ECE 498/598 Deep Learning  
TuTh 12:30PM - 1:45PM

**Course Catalog Description:** This course is an introduction to deep learning. Topics includes convolution neural networks, recurrent neural networks, generative networks, and deep learning for scientific applications. Python will be used in this course. Students will gain hand-on experiences of developing deep learning programs to solve real problems.

**Prerequisites:** ECE 177 or COS 220 or instructor’s permission

**Instructor:**
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Email: Yifeng.Zhu@maine.edu

**Course website:**
http://piazza.com/maine/fall2020/ece498598

**Textbook (Required):**
- Deep Learning with Python, by François Chollet, ISBN 9781617294433,  
  https://www.manning.com/books/deep-learning-with-python
  https://www.deeplearningbook.org/

**Tentative Topics (subject to change)**
- Introduction to Python Programming  
- Fully-connected and feedforward networks  
- Loss Functions and Optimization  
- Backpropagation  
- Convolutional Neural Networks (AlexNet, VGG, GoogleNet, ResNet, etc)  
- Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN, LSTM, GRU)  
- Object detection  
- Object recognition  
- Image segmentation  
- Generative Models (VAE, Gan, etc)  
- Paper reviews
Course Grading

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Homework Policy

- Both homework assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the given due date. Late work is penalized 20% per day, including weekends. Once solutions are published, late work cannot be accepted for credit.
- The “Quiz and Participation” will be based on your participation level in the class. You are required to attend lectures. All students are expected to start homework assignments early.

Software/Hardware: Programming assignments and projects will be developed in the Python programming language. We will also use the Tensorflow deep learning library for some homeworks and for the project. Students are expected to use Google CoLab, the Advanced Computing Group (AGC) and/or their own machines to complete work that does require a GPU.

Academic Honesty Statement: Academic honesty is very important. It is dishonest to cheat on exams, to copy term papers, to submit papers written by another person, to fake experimental results, or to copy or reword parts of books or articles into your own papers without appropriately citing the source. Students committing or aiding in any of these violations may be given failing grades for an assignment or for an entire course, at the discretion of the instructor. In addition to any academic action taken by an instructor, these violations are also subject to action under the University of Maine Student Conduct Code. The maximum possible sanction under the student conduct code is dismissal from the University.

Students with disabilities statement: If you have a disability for which you may be requesting an accommodation, please contact Disabilities Services, 121 East Annex, 581-2319, as early as possible in the term.

Course Schedule Disclaimer (Disruption Clause): In the event of an extended disruption of normal classroom activities, the format for this course may be modified to enable its completion within its programmed time frame. In that event, you will be provided an addendum to the syllabus that will supersede this version.

Sexual Violence Policy:

Sexual Discrimination Reporting The University of Maine is committed to making campus a safe place for students. Because of this commitment, if you tell a teacher about an experience of sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, relationship abuse (dating violence and domestic violence), sexual misconduct or any form of gender discrimination involving members of the campus, your teacher is required to report this information to the campus Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention or the Office of Equal Opportunity.
If you want to talk in confidence to someone about an experience of sexual discrimination, please contact these resources:

For confidential resources on campus: Counseling Center: 207-581-1392 or Cutler Health Center: at 207-581-4000.

For confidential resources off campus: Rape Response Services: 1-800-310-0000 or Spruce Run: 1-800-863-9909.

Other resources: The resources listed below can offer support but may have to report the incident to others who can help:

For support services on campus: Office of Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention: 207-581-1406, Office of Community Standards: 207-581-1409, University of Maine Police: 207-581-4040 or 911. Or see the OSAVP website for a complete list of services at http://www.umaine.edu/osavp/

University of Maine COVID-19 Syllabus Statement

COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2. The virus is transmitted person-to-person through respiratory droplets that are expelled when breathing, talking, eating, coughing or sneezing. Additionally, the virus is stable on surfaces and can be transmitted when someone touches a contaminated surface and transfers the virus to their nose or mouth. When someone becomes infected with COVID-19 they may either have no symptoms or symptoms that range from mild to severe and can even be fatal. During this global pandemic, it is imperative that all students, faculty, and staff abide by the safety protocols and guidelines set forth by the university to ensure the safety of our campus. All students are encouraged to make the Black Bears Care Pact to protect the health of themselves, the health of others, and the college of our hearts always.

Black Bears Care Pact: https://umaine.edu/return/black-bears-care/

Symptom checking: The symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe, and even people with mild symptoms may transmit the virus to others. Students are encouraged to use the symptom checking app each day before attending class or moving about campus and follow the recommendation prompted within the app. Students should monitor for the following symptoms daily: fever (temperature >100.4F/38.0C) or chills, new cough, loss of taste or smell, shortness of breath/difficult breathing, sore throat, diarrhea, nausea, or vomiting, or the onset of new, otherwise unexplained symptoms such as headache, muscle or body aches, fatigue, or congestion/runny nose.

Physical distancing: Students need to make every effort to maintain physical distancing (6 feet or more) indoors and outdoors including within classrooms. The University classrooms and physical spaces have been arranged to maximize physical distancing. Follow the traffic patterns outlined in each building and outdoor space to avoid crowding. If students are in an academic setting (i.e. clinical or lab class) that requires them to reduce physical distancing, they should follow the instructor’s guidelines.

Face coverings: Students must wear appropriate face coverings in the classroom. Face coverings must be worn in indoor and outdoor spaces on campus unless people are alone in a room with a door closed.
or when they are properly physically distanced and do not expect someone to approach them. When face coverings are removed people are placing themselves and those surrounding them at increased risk for COVID-19.

**Eating and drinking in classrooms:** Students may not eat or drink in the classrooms and are encouraged to take their food or drink into areas designated for these purposes where they can maintain 6 feet physical distance from others.

**Hand hygiene:** Proper hand hygiene is an effective measure to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Students should wash their hands often with soap and water or use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, especially after using the bathroom, before eating or drinking, and before and after going to class or university spaces such as the recreation center, library, or dining halls.

**Contingency plans:** Classes will be held in various formats to offer flexibility, compassion, and empathy during these unprecedented times. Under certain circumstances, students or instructors may need to miss classes or in-person classes may be disrupted. Students are expected to notify their instructor if they are unable to attend an in-person or online class but will not be penalized for missing class due to illness or the need to care for a family member affected by COVID-19. If a disruption occurs, your instructor will provide communication and contingency plans.

**What to do if you have or suspect you have COVID-19:** If you have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been possibly exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should stay home, not interact with others, and contact your health care provider immediately to be tested for COVID-19. You may not attend in-person classes and should suspend interactions with others until you are tested. Prior to receiving test results you should quarantine in your living area according to the Maine CDC guidelines below. Please follow the guidance of your health care professional regarding testing, quarantine, and isolation during the testing process and potential illness period.

**What to do if someone you know has or may have COVID-19:** If someone you know or that you have had close contact with (defined by the ME CDC as 15 mins or more within 6 feet or less) has tested positive for COVID-19, you should stay home and quarantine according to the guidance of the ME CDC, contact your health care provider, and continue to monitor for symptoms. You may be required to quarantine and/or be tested for COVID-19 under these circumstances. You may also have been exposed to COVID-19 by someone you do not know, and it is possible that you could be contacted through contact tracing to determine if you were exposed. Everyone should respond to these confidential questions to ensure the safety of themselves and those around them.

**Maine CDC guidelines:**

If you have questions or would like additional information related to the University of Maine COVID-19-specific policies or procedures please use the following sources:
University Webpages: [umaine.edu/return](http://umaine.edu/return) and [together.maine.edu](http://together.maine.edu)
COVID-19 Information line: 207.581.2681
Emergency Operations Center Email Contact: umaine.alerts@maine.edu

In the event of an extended disruption of normal classroom activities (due to COVID-19 or other long-term disruptions), the format for this course may be modified to enable its completion within its programmed time frame. In that event, you will be provided an addendum to the syllabus that will supersede this version.