CSC 594
Topics in AI
AI in Knowledge Management
Spring 2004
Section 901 / 902
W 5:45 – 9:00 pm, Lewis 1507

Professor: Robin Burke
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Office hours: Mondays 12 noon – 3:00 pm and by appointment.
Prerequisites: Permission of instructor
Course web site: http://josquin.cti.depaul.edu/~rburke/courses/s04/csc594

Description
Knowledge management systems are applications that help organizations capture, store, structure and reuse knowledge. AI techniques, especially case-based reasoning, have become an important part of many fielded knowledge management applications. In this course, we will study working KM systems and the AI technologies behind them.

This course is a graduate-level seminar with active participation expected of all students. The course will revolve around three basic activities:

- Presenting and discussing research papers and articles. Each student will be expected to prepare two presentations during the quarter.
- Managing our own knowledge about the field of AI and knowledge management. Each student will be expected to take a turn as "course librarian", organizing information about systems, concepts, researchers, and projects.
- Discussing implementation and design issues in small groups.

Readings

There will be additional readings on the web and distributed in class.

Note
The schedule and other information in the syllabus is subject to change. Consult the Course On-Line website and the course home page for the most up-to-date information.

Resources
Additional information such as links to readings will be found on the course home page.

Assessment
This course is a graduate-level seminar. **Students are expected to attend every class session, to make presentations, and to participate in discussions and activities.** There will be three components to the grade:

- Presentations – 40%
- Participation – 50%
- Final project – 10%
Each student will be expected to make two 30-minute presentations, explaining the research and findings in a particular research paper or case study. Additional background reading and consultation will be required to construct an effective presentation. There will be two presentations at each class meeting. Each class meeting will also have two designated librarians. The librarians' role will be to create and post web pages listing and describing concepts, individuals, projects and other important ideas from each week's articles.

The participation grade will include participation in general discussion, in class activities, and the fulfillment of various roles such as librarian and group leader. Students not presenting will be required to submit two "Admission Tickets", one-page papers each reacting to one of the week's readings. Students without admission tickets will not be permitted to attend the class session and will receive 0 participation points for that week. The final project will be a proposal for the implementation of a knowledge management system. Further details will be distributed later in the quarter.

**Course Organization**

Most class sessions will consist of the following activities:

- Case study presentation. Student presentation on an application-oriented reading. 30 min. + 15 discussion.
- Research paper presentation. Student presentation on a research-oriented reading. 30 min. + 15 discussion.
- Librarian report. Report from the week's librarians on additions to the course knowledge base. (10 min. max)
- In-class exercise. Focused group problem-solving or design activity.

The first course session (3/31) will be devoted to an overview of the topic. The second course session will follow the pattern above except that the instructor will give both presentations, to serve as examples for the student presentations in the following weeks. In the last weeks of the quarter, we will have four presentations per class as needed to accommodate all students.

**DL Policies**

DL students have the same requirements as other students with respect to admission tickets, and serving as librarian. However, instead of presentations, DL students will submit review papers, which will serve as presentations. DL students will be required to engage in the same exercises as in-class students, submitting their results via COL.

**Policies**

Students are expected to attend all classes and participate in in-class exercises. Class will start promptly at 5:45 pm. Students are expected to have completed all assigned readings before class and must prepare an "Admission Ticket" (one-page reaction paper) for each such reading. Failure to do so precludes participation in that week's class.

Because this is a discussion-oriented class, attendance is very important. Missing three classes (absent a documented excuse) will result in a loss of one full grade; four classes two grades, etc. Presentations in particular are crucial to the activity of the course, and students should make every effort to make their presentations. Only in the case of a serious documented excuse (e.g. illness, death in the family) can a presentation be re-scheduled. Please arrange your work and personal commitments accordingly.

**School Policies**

**Online Instructor Evaluation**

Course and instructor evaluations are critical for maintaining and improving course quality. To make evaluations as meaningful as possible, we need 100% student participation. Therefore, participation in the School's web-based academic administration initiative during the eighth and ninth week of this course is a
requirement of this course. Failure to participate in this process will result in a grade of incomplete for the course. This incomplete will be automatically removed within seven weeks after the end of the course and replaced by the grade you would have received if you had fulfilled this requirement.

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.

Plagiarism:
The university and school policy on plagiarism can be summarized as follows: Students in this course, as well as all other courses in which independent research or writing play a vital part in the course requirements, 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 a report, examination paper, computer file, lab report, or other 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.

Incomplete:
An incomplete grade is given only for an exceptional reason such as a death in the family, a serious illness, etc. Any such reason must be documented. Any incomplete request must be made at least two weeks before the final, and approved by the Dean of the School of Computer Science, Telecommunications and Information Systems. Any consequences resulting from a poor grade for the course will not be considered as valid reasons for such a request.