CS3346A/CS3121A/CS9146A Course Outline
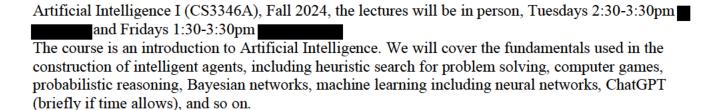# Introduction to Artificial Intelligence, Fall 2024

1. Course Information

Course Information

Artificial Intelligence I (CS3346A), Fall 2024, the lectures will be in person, Tuesdays 2:30-3:30pm ■ and Fridays 1:30-3:30pm

The course is an introduction to Artificial Intelligence. We will cover the fundamentals used in the construction of intelligent agents, including heuristic search for problem solving, computer games, probabilistic reasoning, Bayesian networks, machine learning including neural networks, ChatGPT (briefly if time allows), and so on.

List of Prerequisites

Either (Computer Science 2210A/B and Computer Science 2211A/B) or (Software Engineering 2203A/B, Software Engineering 2205A/B and Software Engineering 2250A/B); Computer Science 2209A/B, or registration in a BESc program in Computer Engineering, Mechatronic Systems Engineering, or Software Engineering.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean's Designate (Department/Program Counsellors and Science Academic Advisors) to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

2. Instructor Information

Instructors	Email	Office	Phone	Office Hours
Dr. Yalda Mohsenzadeh (Course Coordinator)	ymohsenz@uwo.ca	■		Tuesdays 3:30 – 4:30 PM
Zeduo Zhang Charles Schepanowski Brandon Hu Eric Wang MohammadAmin Nazerzadeh (Course TAs)	zzhan762@uwo.ca cschepan@uwo.ca yhu584@uwo.ca lwang965@uwo.ca mnazerza@uwo.ca			To be announced on Brightspace

Students must use their Western (@uwo.ca) email addresses when contacting their instructors.

3. Course Syllabus, Schedule, Delivery Mode

Key Sessional Dates:
   Classes begin: September 5, 2024
   Fall Reading Week: October 12 – 20
   Classes end: December 6, 2024
   Exam period: December 9 – 22, 2024

4. Course Materials

Textbook: Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach (3rd or 4th Ed), by Stuart J. Russell and Peter Norvig.

All course material will be posted to OWL: https://westernu.brightspace.com/

Students are responsible for checking the course OWL site (https://westernu.brightspace.com/) regularly for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class.

If students need assistance with the course OWL site, they can seek support on the OWL Brightspace Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

5. Methods of Evaluation

Grading Scheme and Assessment Dates

The overall course grade will be calculated as listed below:
Three Assignments   worth 5% each.
Midterm Test   35% tentatively scheduled on Nov 8 (in-class midterm)
Final exam   50% (covering the whole term)

For both midterm and final exams, students can bring a one-page 8x11 "cheat sheet" (double-sided, written or printed). The exam will be closed book, with no permitted access to any electronic devices. The exam is to be completed individually, with no assistance from others.

All assignments are due by 11:55 pm of the due date, submitted via OWL. The due dates of the three assignments are: 10/8, 11/5, and 12/3 Late Assignment Policy of assignments: Each day (24 hours) is 10% off (e.g., if late for 2 days, 20% off), until 10 days have passed and the assignment will be worth 0.

Accommodated Evaluations

Generally, no extensions to assignments will be given (except for lengthy illness, or other compassionate grounds). In those cases, the course instructor can grant the extension. The instructor may also ask you to take supporting documentation to the office of the Dean of your faculty, who will contact the instructor. If you must miss the Midterm Exam for a valid reason, you must present valid documentation to the Dean's office and get approval there. These students must also notify the course instructor prior to the Midterm Exam. A make-up Midterm will be arranged for these students. If for any reason the assignment schedule given below cannot be adhered to, the assignment marks will be prorated.

General information about missed coursework
Students must familiarize themselves with the *University Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs* posted on the Academic Calendar:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf

This policy does not apply to requests for Academic Consideration submitted for **attempted or completed work**, whether online or in person.

The policy also does not apply to students experiencing longer-term impacts on their academic responsibilities. These students should consult Accessible Education.

For procedures on how to submit Academic Consideration requests, please see the information posted on the Office of the Registrar's webpage:
https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/
All requests for Academic Consideration must be made within 48 hours after the assessment date or submission deadline.

All Academic Consideration requests must include supporting documentation; however, recognizing that formal documentation may not be available in some extenuating circumstances, the policy allows students to make one Academic Consideration request **without supporting documentation** in this course. However, the following assessments are excluded from this, and therefore always require formal supporting documentation:
- Examinations scheduled during official examination periods (Defined by policy)
- Midterm

When a student *mistakenly* submits their one allowed Academic Consideration request **without supporting documentation** for the assessments listed above or those in the **Coursework with Assessment Flexibility** section below, the request cannot be recalled and reapplied. This privilege is forfeited.

Evaluation Scheme for Missed Assessments

When a student misses the Final Exam and their Academic Consideration has been granted, they will be allowed to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam). See the Academic Calendar for details (under Special Examinations), especially for those who miss multiple final exams within one examination period.

Essential Learning Requirements
Even when Academic Considerations are granted for missed coursework, the following are deemed essential to earn a passing grade.

To pass the course, students must write the midterm and final exams and obtain a minimum of 50% in each.

6. Additional Statements

Religious Accommodation
When conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request an accommodation for their absence in writing to the course instructor and/or the Academic Advising office of their Faculty of Registration. This notice should be made as early as possible but not later than two weeks prior to the writing or the examination (or one week prior to the writing of the test).

Please visit the Diversity Calendars posted on our university's EDID website for the recognized religious holidays:

   https://www.edi.uwo.ca.

Accommodation Policies
Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Accessible Education, which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities can be found at:

   https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic Accommodation_disabilities.pdf

Academic Policies
The website for Registrar Services is https://www.registrar.uwo.ca/.

In accordance with policy,

   https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies_procedures/section1/mapp113.pdf

the centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at their official university address is attended to in a timely manner.

No electronics devices are permitted in the midterm and final exams.

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

   https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Support Services
Please visit the Science & Basic Medical Sciences Academic Advising webpage for information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic-related matters: https://www.uwo.ca/sci/counselling/.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (https://uwo.ca/health/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at

   https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education at

   http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html

if you have any questions regarding accommodations.

Learning-skills counsellors at Learning Development and Success (https://learning.uwo.ca) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

Western University is committed to a thriving campus as we deliver our courses in the mixed model of both virtual and face-to-face formats. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being: https://www.uwo.ca/se/digital/.

Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, https://westernusc.ca/services/.