

CS3245

Information Retrieval

Lecture 0: Course Organization



Teaching staff

- Lecturer:
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Hours: 12:00-14:00 Mon, or
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Hobbies:
taking care of a little one,
singing nursery rhymes



Lost in Hakodate, Japan

Teaching staff



- Course TA

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Media Industry Lab

Office Hours: TBA



Course web sites

<http://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/~cs3245>

- Homework
- Other supplementary content

<http://ivle.nus.edu.sg/>

- Lecture
- Discussion forum
 - Any questions related to the course should be raised on this forum
 - Emails to me and Hadi considered public unless otherwise specified
- Announcements
- Homework submissions

Freedom of information rule

A faint, light-colored silhouette of a person walking a dog is positioned in the upper right area of the slide, behind the title.

- Collaboration is acceptable and encouraged
- To assure that all collaboration is on the level, **you must always fill in the name(s) of your collaborators on your assignment.**
- You will be assessed for the parts for which you claim is your own contribution.

Facebook rule

- You are free to meet with fellow students(s) and discuss assignments with them.
- Writing on a board or shared piece of paper is acceptable during the meeting; however, you **may not take any written (electronic or otherwise) record away from the meeting.**
- After the meeting, do something else for at least a half-hour (Facebook, or doing an assignment for a different class), before working on the assignment.
 - This will assure that you are able to reconstruct what you learned from the meeting, **by yourself, using your own brain.**
 - You will be asked to certify that you meet this requirement per assignment.

Python



- We'll be using the Python programming language for our entire class homework assignments
- You are expected to learn Python and use it for the assignments
- Don't worry, Python is an easy language to transition to for most programmers and it is very useful for string manipulation (a key characteristic for teaching IR)

NLKT

- We will also be using the Natural Language Tool Kit (NLKT) for helping us deal with some parts of the course.
- It's coded in Python (surprise!)
 - Yes we know that this is a course on **information retrieval** and not **natural language processing**, but the two are forever intertwined
- Please install both Python 2.6.x and NLTK on your own personal computer
 - Programming Lab 2 will also have both installed.