

SPRING 2027 COURSE GUIDE

Applied Natural Language Processing

[Course overview](#) / [weekly schedule](#) / [student guidelines](#)

Spring 2027 adaptation. The curriculum and policies are based on the Fall 2026 ANLP site. Georgia Tech institutional dates below are verified; **homework, quizzes and weekly topic allocations are proposed planning dates** until confirmed in Canvas.

Course overview

This fully online course develops practical skills in natural language processing: preparing text, building and applying models, and evaluating their behavior on real datasets. The class combines conceptual learning with substantial Python programming.

- **Preprocessing:** clean, normalize and represent text.
- **Processing:** apply statistical, neural and generative NLP methods.
- **Post-processing:** assess model predictions and performance.
- **Practice:** work with real data and implement solutions in Python.

Preparation and reading

Expected background: machine learning, linear algebra, optimization, probability and statistics; Python 3 and NumPy, including matrix operations. The source site lists CSE 6040 and CS 1301 as additional prerequisites. There are **no required textbooks**. Recommended: Jacob Eisenstein, *Introduction to Natural Language Processing*.

Key academic dates

Classes begin	Mon, Jan 11	MLK Day - no classes	Mon, Jan 18
Spring Break	Mar 8-12	Final class days	Apr 26-27
Reading period	Apr 28*	Final exam window	Apr 29-May 6

*Additional partial reading periods occur Apr 29 and May 4; see the official calendar. The course does not prescribe a separate final exam in this guide.

Deadline convention

Unless Canvas announces otherwise, every course assignment or quiz due date is **11:59 p.m. Anywhere on Earth (AoE)**. Georgia Tech Registrar events are listed in Eastern Time. Avoid scheduling due dates during Spring Break.

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Course schedule

Weeks 1-5 | Foundations

WEEK / DATES	TOPICS	ASSESSMENTS / TIMING	SUGGESTED READING
01 Jan 11-15	Getting started Course introduction; normalization, lemmatization, stemming, stop words; one-hot, bag-of-words, TF-IDF.	HW1: released Jan 15. Quiz 0: Jan 11-15.	Eisenstein, Ch. 1 and 2.1.
02 Jan 18-22	Text classification I Naive Bayes; evaluation with accuracy, precision, recall and confusion matrices. Jan 18: MLK Day - no classes.	Quiz 1: Jan 15-22.	Eisenstein, Ch. 2.2.
03 Jan 25-29	Text classification II Logistic regression, support vector machines, perceptron.	HW1: due Jan 29. HW2: released Jan 29. Quiz 2: Jan 22-29.	Eisenstein, Ch. 2.3-2.5.
04 Feb 1-5	Distributional word representations SVD, co-occurrence embeddings, GloVe.	Quiz 3: Jan 29-Feb 5.	GloVe: Global Vectors for Word Representation.
05 Feb 8-12	Neural models and embeddings Fully connected neural networks; word2vec (CBOW, skip-gram); classification and word2vec toolboxes.	Quiz 4: Feb 5-12.	Word2vec paper and neural-network tutorials.

Holiday note: Jan 18 is an official institute holiday. Week 2 begins with no classes on Monday; remaining course content is asynchronous.

Course schedule

Weeks 6-10 | Neural NLP to sequence labeling

WEEK / DATES	TOPICS	ASSESSMENTS / TIMING	SUGGESTED READING
06 Feb 15-19	Neural sequence processing I CNNs for text, RNNs, CNN text-classification toolbox.	HW2: due Feb 19. HW3: released Feb 19. Quiz 5: Feb 12-19.	CNN for text classification; backpropagation demos.
07 Feb 22-26	Neural sequence processing II LSTM, GRU and attention mechanisms; guided HW3 work.	Quiz 6: Feb 19-26.	LSTM/attention lecture materials.
08 Mar 1-5	Transformers Self-attention; BERT and GPT; Transformer architecture deep dive.	Quiz 7: Feb 26-Mar 5. Quiz 8: Mar 15-19 (after break).	Attention Is All You Need; BERT paper.
BREAK Mar 8-12	GEORGIA TECH SPRING BREAK No classes, course office hours, or scheduled assignment/quiz deadlines.	No deadlines. Course work resumes Mar 15.	Institute holiday.
09 Mar 15-19	Sequence labeling Part-of-speech tagging and named entity recognition.	HW3: due Mar 19. HW4: released Mar 19. Quiz 8: due Mar 19. Quiz 9: Mar 19-26.	Sequence-labeling course materials.
10 Mar 22-26	Unsupervised NLP Latent semantic indexing; LDA topic modeling.	Quiz 9: due Mar 26. Quiz 10: Mar 26-Apr 2.	Topic-modeling lecture materials.

Spring Break: Mar 8-12 is an official Georgia Tech holiday period. Quiz 8 opens after the break so there is no scheduled quiz deadline during Spring Break.

Course schedule

Weeks 11-15 | Generative and agentic AI

WEEK / DATES	TOPICS	ASSESSMENTS / TIMING	SUGGESTED READING
11 Mar 29-Apr 2	Generative AI and LLM applications Prompt engineering, retrieval-augmented generation, LLM exploration toolbox.	Quiz 10: due Apr 2. Quiz 11: Apr 2-9.	Prompting and RAG course materials.
12 Apr 5-9	Agentic AI foundations Foundations of agentic AI; focused HW4 work and transition to the final assignment.	HW4: due Apr 9. HW5: released Apr 9. Quiz 11: due Apr 9.	Agentic AI course materials.
13 Apr 12-16	Agentic AI architectures Planning, reasoning patterns and tool use; examples and case studies.	Continue HW5.	Agentic AI lecture materials.
14 Apr 19-23	Multi-agent systems Coordination and real-world systems; agentic AI toolbox.	Quiz 12: Apr 23-27. Continue HW5.	Agentic AI toolbox materials.
15 Apr 26-27	Course wrap-up Review, synthesis and final homework focus. Final instructional days: Apr 26-27.	HW5: due Apr 27. Quiz 12: due Apr 27.	No new readings.

End of term: Apr 26-27 are the final instructional days, followed by reading periods and the Apr 29-May 6 institute final exam window. HW5 closes Apr 27 in this proposed plan.

General office hours & course policies

Office hours

One-hour office-hour sessions are expected to begin in **Week 2**, spread across weekdays and times. Session times will be announced in Ed Discussion. Office hours are held through live discussion threads, and students may continue posting questions on Ed between sessions. No sessions are scheduled for institute holidays, including **Jan 18** and **Mar 8-12**.

Assessment at a glance

Homework	Homework assessments	Lecture quizzes
65% 5 substantial programming assignments (HW1-HW5).	20% 5 Canvas assessments, closed book/notes and proctored with Honorlock.	15% Lecture quizzes on Canvas, closed book/notes and proctored. Lowest graded quiz dropped.

Source-site grading notes: the pass threshold is a 60% weighted overall average; the source uses standard grade thresholds that may be lowered but not raised. The source specifies 12 graded lecture quizzes plus a required knowledge-check Quiz 0. Consult Canvas for exact assessment windows, requirements and any approved grace periods.

Course workflow and policies

- **Where to work:** homework submissions and regrade requests through Gradescope; quizzes and assessments through Canvas; course discussions and announcements through Ed Discussion.
- **Deadlines:** the source site has no general late-submission policy. Submit well before the 11:59 p.m. AoE deadline, and rely on published Canvas exceptions only.
- **Regrades:** source-site regrade window is three days after grades are posted; make requests in Gradescope.
- **Special circumstances:** follow the Dean of Students process for serious illness or emergencies, then use a private Ed post to contact course staff.
- **Integrity and respect:** follow the Georgia Tech Academic Honor Code, keep your solutions and code private, communicate respectfully, and request approved accessibility accommodations early.

Sources and updates

[ANLP Fall 2026 course schedule](#) and linked overview / guidelines / grading pages; [Georgia Tech Registrar official academic calendar](#), Spring 2027 (consulted Oct 28, 2026). For authoritative term updates and course deadlines, check the Registrar and course Canvas respectively.