



# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *Introduction to Machine Learning - 67577*

*Last update 31-12-2024*

*HU Credits: 5*

*Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)*

*Responsible Department: Computer Sciences*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 1st and/or 2nd Semester*

*Teaching Languages: English and Hebrew*

*Campus: E. Safra*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Yedid Hoshen*

*Coordinator Email: [yedid.hoshen at mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:yedid.hoshen@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: TBD*

*Teaching Staff:*

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Dr. gabriel satanovsky,  
Prof. roy schwartz,  
Prof. Yedid Hoshen,  
Mr. michael joseph

Course/Module description:

*This is an introductory course to the field of machine learning. The course will cover the foundations of statistical learning, and the applicability of machine learning to real world problems. In particular, we will address fundamental questions like: What is machine learning? What and how can we learn from data? We will also build a machine learning toolbox and will also cover additional models of learning such as unsupervised learning, clustering, generative models and representation learning. Besides the theoretical foundations, we will cover tools which were found useful in solving practical problems. In particular: Decision trees, deep learning, SVM, Nearest Neighbor, Boosting, PCA, Weighted Majority, convolution neural networks, recurrent neural networks, and transformers. The course will include theoretical exercises as well as empirical projects.*

*To complete the course exercises, students would need to purchase a subscription to Google Colab Pro for 2 months. The current cost (Oct 24) is 10\$ a month. Students in need off financial assistance can apply for it.*

*For special requests regarding enrollment, please fill out this form:  
<https://forms.gle/2owuGQGuwHHfc5717>*

Course/Module aims:

*Understand the foundation of learning theory and the major algorithms*

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

*define PAC learning.  
employ algorithms learnt in class.  
choose the appropriate algorithm for a given problem.  
prove basic results in the theory of learning.*

Attendance requirements(%):

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*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: lectures, recitations, programming labs, home exercises, hackathon*

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Course/Module Content:

A formal Learning Model  
PAC Model  
The Bias-Complexity Tradeoff  
No-Free-Lunch  
VC-dimension  
Linear Predictors  
Boosting  
SVM  
Deep neural networks  
Validation

Stochastic Gradient Descent  
Regularized loss minimization  
Ridge Regression  
Decision Trees  
Nearest Neighbor

Clustering  
Dimensionality Reduction  
Spectral Clustering  
Convolutional neural networks  
Recurrent Neural networks  
Transformers  
Ethical aspects of machine learning  
Generative Models

Required Reading:

N.A

Additional Reading Material:

1. Shai Shalev-Shwartz and Shai Ben-David, *Understanding Machine Learning: From Theory to Algorithms*. Cambridge University Press
2. Jerome Friedman, Robert Tibshirani, and Trevor Hastie, *The Elements of Statistical Learning 2nd Edition*. Springer

Grading Scheme:

Written Exam % 80  
Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports / Forum / Simulation / others 20 %

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Additional information:

N.A