

# CS/Info 6742 – Natural language processing and social interaction

## Lecture handout, Aug 23, 2016

### Announcements

First assignment (A1) has been posted: see  
<http://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs6742>

### 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 discussion
  - b. Rich phenomenon: Style vs. content - politeness
3. Course philosophy: learn about NLP, but also about research
  - a. Implications for course structure & coursework
    - Paraphrasing Eugene Charniak: "The best way to do something is to do *something*"
  - b. Assignment A1 and how it is informed by this philosophy
  - c. Enrollment and course selection

**Student-information submission – due Monday Aug 29<sup>th</sup>, 5pm (but earlier is better!)** *Everyone (enrolled or not)* should submit the following.

Do so as an email to [cristian@cs.cornell.edu](mailto:cristian@cs.cornell.edu), subject "CS6742 student info"

1. Name
2. Cornell NetID (has the format of your initials followed by a number, e.g., CD326)
3. Preferred email address
4. Whether or not you are currently enrolled in CS6742 in Student Center
5. Student type (examples: senior undergrad majoring in CS and Sociology, IS MPS, CS Meng, 1<sup>st</sup> year Stats PhD, 2<sup>nd</sup>-year CS PhD)
6. What background you have, including but not limited to how you satisfy the prerequisites
7. What are your goals for participating in this course?