Artificial Intelligence  
CS594, Section 33293  
Syllabus

Fall 2004  
Claxton 205, Monday/Wednesday, 2:10 – 3:25  
Class web page: http://www.cs.utk.edu/~parker/Courses/CS594-fall04

Instructor: Prof. Lynne E. Parker  
Office: Claxton Complex 220  
Email: parker@cs.utk.edu  
URL: http://www.cs.utk.edu/~parker  
Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday, 3:30 – 4:15, or drop by any time I’m in my office (“Open Door Policy”), or schedule an appointment by email.

TA:  
Michael Bailey  
Office: Claxton Complex 125  
Email: mbailey@cs.utk.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday, 10:30 – 11:30

Course Description:  
This course on Artificial Intelligence (AI) covers the breadth of the field of AI, including topics such as problem-solving, logic, planning, reasoning, learning, perception, and robotics.

Prerequisites:  
Familiarity with basic concepts of computer science (algorithms, data structures, and complexity) and mathematical maturity commensurate with the successful completion of CS380 or its equivalent.

Required Textbook:  

Schedule and Assigned Readings:  
Refer to the course website for a detail on the topics to be covered, lecture schedule and reading assignments.

Evaluation:  
Grading will be based on homework/lab assignments (which will be assigned about every 2 weeks), 3 in-class quizzes, and class participation as follows:

Homework/Lab Assignments: 45%  
3 quizzes (15% each): 45%  
Class participation: 10%

As a rough guideline, final grades will be determined by overall average as follows:

A: 90 – 100  
B+: 85 – 89.9  
B: 80 – 84.9  
C+: 75 – 79.9  
C: 70 – 74.9  
D: 60 – 69.9  
F: 0 – 59.9

However, the instructor will likely curve grades, based on overall class grade distribution. These curves will be announced.
Class participation (10% of grade):

In each class, the final 10 minutes will be allotted for open class discussion on relevant questions of interest, primarily dealing with open AI research issues or AI philosophy. Example questions are “Can machines really be intelligent?” and “How might you design a system to create an intentionally funny story?” The question for each class period will be announced during the previous class. These are typically questions that have no right and wrong answers, but which can be considered in a thoughtful manner based on what we know from prior research contributions and philosophical discussions. It is expected that each student will give some thought to the question before it is discussed in the next class period. Over the course of the semester, all students are expected to contribute insight to these discussions.

Class Policies:

- **Class attendance:** Class attendance will be taken. Decisions on borderline grades will be based upon exceptional class attendance and participation, as deemed merited by the course instructor. You are responsible for material covered in all classes.

- **Announcement responsibilities:** Important announcements, schedule revisions, etc., may be made in class or posted to the class email list. You are responsible for all announcements.

- **Homework/lab assignments and due dates:** Homework/lab assignments will be handed out in class and posted on the course web site. They will consist of problems to be solved, and/or programming assignments. Homworks/labs are due at the beginning of class on the due date, except if otherwise noted. No credit will be given for homeworks/labs turned in late.

- **Collaboration policy:** Discussion of course topics with other students in the class is encouraged. You may also discuss general approaches to homework and lab assignments, share ideas and thoughts, and assist each other in understanding the material. However, your homework and lab submissions must be your own work based primarily on your own individual effort. You may not copy directly from others or seek solutions on the internet or from others. Of course, there will be no collaboration on quizzes.

- **Cheating:** Cheating will be dealt with harshly, and may result in failure of the assignment/quiz and/or failure of the class. Each student is expected to do his or her own work, consistent with the above collaboration policy. Each student is responsible for securing his or her homework and exams from direct copying. Each student is expected to abide by UT’s policies on academic conduct as outlined in the University of Tennessee Graduate School Catalog (2003-2004), page 19, and the HillTopics Student Handbook (2003-2004), pages 10-12.

- **Quizzes:** The quizzes will be in-class, open book, open notes. Each quiz will focus on material covered since the last quiz.

- **Missed quiz:** If you have an excusable absence from a quiz, your quiz #3 grade may be counted as your missed quiz grade (i.e., it will count twice). The instructor reserves the right to administer a make-up quiz, at her discretion. Barring exceptional circumstances, you must contact the instructor to explain your absence within 24 hours of a missed quiz. Otherwise, the absence will be considered unexcused, and your grade for that quiz will be 0. Talk to the instructor well in advance if you have any foreseeable conflicts with the quiz dates.

- **Grading corrections:** Bring any grading correction requests to the instructor or TA within 1 week of receiving the grade, or before the end of the semester, whichever comes first. After that, your grade will not be adjusted. If you find any mistake in grading, please let the instructor or TA know. Your grade will not be lowered.

- **Drop policy:** Late drops are discouraged and are unlikely to be approved.