UCONN | COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

COMMITTEE ON CURRICULA AND COURSES

Proposal to Add a New Graduate Course

Last revised: September 24, 2013

1. Date: 12/06/2013
2. Department requesting this course: Linguistics
3. Semester and year in which course will be first offered: Fall, 2014

Final Catalog Listing

Assemble this after you have completed the components below. This listing should not contain any information that is not listed below!

LING 5000. Introduction to Computational Linguistics
3 credits. Lecture. Recommended preparation: At least one course in Linguistics or Computer Science.
Computational methods in linguistic analysis and natural language processing. Topics include the use of text corpora and other sources of linguistic data; morphological analysis, parsing and language modeling; applications in areas such as information retrieval and machine translation.

Items Included in Catalog Listing

Obligatory Items

1. Abbreviation for Department, Program or Subject Area: LING
2. Course Number: 5000
3. Course Title: Introduction to Computational Linguistics
4. Number of Credits (use digits, "3" not "three"): 3 credits
5. Course Description (second paragraph of catalog entry):

Computational methods in linguistic analysis and natural language processing. Topics include the use of text corpora and other sources of linguistic data; morphological analysis, parsing and language modeling; applications in areas such as information retrieval and machine translation.

6. Course Type, if appropriate:
   _X_Lecture __ Laboratory __ Seminar __ Practicum

Optional Items

7. Prerequisites, if applicable: N/A
8. Recommended Preparation, if applicable: At least one course in Linguistics or Computer Science
9. Consent of Instructor, if applicable: N/A
10. Exclusions, if applicable: N/A
11. Repetition for credit, if applicable: N/A
12. S/U grading: N/A

Justification

1. Reasons for adding this course: No course in Computational Linguistics is currently offered in the Linguistics Department or elsewhere at UConn. The subject is of growing importance to students of Linguistics as well as other students seeking to apply computational analysis tools to linguistic data.

2. Academic merit: The field of Computational Linguistics has been of growing importance for at least two reasons: First, the increasing availability of large data sets and computational analysis tools has transformed linguistic research, both theoretically and methodologically, to the point that familiarity with these tools and methods is becoming a prerequisite for successful careers in graduate school and beyond. Secondly, outside of the academic sector, natural-language processing plays an important role in a range of industries (social media, search engines, etc.), opening up new employment opportunities for graduating students.
This course will benefit a diverse population of students. Those majoring in Linguistics and closely related areas become familiar with computational techniques and resources, while Engineering students learn about approaches and problems specific to natural-language applications. Students will be encouraged to work on projects in teams with diverse backgrounds. The course also covers topics of common concern in Linguistics and Computer Science, such as formal language theory and complexity. In this way, in addition to acquiring useful and widely applicable skills, students will learn to appreciate the value of an interdisciplinary perspective.

3. Overlapping courses: None in Linguistics; None know elsewhere
4. Number of students expected: 20-40
5. Number and size of sections: 1
6. Effects on other departments: N/A
7. Staffing: The course will be overseen by Stefan Kaufmann, and taught by Stefan Kaufmann or other faculty, postdocs or adjuncts.
8. Dates approved by

Department Curriculum Committee: 12/03/2013
Department Faculty: 12/03/2013

9. Name, Phone Number, and e-mail address of principal contact person:
Stefan Kaufmann, 486-8123, stefan.kaufmann@uconn.edu

Syllabus

A syllabus for the new course must be attached to your submission email.

Additional Approval

New graduate courses must also be approved by the Graduate Faculty Council.