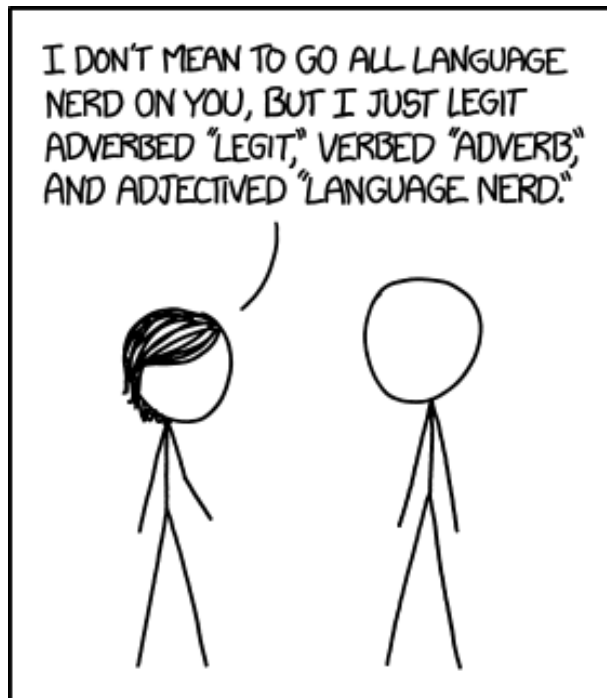


CS159 - Assignment 0
Getting Warmed Up

Due: Thursday 8/29 at 8pm



<https://xkcd.com/1443/>

Complete the tasks/questions below and submit your answers via Gradescope.

1. A bit about you

- (a) Why are you taking this course?
- (b) On a scale from 1-10 (10 being the best) how good of a programmer are you?
- (c) What languages have you programmed in? What is your favorite language to program in? Least favorite?
- (d) What is one topic you would like to see covered in this course?
- (e) Tell me something interesting about yourself (this will, hopefully, help me remember your name better!).

2. Ethics: We're going to be looking at and discussing some of the ethical questions/concerns that come up around NLP and NLP technology. What is one area/problem where ethics might come up in NLP? I recognize that this is the beginning of the course, so just a sentence or two is fine and it can just be something high-level. Mostly I just want you to start thinking about ethical considerations already!

3. Go to slack and make sure that you on the cs159-sp2024 channel. If not, send me a slack message and I'll add you.

4. Administrative

- (a) Read the administrative page from the course web page
- (b) What is the class policy on late work?
- (c) What is the 343rd word in the admin web page? Note that there isn't a single "correct" answer since it will depend on your assumptions (see next question).
- (d) How did you figure out the previous question? And, what assumptions did you make?

5. Ambiguity in text

We saw in class a few news headlines that were ambiguous (in the examples in class, the most common interpretation was often not the intended interpretation). Find two news headlines that are ambiguous. State what about them is ambiguous (e.g. word has two meanings, word can be interpreted as two parts of speech, phrase attachment). Try and find headlines with different types of ambiguities. The headlines should be from recent news headlines that you find and *not* from lists of funny/ambiguous headlines that others have previously identified. They don't have to be funny, but brownie points if they are :)

Submission

When you're done, submit your assignment via Gradescope.