a period of two weeks in which you can question your mark.

After this period your mark will be final. The release of assignment marks will be announced in the lectures and on the COMP8400 Wattle site.

Assessment scheme

Attendance at lectures, labs and tutorials is not compulsory, however strongly encouraged. The material covered in labs and tutorials will be part of the final examination.

The following assessment scheme is proposed for COMP8400 in 2016:

1. Assignments

- There will be two assignments, each worth 18% of the final course mark (each marked out of 18).
- These assignments will take the form of a short essay, programming task, and/or small data mining project.

2. Presentation

- Students will give a short presentation of a research paper of their choice (from a selected range of publications) in the last few of weeks of the semester.
- This presentation (including a short report about the presented paper and the slides used in the presentation) is worth 14% of the final course mark (marked out of 14).

3. Final written examination

- This will be a 3 hour written exam held at the end of the semester during the normal examination period.
- This exam is worth 50% of the final course mark (marked out of 50).

Please note:

- Any changes to the proposed assessment scheme will be announced and discussed in the lectures and posted on the COMP8400 Wattle site.
- If there are no changes to the proposed assessment scheme by the end of semester week 2 (Friday 26 February 2016), it will be the scheme that will be used.

Final course mark:

- **All assessment components must be submitted to pass the course.**
- To pass this course you must score at least 50 out of a 100 marks.
- A supplementary exam will be offered only to those students who have a final mark of at least 45 out of 100, but less than 50 out of 100.

Note that final marks are moderated in the examiners' meeting and may be scaled as a result of this moderation.

Plagiarism

The ANU does take plagiarism seriously:

- **No group work is permitted for any part of the assessment in COMP8400.** We do encourage you to discuss your work in the labs and lectures, but we expect you to do the submitable work by yourself.
- For more details please consult the COMP8400 Wattle site, specifically the additional information provided under the link **Assessment**.
- If you have any questions about this topic please talk to the course coordinator or the Masters program convener.