

# IS 467

## Fundamentals of Data Science

### **Course Information**

IS467 - Fundamentals of Data Science

Two sections:

Mondays, 5:45PM-9:00PM in Lewis 1216

Final Exam: March 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM in the classroom

Course Management System: <http://d21.depaul.edu>

### **Instructor Information**

Instructor: Eli T. Brown

Office: CDM Center, Room 711

Office Hours: Monday from 3:15pm – 3:45pm

Monday from 9:00pm – 9:45pm \*

Wednesday from 9:00pm – 9:45pm \*

Thursday from 3:00pm – 4:00pm

\* after class, I start in the classroom, so Wednesday I might get to the office late

Phone: (312) 362-7115

Email: [eli.t.brown@depaul.edu](mailto:eli.t.brown@depaul.edu)

**include IS467 in the subject**

**expect reply by night of following business day**

### **Course Description**

The greatest challenge facing data warehousing professionals is extracting valuable information from the masses of data in the warehouse. One of the most significant and powerful technologies to address this concern is data mining.

Data mining uses statistical analysis and modeling techniques to uncover patterns and relationships hidden in large databases—patterns that ordinary methods might miss. Data mining is only one step in the knowledge discovery process. Other steps include identifying the problem to be solved, collecting and preparing the right data, interpreting and deploying models, and monitoring the results. The real key to success, however, is to have a thorough understanding of your data and your business.

This course will illustrate the knowledge discovery process and how the technology works with sample applications of data mining. The course will cover the following topics:

- What data mining is and is not (Chapter 1)
- Relationship between data mining, data warehouse, and query tools (Chapter 4)
- Applications and trends in data mining (Chapter 13)
- Data understanding and preparation for the data mining process (Chapters 2 & 3)
- Model building, algorithms and technology:
  - Supervised learning - Classification and Prediction (Chapters 8 & 9)
  - Unsupervised learning or Clustering (Chapters 10 & 11)
- Data Mining for complex data objects (Chapter 13) – if time permits
- Exploratory data visualization – if time permits

### **Course Objectives**

After completing the course, the students will be able to:

- identify basic concepts, terminology, models and methods in the field of data mining
- develop and evaluate different data mining algorithms
- apply data mining algorithms to large datasets
- recommend designs of knowledge discovery systems for specific problems

**Required Textbook**

Data Mining: Concepts and Techniques, by Han and Kamber, Morgan Kaufman Publishers, Third Edition  
Textbook webpage: <http://www.cs.uiuc.edu/~hanj/bk3/>

**Prerequisites:** IT403: Statistics and Data Analysis

**Grading**

The course grade will be determined by homework (50% of the grade) a final exam (40%) and (mostly) weekly quizzes (10%).

Extra credit points will be given for additional problems in assignments and final exam, active participation in the lectures and Discussion Forum.

The summary of the weights of each assignment contributing to the final grade is as follows:

Assignment	Weight in final grade
Homework Assignments	50%
Final Exam	40%
Quizzes	10%

The final grade will be assigned according to the following scale:

Percentage Grade	Letter Grade	Manner of fulfillment
95-100	A	Excellent
90-94	A-	
85-89	B+	Very Good
80-84	B	
75-79	B-	Satisfactory
70-74	C+	
65-69	C	
60-64	C-	Poor
55-59	D+	
50-54	D	
0 – 50	F	

**Policies for Homework, Exams and Quizzes**

*Homework assignments*

There will be 4 assignments, each of which you will have one or two weeks to complete. They are due on Saturday nights at midnight, giving online students a chance to benefit from class discussions that may come shortly before the due date. There is a 20% penalty for late submissions. Any submitted documents (homeworks, reports, etc.) must be typed and submitted through the D2L website: <http://d2l.depaul.edu> It is your responsibility to check that your homework files are uploaded correctly on D2L and you should always keep a copy of your submission. Please email or talk to me if you need an extension on an assignment. Note that because I may discuss answers to assignments in the next class after they are due, credit cannot be given after that time barring extenuating circumstances. Also note that while I am often lenient with short extensions, the last assignment is an exception because I want to release the solution sketch in time for students to use it in studying for the final exam.

*Final exam*

There will be a final exam given during exam week (see dates above). It will be worth 40% of the course grade. The final exam is a closed book and notes exam, but students are allowed to bring a calculator (**no**

**phones** are allowed) and one page (two-sided) of **handwritten** notes. I will check the page of formulas when you turn in the exam, and printed content will result in a stiff penalty. We will do review for the exam during the last week of class.

### *Quizzes*

There will be a quiz posted on the course website most weeks. This is a learning tool – research suggests that trying to remember something helps it stick in your brain longer. The quizzes should be taken before the next class, as we will review them during lecture. You may take the quizzes as many times as you like. Only the highest score will count. Everyone should get a perfect score on that 10% of their grade!

### *For online students*

Online students must schedule their final exam on the D2L website during the time frame specified by your instructor (March 18-21). Students living within the Chicago land area are considered local and will be expected to take their exams at a DePaul University campus. Time slots vary by campus and day. Online students living outside the Chicago land area (remote) will have their exams administered by a qualified proctor. You will need to find an acceptable proctor in your area before you register for your exam.

Detailed information about online exams is at

<http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/onlinelearning/Pages/Exams.aspx>

### *Software*

This course is not about any particular software package. It is about data mining. However, in order to have you experiment with the techniques we're discussing without having to code them from scratch, we need to use some software that has already been written. SPSS is very popular in industry and allows you to run the algorithms we're discussing by choosing options from menus as opposed to writing code. Therefore, SPSS will be the default choice for assignments. The labs are taught in SPSS as well, to ensure everyone has a common tool for data mining tasks. There are lab sessions on weeks 2, 5 and 9, during which we go to a computer lab for the second half of class and you work through some steps to get practice with the software while I'm available to help. For online students, you can access the software remotely (see below) and work through the labs yourself. I recommend leaving the lab session video on in the background while you do it. If questions come up from students in class that will be relevant to everyone, I go to the front of the room to repeat them so you can hear them.

Though SPSS is the default choice for the course, you are welcome to use other software if you prefer (e.g. SAS, R, Weka, Python). You must submit all code you write as an addendum to each assignment. Note that I cannot provide support for all these packages, and that because SPSS is popular in industry, I recommend taking the opportunity to learn the basics so you can add it to your list of skills on your resume.

*Access to Software:* The software is available in CDM labs, and also through the CDM terminal services.

This means you can access it on your laptop through the internet for free. For instructions on how to remotely access the terminal services and how to activate your CDM account, please visit

[http://my.cdm.depaul.edu/resources/terminal\\_services\\_guide.pdf](http://my.cdm.depaul.edu/resources/terminal_services_guide.pdf)

*Purchasing the software:* The University does not offer student licenses for SPSS (as they do for SAS) but, if you want to purchase it, SPSS offers rental options.

### *Discussion Forum*

I enabled the Discussion Forums on D2L to provide students a forum for discussions relevant to this course. You may discuss homeworks and preparations for the final, or anything else related to data mining. Essentially, the forums are like a study group online. Note that you may absolutely NOT post answers to homeworks. If they are used to violate academic integrity, the forums will be immediately shut down. That would be a shame, as research in education suggests that discussing material and hashing out questions with your peers is one of the most effective ways to learn. You'll also find they are a fast way to get your questions answered.

### *Online Learning*

The discussion forums are a great way for you to participate in discussions and meet people for study groups. To learn more about the online learning program at DePaul, please visit [www.cdm.depaul.edu](http://www.cdm.depaul.edu) and click on the Online Learning Button – you will find extensive documentation, including FAQs on all questions from students.

### ***Attendance***

It is expected that you will attend every class; it is the single most important action you can take in mastering the course objectives. You are responsible for all material covered, assignments delivered or received, and announcements made in class sessions that you miss. For distance learning students, this means viewing the classes in a timely manner, participate in the discussion forum, and being sure to email or call in any questions that you have.

### ***For online students:***

Recordings of each lecture will be available a few hours after the “live” class, and can be found at the course website <https://d2l.depaul.edu>. Online students are expected to watch the lectures every week and to keep up with the course information posted on the course website.

### ***Email***

Email is the primary means of communication between faculty and students enrolled in this course outside of class time. Students should be sure their email listed under "demographic information" at <http://campusconnect.depaul.edu> is correct. I reply to email by the night of the next business day. Note that this means you should look at homework assignments enough in advance to email me questions a couple days before the due date. **Include ‘IS467’ in the subject** for efficient replies.

### ***Changes to Syllabus***

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary to better meet the needs of the students. Significant changes are unlikely, and will be thoroughly addressed in class. Minor changes, especially to the weekly agenda, are possible at any time. If a change occurs, it will be thoroughly addressed during class and posted under Announcements in D2L.

### ***Class Cancellation***

Class is not canceled unless absolutely necessary, like the University closing due to weather. If this happens, I will get a substitute lecturer or record the class for you to watch online.

### ***Cell Phones/On Call***

If you bring a cell phone to class, it must be off or set to a silent mode. Should you need to answer a call during class, you must leave the room in an undistruptive manner. Out of respect to fellow students and the professor, texting is never allowable in class. If you are required to be on call as part of your job, please advise me at the start of the course.

## ***School policies:***

### ***Online Course Evaluations***

Instructor and course evaluations provide valuable feedback that can improve teaching and learning. The greater the level of participation, the more useful the results. As students, you are in the unique position to view the instructor over time. Your comments about what works and what doesn't can help faculty build on the elements of the course that are strong and improve those that are weak. Isolated comments from students and instructors' peers may also be helpful, but evaluation results based on high response rates may be statistically reliable (believable). As you experience this course and material, think about how your learning is impacted. Your honest opinions about your experience in and commitment to the course and your learning may help improve some components of the course for the next group of students. Positive comments also show the department chairs and college deans the commitment of instructors to the university and teaching evaluation results are one component used in annual performance reviews. The evaluation of the instructor and course provides you an opportunity to make your voice heard. Most importantly I read these comments. I review all student comments from previous courses and look for ways to improve, so please offer constructive criticism on anything you can. Vague or unconstructive comments like, "Great," (though always good to hear) or, "His clothes are boring and I hate his face," are much less helpful.

### ***Academic Integrity and Plagiarism***

This course will be subject to the academic integrity policy passed by faculty. More information can be found at <http://academicintegrity.depaul.edu/>.

The university and school policy on plagiarism can be summarized as follows: Students in this course should be aware of the strong sanctions that can be imposed against someone guilty of plagiarism. If proven, a charge of plagiarism could result in an automatic F in the course and possible expulsion. The strongest of sanctions will be imposed on anyone who submits as his/her own work any assignment which has been prepared by someone else. If you have any questions or doubts about what plagiarism entails or how to properly acknowledge source materials be sure to consult the instructor.

### ***Withdrawal***

Students who withdraw from the course do so by using the Campus Connection system (<http://campusconnect.depaul.edu>). Withdrawals processed via this system are effective the day on which they are made. Simply ceasing to attend, or notifying the instructor, or nonpayment of tuition, does not constitute an official withdrawal from class and will result in academic as well as financial penalty.

### ***Retroactive Withdrawal***

This policy exists to assist students for whom extenuating circumstances prevented them from meeting the withdrawal deadline. During their time at the University, students may be allowed one medical/personal administrative withdrawal and one college office administrative withdrawal, each for one or more courses in a single term. Repeated requests will not be considered. Submitting an appeal for retroactive withdrawal does not guarantee approval.

College office appeals for CDM students must be submitted online via MyCDM. The deadlines for submitting appeals are as follows:

Autumn Quarter: Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent winter quarter  
Winter Quarter: Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent spring quarter  
Spring Quarter: Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent autumn quarter  
Summer Terms: Last day of the last final exam of the subsequent autumn quarter

### ***Incomplete***

An incomplete grade is a special, temporary grade that may be assigned by an instructor when unforeseeable circumstances prevent a student from completing course requirements by the end of the term and when otherwise the student had a record of satisfactory progress in the course. CDM policy requires the student to initiate the request for incomplete grade before the end of the term in which the course is

taken. Prior to submitting the incomplete request, the student must discuss the circumstances with the instructor. Students may initiate the incomplete request process in MyCDM.

- All incomplete requests must be approved by the instructor of the course and a CDM Associate Dean. Only exceptions cases will receive such approval.
- If approved, students are required to complete all remaining course requirement independently in consultation with the instructor by the deadline indicated on the incomplete request form.
- By default, an incomplete grade will automatically change to a grade of F after two quarters have elapsed (excluding summer) unless another grade is recorded by the instructor.
- An incomplete grade does NOT grant the student permission to attend the same course in a future quarter.

### ***Students with Disabilities***

Students who need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs. All discussions will remain confidential.

To ensure that you receive the most appropriate accommodation based on your needs, contact the instructor as early as possible in the quarter (preferably within the first week of class), and make sure that you have contacted the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) at:

Student Center, LPC, Suite #370

Phone number: (773)325.1677

Fax: (773)325.3720

TTY: (773)325.7296