AIML231/DATA302 —Techniques in Machine Learning

Week 1

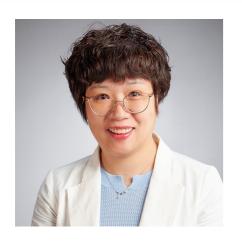# Course Introduction

Dr Qi Chen,

A/Prof Aaron Chen, and Dr Bach Nguyen

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Meet the Team: Academics

Dr Qi Chen (Course Coordinator)
- Qi.Chen@vuw.ac.nz
- CO329
- Week 1, Week 8 - Week 12
  - Extensions and other admin
  - A1 – A3 and Test

A/Prof Aaron Chen
- Aaron.Chen@vuw.ac.nz
- AM413
- Week 1 - Week 3, RL (Week 7) and AutoML (Week 12)
  - A1 and Test

Dr Bach Nguyen
- Bach.Nguyen@vuw.ac.nz
- CO364
- Week 4 – Week 7
- A2 and Test

Meet the Team: Tutors

Hengzhe Zhang

Vinh Nguyen

Nimasha Herath

Steven Dockter

Meet the Team: Class Rep(s)?

- The key role of the Class Representative is to assist communication between staff and students in relation to course matters and to provide a point of contact for students.

- i.e. somebody to raise issues, comments, suggestions with us on your behalf!

- AIML231: 1 rep

- DATA302: 1 rep

- Email me please!

Volunteers?

Class Schedule

- Two lectures a week (Tuesday/Thursday) 12:00 -12:50 pm, LT122,Cotton Building, Kelburn
  - Introduces crucial concepts and ideas!

- One tutorial a week (Friday) 12:00-12:50 pm,

  LT122,Cotton Building, Kelburn
  - How to use tools/libraries to implement these ideas

Course Website

- https://ecs.wgtn.ac.nz/Courses/AIML231_2024T1/
  - Bookmark this!!
  - Lecture notes, assignment handout & submission, …
- We use Nuku for:
  - Announcements
  - Lecture Recordings
  - Course/teaching evaluation
  - Class discussion forum
- Forward your VUW email or check it regularly!

Labs

- Labs are dedicated time to work on your assignments
- Tutor there to help get you started & answer Qs
- Work alongside your classmates

- Starts from **Week 2**
- One Lab a week
  - CO242 and CO243 12-1 pm Wednesday
  - CO219 11 am-12 pm Thursday
  - CO219 2 -3 pm Friday
  - Signup here: https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/study/timetable/tutorial-sign-up
- Only attend the one you sign up for!
- email me if have any issues

Lab Rooms

- You can also use the ECS labs outside of your lab slot, as long as another course hasn't booked them

- 24/7, need your ID card afterhours

- **Read the lab rules!**

  - https://ecs.wgtn.ac.nz/Support/TechNoteLaboratories
  - Any issues, email me or tell a staff member

- NB: your ECS login is different from your myVUW

- See https://ecs.wgtn.ac.nz/Support/TechNoteAccountRegistration

Course Timetable

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri
9 – 10 am					
10 – 11 am					
11am – 12 pm				Lab 3 CO219	
12 – 1 pm		Lecture Cotton LT122	Lab 1 CO242 / Lab 2 CO243	Lecture Cotton LT122	Tutorial Cotton LT122
1 – 2 pm					
2 - 3					Lab 4 CO219
3 – 4 pm					
4 – 5 pm					

- https://ecs.wgtn.ac.nz/Courses/AIML231_2024T1/Timetable

Assessment

1. Introduction to ML , ML Tasks, and Classification
    - Due Monday 23:59 Week 5
    - 20%

2. Data understanding and PreProcessing, Regression
    - Due Friday 23:59 Week 7
    - 20%

3. Neural Networks, Evolutionary Computation, and Clustering
    - Due Friday 23:59 Week 11
    - 25%

3. Fina Test
    - Assessment Period
    - 35%

Extensions/Deadlines

- We are using the "3 late days" model for this course applied to the three assignments but ***not the final test***.
  - Close deadlines
  - Computer problems
  - Getting really turnt at a party
  - …

- Thus, minor extensions will **not** be approved.

- Don't *waste* your late days early on

- Medical/exceptional circumstances? Apply for extension via Submission System – preferably before the deadline

Workload

- 150 hours for 15 points
- 36 "contact hours"
- 11 hours of labs
- So 1% of assessment is roughly 1 hours

- Start the assessment early
  - You may not be able to do it all when it is released – but you can start!
  - Make the most of Labs – they are less busy early

- Make a calendar of ALL your deadlines & plan

Getting Help

- Ask your lab tutor

- Post in the Nuku discussions

- If more specific to you, email the lecturer teaching that part of the course

- If about the overall course, email Qi

Plagiarism

- Using somebody else's work as your own, without saying so.

- This includes anything not in the lectures/tutorials!

- We suggest you don't use AI tools (ChatGPT, Bing Chat, Github Copilot, Google Bard, …) to generate submitted material, or complete coursework.

- If use AI tools to check them, it is at your own risk for Plagiarism

- **It's really easy to avoid.**

- Just **tell us** if you used a resource!! (and how much)

- It is never plagiarism if you are honest.

- The penalty for getting caught can be worse than getting no marks…it's not worth it.