

Sample Project Description to Include in a Syllabus for the Viterbi School

EXAMPLE: CSCI 686 Project

Course project: the purpose of the class project is for you to practice solving data analytic problems. You are encouraged to identify new applications, but sample topics will be provided to students with less experience in data mining and machine learning. Working as a group is permitted if the project is large enough to justify this. A team can consist of no more than 2 persons.

Project Timeline:

- Week 3: Identifying team members and project topics
- Week 6: Proposal due (team member, topics and milestone)
- Week 8: Mid-term report due (data description, preliminary results)
- Week 14: Project presentation and Poster session (open to all faculty and students)
- Final: Final report due (task and model description, major discovery, lessons learned)

Sample projects “*Topic-modeling for analyzing twitter data:*” the goal of the project is to develop a topic model for twitter data. Students can easily find resources available online, including twitter API and the C++ topic modeling code (e.g. LDA model). A project of this size usually consists of 2 persons. The team will work together on collecting the twitter data, examining the preliminary results, identifying one challenge in current topic models for twitter application, and providing a reasonable solution.

Grading breakdown of the course project:

- Proposal: 5%
- Mid-term report: 5%
- Final report: 5% - (8-10 pages)
- Presentation: 10% - (20 min with presentation slides; both team members present)
- Poster: 5%