

## Lecture handout, Aug 29, 2019

### Announcements

The first assignment (A1) has been posted: [www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs6742](http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs6742)

You should enroll on piazza: [piazza.com/cornell/fall2019/cs6742/home](https://piazza.com/cornell/fall2019/cs6742/home)  
(password provided in class or via email)

### Today's outline

1. Why does this course exist?
  - a. Scope
  - b. Implications Intertwined
    - Better understanding of people
    - Better systems
    - Better society
2. Two examples:
  - a. Rich data source: Wikipedia discussions
  - b. Rich phenomenon: Style vs. content - politeness
3. Course Philosophy: learn about NLP, but also about how to do research
  - Implications for course structure & coursework
    - Paraphrasing Eugene Charniak: "The best way to do something is to do *something*."
  - Assignment A1 and how it is informed by this philosophy
  - Enrollment and course selection

**Student-information submission – due Friday Aug 30., 5pm (but earlier is better!)**  
*Everyone (enrolled or not) should complete the Student-information form (on Piazza)*