

# CSCI/LING 8570

# Spring 2010

## Natural Language Processing Techniques

SYLLABUS (Updated 2010/01/05)

*Note:* This is the **new, Python-based version of the course** and will not have the same textbooks or specific content as in previous years. The general content is the same, but programming will be done in Python. **Prior knowledge of Python or Prolog is not necessary.**

**This course will have a MAILING LIST for urgent information:**

[LING8570@listserv.uga.edu](mailto:LING8570@listserv.uga.edu)

**And a course BLOG for reference information:**

<http://www.ai.uga.edu/mc/8570blog.html>

**Please look at the blog about twice a week.**

**Instructor:** Dr. Michael A. Covington, [mc@uga.edu](mailto:mc@uga.edu)

**Class meetings:** Tuesdays 2:00-3:15, Wednesdays 2:30-3:20, Thursdays 2:00-3:15  
Hardman Hall, room 102

**Prerequisites:** **Symbolic Programming and Transformational Syntax, or P.O.D.**  
*If you have actually taken those two courses, you are very well prepared for this course. However, few students actually take both. Instead, most are admitted by P.O.D. after checking with me to verify that they are adequately prepared.*

**Textbooks:** **REQUIRED:**

**Bird, S.; Klein, E.; and Loper, E.**  
*Natural Language Processing with Python.* O'Reilly, 2009.  
ISBN-10: 0-596-51649-5  
ISBN-13: 978-0-596-51649-9

**STRONGLY RECOMMENDED:**

**Donaldson, T.**  
*Python: Visual Quickstart Guide.* 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Peachpit Press, 2009.  
ISBN-10: 0-321-58544-5  
ISBN-13: 978-0-321-58544-8

**Fromkin, V.; Rodman, R.; and Hyams, N.**  
*An Introduction to Language.* 7<sup>th</sup> edition. Thomson/Heinle, 2002.  
ISBN-10: 0-155-08481-X  
ISBN-13: 978-0-155-08481-0

*NOTE: To save money, we are not using the latest (8<sup>th</sup>) edition.*

*The 7<sup>th</sup> edition is abundant and inexpensive on the used market.*

**Requirements:** Attendance  
Homework and class participation  
Midterm examination  
Term project

**NOTE: Because of the large class and the very varied background of the students, some decisions about requirements will be made as the course develops. I expect every student to work hard and learn a lot, relative to where he or she started.**

**Academic honesty:** **The rules of the University apply to this course.**

*As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University's academic honesty policy, "A Culture of Honesty," and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in "A Culture of Honesty" found at [www.uga.edu/honesty](http://www.uga.edu/honesty). Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor.*