AI Large Practical

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Sept 17 2014

AILP: Course Description

The official descriptor is on-line:

`http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/14-15/dpt/cxinfr09018.htm`

- There is no exam for this course;
  assessment is based entirely on your work during the
  practical: the programs you write, and your reports
  of those programs.
- The course is compulsory for several degrees.

Course Aims, 1

- Most practical work in the formal curriculum has asked you to solve closely specified problems, in a short time

- AILP asks you to manage your time, and organise how you set about a larger task.

- You will play a larger role in setting the direction of your work, and in reporting on your work.

Course Aims, 2

AILP is intended as a small introduction to research, which will involve:

- Understanding the problem
- Reading some associated literature
- Designing an extended computational system.
- Experimenting and evaluating.
- Writing a final report on your work,

Outline

Assignment	Issue	Due	Weight
A1	24 Sep	Fri 24 Oct, 16:00	50%
A2	$\leq$ 29 Oct	Thu 12 Dec, 16:00	50%

Sessions

Lectures   Wednesday, 9:00 in DHT LG.06,
weeks 1, 2, 6, 7 — and possibly others

Drop-in   Mondays, 10:00 in AT 5.08, from week 3?
Labs   Mondays, 13:00 in AT 4.12, from week 3?

Drop-in labs allow you to ask questions about the assignments in general, and about design and programming issues.

Spreading the load

You are expected to budget your own time and pace your work to meet the deadlines.

Beware

There will be other coursework deadlines falling towards the end of the semester. Remember that the AILP submissions count for a lot more than coursework associated with courses with exams.

For most people, the period at the end of the semester will be free from other coursework deadlines.

Organisation

- If you need to contact me, please use email: ewan@inf.ed.ac.uk
- We'll be using Python this year.
- Does it make sense to have student rep for the course? Volunteers?

Do read your email!

If I need to make announcements, I'll do it via email to the mailing list for this course.

Reminder: plagiarism

Claiming someone else's work as your own is a serious offence within a university; this includes failure to acknowledge where your work is based upon someone else's work.

- It's good to discuss problems and ways to solve them with others.
- But you must:
    - Write your own code;
    - Do your own experiments;
    - Write your own report.

More discussion at

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http://www.inf.ed.ac.uk/admin/ITO/
DivisionalGuidelinesPlagiarism.html
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Area of Practical

- The area of the practical is in argumentation systems.

- Argumentation involves making sense of arguments both for and against some claim or course of action.

- Examples:
  - Choice of treatment for a patient;
  - Choice of action by a governing body;
  - Legal arguments for guilt or innocence;
  - Individual choice of 'considered action'

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  - Legal arguments for guilt or innocence;
  - Individual choice of 'considered action' — should I eat the whole tub of ice cream?

Exercise 1

- Write down three examples of arguments.
- Reflect on your examples: do the arguments have internal structure, identifiable components?

Exercise 2

- Work with a partner; one of you will be proponent, the other will be opponent.
- The proponent selects one of his/her examples from Exercise 1, and puts the argument forward. The opponent tries to rebut the argument with a counterargument.
- Now swap roles.

Exercise 3

Next week, we'll be looking at something called the Carneades model of argumentation. This is partly motivated by the goal of representing legal arguments.

- What is the difference between arguments and legal arguments?
- Try to come up with a few examples of legal arguments.

Stuff to read

Douglas Walton (2009) 'Argumentation Theory: A Very Short Introduction.'
`http://www.dougwalton.ca/papers%20in%20pdf/09ArgShort.pdf`

Thomas F. Gordon, Henry Prakken, and Douglas Walton (2007) 'The Carneades model of argument and burden of proof.'
`http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0004370207000677`

Next Week

- Meet at 09:00, same venue;
- Assignment 1, and how it will be assessed.