

# CURRICULUM CHANGE PROPOSAL

## APPROVAL PAGE

Proposal Title: Creation of STAT 4474: ~~Intro to Data Mining~~

Statistical Machine Learning

College: Science

Department: Mathematical Sciences

### DEPARTMENT CHAIR

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I have read the enclosed proposal and approve this proposal on behalf of the department.



12/13/19

Signature

Date

### COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR

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I have read the enclosed documents and approve the proposal on behalf of the college curriculum committee.



1/30/20

Signature

Date

### COLLEGE DEAN

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I have read the enclosed documents and approve the proposal on behalf of the college. I certify that the necessary funds will be allocated by the college in support of this proposal.



1/30/20

Signature

Date

## Wagler, Amy E

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**From:** Salamah, Salamah I  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 14, 2020 10:34 PM  
**To:** Wagler, Amy E  
**Subject:** RE: update on course name

Dear Amy,

I confirmed with the CS faculty and we all agree that this name makes perfect sense. Thanks a lot for doing this.

Be safe!

Salamah

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Salamah Salamah, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor, Chair, Computer Science Department  
Director, CyWAR Laboratory  
The University of Texas at El Paso  
500 W. University CCS 3.1002  
El Paso, Texas 79968  
Office: +1.915.747.6671  
[www.cs.utep.edu/isalamah](http://www.cs.utep.edu/isalamah)

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**From:** Wagler, Amy E  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 14, 2020 3:10 PM  
**To:** Salamah, Salamah I <isalamah@utep.edu>  
**Subject:** update on course name

Hi Salamah,

I meant to email you yesterday, but forgot, I apologize! I did check with the math faculty involved in the course and they all agree that the course name for **STAT 4474 could be Statistical Machine Learning**. I think we will also adopt this name for the old cross-listed course STAT 5474 to avoid confusion.

What do you think about this name? I am at faculty senate meeting now (which is why I just remembered). Let me know if this helps. We are still talking about the name for the math concentration and will get back to you soon.

Thank you! Amy



Amy Wagler, Associate Chair of Mathematical Sciences  
Director of Statistical Consulting Lab  
PI of Noyce@UTEP  
Co-Director of the REC, BUILDing SCHOLARS

Dept of Mathematical Sciences  
The University of Texas at El Paso  
500 W. University Ave Bell Hall 311.  
El Paso, TX 79968

## UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM CHANGE MEMO

**Date:** 10/15/2019

**From:** Amy Wagler, Dept of Mathematical Sciences

**Through:** Christina Mariani, Dept of Mathematical Sciences

**Through:** Robert A. Kirken, College of Science

**To:** Carla Ellis, Chair of UGCC

**Proposal Title:** Creation of STAT 4474: Statistical Machine Learning

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With the advent of computers and database management tools, vast amounts of data are being generated in various fields. As Rutherford D. Roger states, "We are drowning in information and starving for knowledge." Data Mining is the process of exploring and analyzing, by automatic or semiautomatic means, large quantities of observational data in order to discover meaningful patterns and models. By applying data mining techniques, data miners can fully exploit data patterns and behavior, gain insider understanding of the data, and produce new knowledge.

Machine learning emerges as an interdisciplinary field with joint inputs from statistics, computer science, machine learning, and artificial intelligence. This course is intended to cover some commonly used data mining techniques, with more focus on the mathematical part - statistical learning algorithms.

We propose creation of a new undergraduate course covering the foundations of machine learning. The course covers the statistical and mathematical foundations of machine learning methodologies and then focuses on the application of these models to real-world phenomena. Topics covered include those models that can be classified as unsupervised and supervised learning models.

## COURSE ADD

All fields below are required

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College : Science

Department : Mathematical Sciences

Rationale for adding the course:

Machine Learning is the process of exploring and analyzing, by automatic or semiautomatic means, large quantities of observational data in order to discover meaningful patterns and models. By applying data mining techniques, data miners can fully exploit data patterns and behavior, gain insider understanding of the data, and produce new knowledge that decision-makers can act upon. This course will broaden access of data mining training to undergraduate students at UTEP. Those with experience in multivariate statistical modeling will be prepared for the course.

All fields below are required

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Subject Prefix and # STAT 4474

Title (29 characters or fewer): Statistical Machine Learning

Dept. Administrative Code :

[CIP Code](#)

Departmental Approval Required ☐ Yes ☒ No

Course Level ☒ UG ☐ GR ☐ DR ☐ SP

Course will be taught: ☒ Face-to-Face ☐ Online ☐ Hybrid

How many times may the course be taken for credit? (Please indicate 1-9 times): 1

Should the course be exempt from the "Three Repeat Rule?" ☐ Yes ☒ No

Grading Mode: ☒ Standard ☐ Pass/Fail ☐ Audit

Description (600 characters maximum):

Machine learning is an interdisciplinary field with joint inputs from statistics, computer science, machine learning, and artificial intelligence. This course is intended to cover some commonly-used data mining techniques, with more focus on the mathematical parts - statistical learning algorithms. The materials are arranged in two main categories: unsupervised learning and supervised learning.

Contact Hours (per week): 3 Lecture Hours Lab Hours Other

Types of Instruction (Schedule Type): Select all that apply

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A Lecture | <input type="checkbox"/> H Thesis                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> B Laboratory         | <input type="checkbox"/> I Dissertation                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C Practicum          | <input type="checkbox"/> K Lecture/Lab Combined                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> D Seminar            | <input type="checkbox"/> O Discussion or Review (Study Skills) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> E Independent Study  | <input type="checkbox"/> P Specialized Instruction             |

☐ F Private Lesson

☐ Q Student Teaching

### Fields below if applicable

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If course is taught during a part of term in addition to a full 16-week term please indicate the length of the course (ex., 8 weeks):

TCCN (Use for lower division courses) :

Prerequisite(s):		
Course Number/ Placement Test	Minimum Grade Required/ Test Scores	Concurrent Enrollment Permitted? (Y/N)
STAT 4329	C	Y
STAT 4385 or equivalent	C	Y

Corequisite Course(s):	Equivalent Course(s):

Restrictions:
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<b>Classification</b>	
<b>Major</b>	

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO**  
**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE**  
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

Course #: STAT 4474  
Course Title: Statistical Machine Learning  
Credit Hrs: 4.0  
Term:  
Course Meetings & Location:  
Prerequisite Courses: STAT 4385; STAT 4329 (co-requisite)  
Department approval required  
Course Fee: N/A  
Instructor:  
Office Location:  
Contact Info: Phone:  
E-mail address:  
Fax # 915-747-6502 (Math Department)  
Emergency Contact: 915-747-5761 (Math Department)  
Office Hrs:  
Textbook(s), Materials: Required: Hastie, T., Tibshirani, R., and Friedman, J.H. (2008),  
Elements of Statistical Learning, 2nd ed., Chapman &  
Hall.  
<http://www-stat.stanford.edu/~tibs/ElemStatLearn/>  
Recom- 1) James, G., Witten, D., Hastie, T., and Tibshirani, R. (2013).  
mended: An Introduction to Statistical Learning with Applications in R.  
Springer  
2) Murphy, K. P. (2012). Machine Learning: A Probabilistic  
Perspective. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press  
3) Vapnik, V. N. (1998). Statistical Learning Theory. Wiley  
4) Devroye, L., Györfi, L., and Lugosi, G. (1996). A  
Probabilistic Theory of Pattern Recognition. Springer  
Course Description and *Contents:*  
Learning Outcomes: This course will cover some commonly-used statistical machine  
learning and data mining techniques – with extra focus on statistical  
learning algorithms and their theoretical aspects. The materials are  
arranged in two main categories: unsupervised learning and supervised  
learning. A tentative outline of the specific topics is provided below.  
Course Activities/Assignments: In-class lectures accompanied by program demonstrations and class  
discussions will be given. Both lecture slides and lecture notes will be  
provided. In-class quizzes/exams will be administered. Homework  
projects will be assigned weekly or bi-weekly. For the final project,  
students will be expected to independently locate/select a dataset (from  
any field) and propose an interesting research question before asking  
for the instructor's approval of the project. Each student will have the  
opportunity to present his or her work in class.



Assessment of Course Objectives: Academic performance in this class will be the only factor used in determining the course grade. No extra credit work will be available to improve on any grade. Student performance will be evaluated based on the grades (see Grading Policy below) for in-class quizzes/exams, homework projects and the final project/presentation. No late coursework will be accepted (with exception of some extreme situations as deemed by the instructor).



Course Schedule: Important dates:

- Duration:
- Course drop deadline: (No “W” are guaranteed for dropping the course after this date!)
- Finals week:
- Grades officially available online:

Tentative schedule:

### **Getting Started**

1. Introduction to Data Mining
2. R Preliminaries: Downloading and Installing; Introduction to R; Dealing with Large Data Sets in R
3. Data Preparation: Data Cleaning; Sampling and Partitioning Data; Missing Value Imputation; Exploration

### **Part I: Unsupervised Learning**

4. Cluster Analysis: Proximity/Similarity Matrix; Hierarchical Clustering; K-Means; Self-Organizing Maps (SOM)
5. Principal Components: PCA and its extensions such as Principal Curves and Surfaces; Factor Analysis (Exploratory and Confirmatory)
6. Multidimensional Scaling (MDS): Metric and Non-Metric MDS
7. Web Mining: Google PageRank

### **Part II: Supervised Learning**

8. Linear Regression: Least Squares Estimation; Assessment and Validation; Model Diagnostics; Generalized LS; Partial/Total LS
9. Variable Screening and Selection: Variable Relevance/Importance - the RELIEF algorithm; Univariate/Bivariate Screening; Step-wise Variable Selection and Regularization – Ridge regression, LASSO and its variants, etc.
10. Logistic Regression: Model Assessment, Validation, and Regularization; Classification Errors, Odds Ratio, ROC, etc.; Generalized Linear Models (GLM)
11. Regression/Classification Trees: Pros and Cons; Impurity Measures; Pruning; Tree Size Selection; and Interpretation; Generalization to Regression, Censored Survival Data, and Longitudinal Data
12. Ensemble Models: Boosting; Bagging and Random Forests; Stacking

Grading Policy: 60% Homework/project assignments  
10% In-class quizzes and/or exams  
30% Final project (both implementation and presentation)

The usual grading scale will be used for this course:

90–100% = A

80–89% = B

70–79% = C

60–69% = D

0–59% = F

Make-up Policy: If class is missed for a valid (as deemed by the instructor) & documented reason and the instructor is informed beforehand, the in-class assignments may be made-up for full credit. All other assignments must be turned in on time.

Attendance Policy: You are expected to attend class so that you may turn in the in-class assignments and homework projects. Lecture and lab attendance is further required and helpful to decide the grade in “borderline” situations. Two or more unexcused absences (from the lab and/or the lecture) may result in an instructor-initiated drop or final grade reduction. *Your academic advisor may be consulted before final action is decided and taken.* If a student has to be absent from a class, he/she will be responsible for catching up with course material. Late arrivals are not permitted. Being late by 10 minutes or more or leaving the classroom before the class is dismissed will be considered an absence.

Academic Integrity Policy: The University policy is that all suspected cases or acts of alleged scholastic dishonesty must be referred to the OSCCR for investigation and appropriate disposition. Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Each student is responsible for notice of and compliance with the provisions of the Regents’ Rules and Regulations, which are available for inspection electronically at <http://www.utsystem.edu/bor/rules/homepage.htm>

All students are expected and required to obey the law, to comply with the Regents’ Rules and Regulations, with System and University rules, with directives issued by an administrative official in the course of his or her authorized duties, and to observe standards of conduct appropriate for the University. A student who enrolls at the University is charged with the obligation to conduct himself/herself in a manner compatible with the University's function as an educational institution.



Any student who engages in conduct that is prohibited by Regents' Rules and Regulations, U. T. System or University rules, specific instructions issued by an administrative official or by federal, state, or local laws is subject to discipline, whether such conduct takes place on or off campus or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

**Civility Statement:** This is a class where participation is required. You will be seated at your desk or in front of a computer for the duration of your class and you are expected to follow the lecture/discussion and at various times complete in-class assignments. You are not allowed to browse the Internet during class time or work on any other material. If you regularly do not complete in-class assignments in a satisfactory manner, participate in class, or if you work on other material in class you will have points deducted from your in-class assignments portion of your grade. All class participants must and will be treated with respect.

Please do not use cell phones, iPods, MP3 players, blue tooth devices, etc. during class. Cell phones and pagers should be set to silent or vibrate, and any calls should be taken outside of class. Please do not wear headsets or blue tooth devices during class. Please don't talk in class. Cell phone calculators may not be used on quizzes or exams. Active participation in class is expected, teamwork in class will be implemented.

**Disability Statement:** If a student has or suspects she/he has a disability and needs an accommodation, he/she should contact The Center for Accommodations and Support services (CASS) at 747-5148 or at [<cass@utep.edu>](mailto:cass@utep.edu) or go to Room 106 Union East Building. The student is responsible for presenting to the instructor any CASS accommodation letters and instructions.

**Military Statement:** If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and/or training during the semester, please contact me by the end of the first week of class

**College of Science Policies:** All grades of Incomplete must be accompanied by an Incomplete Contract that has been signed by the instructor of record, student, Department Chair, and the Dean. Although UTEP will allow a maximum of one year to complete this contract, the College of Science requests it be limited to month based upon completion data. A grade of Incomplete is only used in extraordinary circumstances confined to a limited event such as a missed exam, project, or lab. If the student has missed a significant amount of work (e.g., multiple assignments or tasks), a grade of Incomplete is not appropriate or warranted.