CS6900: Natural Language Processing  
Fall 2012

Class Meetings: Mon, Wed, Fri 10:45am – 11:40am, ARC 121  
Instructor: Razvan Bunescu  
Office: Stocker 337  
Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 2:05 – 3:00pm, or by email appointment  
Email: bunescu @ ohio edu  
Class Website: http://ace.cs.ohio.edu/~razvan/courses/nlp6900

Prerequisites:  
- Comfortable with programming.  
- Knowledge of formal languages and a basic level of mathematical dexterity.

Textbook:  
_Speech and Language Processing: An Introduction to Natural Language Processing_  

Recommended Supplementary Text:  
_Foundations of Statistical Natural Language Processing_  
by Christopher Manning and Hinrich Schtze. MIT Press, 1999

Course Description:  
Natural Language Processing (NLP) is a branch of Artificial Intelligence (AI) concerned with developing computer systems that can process, understand, or generate natural language. Major applications of NLP include information retrieval and web search engines, information extraction, question answering, machine translation, sentiment analysis, text mining, and speech recognition. This graduate level course will give a fairly broad overview of NLP, with a primary focus on tasks that are widely seen as fundamental for a natural language understanding system such as part of speech tagging, syntactic parsing, word sense disambiguation, semantic role labeling, coreference resolution, and semantic parsing.

Grading:  
36%: Homework Assignments  
32%: Midterm Exam  
32%: Final Project
Important Dates:
- Monday, Sep. 3: Labor Day, no class.
- Monday, Nov. 2: Last day to drop class.
- Monday, Nov. 12: Veterans Day, no class.
- Wednesday, Nov. 21: Thanksgiving break, no class.
- Friday, Nov. 23: Thanksgiving break, no class.
- Friday, Dec. 7: Last day of this class.

Course and Attendance policies:
- Late assignments: All homework assignments are due before the class. No late submissions will be accepted without prior approval.
- Attendance: It is in your best interest to attend all the lectures. Some of the material will not be found in the textbook. Extra credit, up to 5%, will be awarded for class activity.

Academic Dishonesty Policy:
- All work must be the student's own. All external references used in reports must be properly cited. No credit will be given for duplicate or plagiarized work. Stronger measures, within the guidelines of the Student Handbook, may be taken when conditions warrant. The OU Student Code of Conduct Policy is available online at:

  http://www.ohio.edu/communitystandards/code/index.cfm