CMSC 421, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

SYLLABUS
Basic Info

♦ **Location & time:** CSI 1122, Tuesday/Thursday 3:30am-4:45pm

♦ **Instructor:** Dana S. Nau

♦ **Email:** nau@cs.umd.edu (change & to @)

♦ **Web page:** http://www.cs.umd.edu/~nau

♦ **Office & phone:** Room 3241 AVW, 301-405-2684

♦ **Office hours:** after class till about 5:30pm; other times by appointment

♦ **TA:** Ke Zhai

♦ **Email:** zhaike@cs.umd.edu (change & to @)

♦ **Office hours:** Tuesday 10:30am–12:00, and Friday 1:30–3:00pm

♦ **Where:** room 1112 AVW
Web pages

Home page for the course:
http://www.cs.umd.edu/~nau/cmsc421
That’s where I’ll post the lecture schedule, slides, etc.

Discussion forum
Web site:

RSS feed:

Please post questions and comments there
**Textbooks**

**Required:**

**Recommended but not required:**
Paul Graham, *ANSI Common Lisp*

Not the new 3rd edition. It was published after the deadline for ordering textbooks.
Topics to be covered:

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◊ intelligent agents (AMAI chapter 2)
◊ search and game-playing (AMAI chapters 36)
◊ logical systems (AMAI chapters 79)
◊ planning systems (AMAI chapters 1112)
◊ reasoning about uncertainty (AMAI chapters 1314)
◊ learning (AMAI chapter 18 & 20)
◊ language (AMAI chapter 22)
◊ perception (AMAI chapter 24)

◊ Lisp: 2 or 3 programming projects
Workload

**Homework assignments:** about six, about 5 problems each

◊ You’ll usually have one week to do them
◊ Submit them in class (not my office, mail box, or email)
◊ For full credit, submit them on the due date
◊ For a 10% penalty, submit them at the next class meeting
◊ No credit after that

◊ Graded by the TA. Contact him if you want something regraded

**Programming projects:** probably three

◊ **Language:** Common Lisp
◊ **Platform:** Allegro Common Lisp on the OIT Unix cluster
  Get a Glue account if you don’t already have one:
  http://www.oit.umd.edu/new
Exams

◊ **Open book, open notes** (and closed neighbor)

◊ The last class meeting before each exam will be a review

◊ **Midterm:** Thursday March 11 (our last class before spring break)
  If that date is going to cause any problems, I need to know now

◊ **Final exam:** Wednesday, May 19, 10:30-12:30, as specified by the university at [http://www.testudo.umd.edu/soc/exam201001.html](http://www.testudo.umd.edu/soc/exam201001.html)
  It will be cumulative

◊ If you miss an exam and you have both a valid reason (e.g., a medical emergency) and convincing evidence, I’ll give you credit for the missed exam based on your performance on the other exam

◊ Exams will be graded by both the TA and me
  Submit all regrade requests to me in writing
Grading

◊ Numeric score at end of semester:
  exams + homeworks/5 + projects/2

◊ Total possible is **approximately**
  \[100 + 140 + \frac{6 \times 50}{5} + \frac{3 \times 100}{2} = 450\]

◊ I’ll assign letter grades on a curve, based on your total numeric score

To give you an idea how well you’re doing, I can give you a tentative letter grade after the midterm exam. But I won’t use it in computing your final letter grade for the semester.

**Academic integrity:** I’ll expect you to follow the student honor pledge:
http://www.studenthonor council.umd.edu/code.html#honor_pledge
My teaching style

◊ Lecture slides; will work out details on the board
  ◊ To give you an idea of what’s coming, I’ve already posted some older versions of my slides.
  ◊ They’re out-of-date, and I’ll update them as I go along.
  ◊ I’ll post the updated slides on the web after each class

◊ Please ask me questions during my lecture
  ◊ It give me a better idea of what things to explain
  ◊ Others will probably be glad you asked
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◊ Any questions?