

With Corona updates

Computational Argumentation — Orga 1

# Organizational Course Information



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Henning Wachsmuth

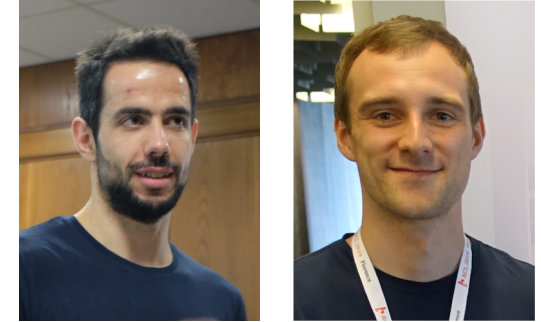
[henningw@upb.de](mailto:henningw@upb.de)

# Course: Meta

This course is  
online entirely

## ▪ Course L.079.05811

- **Lectures.** Henning Wachsmuth
- **Tutorials.** Milad Alshomary, Maximilian Spliethöver
- **Languages.** English, Python



## ▪ Course material

- <https://cs.upb.de/css/teaching/courses/computational-argumentation-s20>
- <https://paul.upb.de> → Computational Argumentation
- <https://panda.upb.de> → L.079.05811 Computational Argumentation

Video channel: <https://videos.upb.de/channel/Computational-Argumentation-summer-2020/15>

Check  
often

## ▪ Times and locations

- **Lectures** (as of ~~April 9~~): Thursday 14–17 c.t., in ~~F1.110~~
- **Tutorials** (as of ~~April 15~~): Wednesday 11–13 c.t., in ~~F1.110~~

Videos and Q&A  
via PANDA

April 23/29

## ▪ Consultation?

- Set up appointment with me via e-mail ([henningw@upb.de](mailto:henningw@upb.de))

# Course: Topic

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## ▪ **This course**

- Computational analysis and synthesis of natural language argumentation  
Introductory overview of the topic in first lecture part
- Builds upon natural language processing (NLP)
- Knowledge of basics in NLP (or at least machine learning) expected  
There will be a recap of main concepts and methods in one lecture part, but not more
- Programming skills expected (Python recommended)

## ▪ **Recommended courses before (alternatively)**

- [Introduction to Text Mining](#). Bachelor, Wachsmuth
- [Statistical Natural Language Processing](#). Master, Ngonga Ngomo
- [Machine Learning 1](#). Master, Hüllermeier

## ▪ **Goal of this course**

- Understand main concepts and methods of an advanced NLP topic
- Learn to develop computational argumentation algorithms and applications
- Maybe learn to better argue...

# Course: Concept

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## ▪ Course elements

- **Lectures.** Presentation of course content (and organizational information)
- **Tutorials.** Presentation of tasks and their solutions
- **Assignments.** Sophisticated programming tasks related to lecture topics

## ▪ Assignments

- **Amount.** 4 assignments in total, 2 weeks each (1-week breaks in-between)
- **Group work.** You can submit in groups of 1–4 people (2+ recommended)
- **Submission.** You need to submit code, documentation, and instructions
- **Evaluation.** Submission is convincing (A), working (B), or not working (F)
- **Bonus.** (a) Min. 3x B: exam grade + 1/3, (b) 4x A/B, min. 2x A: grade + 2/3

For example, in case of (b) an exam grade of 2.7 is changed to 2.0; only grades better than 5.0 can be improved!

## ▪ Examination

- **Course achievement (by May 13).** Test on NLP basics (see next slide!)
- **Oral exam (after lectures).** On the content of the lectures and the tutorials

Tentative exam periods: Second half of July, late September

**Exam details later**

# Important: Course achievement

## ▪ Course achievement

- Individualized test with questions on NLP basics due on May 13
- To pass, 50% of all points sufficient

## ▪ How to take the test

- **By May 3 (23:59, GMT+2).** You must be registered for this course in PAUL
- **By May 6 (23:59, GMT+2).** We'll send your test to your PAUL e-mail address
- **By May 13 (23:59, GMT+2).** You need to submit the test via PANDA

## ▪ Notice

- If you didn't receive an e-mail by end of May 6, send me an email immediately
- Late submissions will **not** be accepted !!!

## ▪ Why such an early test?

- NLP basics required, but we won't spend much time on them in this course
- Better to know early that you cannot pass the course

test number: 123 • last name: Wachsmuth • matriculation number: 1234567

### Computational Argumentation — Assessment Test

This test is a mandatory part of the course and serves as its **course achievement (Studienleistung)**. To fulfill the course achievement, getting **at least 12 out of 24 points (50%) in this test** is sufficient.

**Please read the exercises carefully and answer precisely.** The test consists of three pages with 12 exercises. Write down your answers for each exercise into a separate file. The test is individualized; you should submit your individual solution for this specific version of the test.

Put your solutions into one PDF named `<test-number>-<last-name>-<matriculation-number>.pdf`. The placeholders should be replaced with the information found in the header of this page.

# Registration for modules, courses, and examinations

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## ▪ **Four registrations needed**

- **Module + course.** Both until May 3 (due to assessment test)
- **Course achievement.** April 20 – May 20 (if you fail the test, de-register!)
- **Examination.** April 20 – May 20 (1st phase), August 31 – September 4 (2nd)  
Cancellation until one week before examination takes place

## ▪ **How to register**

- All registrations are done in PAUL, requiring two clicks ("Register", "Submit").  
General rule: If you see anything in PAUL that you can register for within this course or module, you should do so.
- All information necessary is available in PAUL — somewhere.

## ▪ **Notice**

- Regularly check emails to your PAUL email address.
- If anything looks suspicious in PAUL, contact the examination office.
- If you need advice, contact [study-cs@mail.upb.de](mailto:study-cs@mail.upb.de) or see office hours:  
<https://cs.upb.de/studium/beratung-und-unterstuetzung/fachberatung/>
- **Disclaimer.** Most information here comes from the student advisory service.

# Rough course schedule

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## ▪ Basics

- April 23 Introduction to computational argumentation
- April 30 Basics of natural language processing
- May 7 Basics of argumentation
- May 14 Argument acquisition

## ▪ Methods

- May 21–28 Argument mining
- June 4–11 Argument assessment
- June 18–25 Argument generation

Tentative dates of video uploads  
Q&A Thursdays (14:15–16:45)

## ▪ Applications

- July 2–9 Applications of computational argumentation
- July 16 Conclusion

## ▪ Notice

- Holiday on May 21 and June 11, AStA summer festival on June 4

# Tentative assignment and tutorial schedule

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- **Introduction (tutorial concept, python recap)** on April 29
- **Assignment 1: Argument acquisition**
  - **Duration.** April 27 (publication) – May 10 (submission)
  - **Tutorials.** April 29 (task), May 6 (~~on-site programming~~), May 20 (solution)
- **Assignment 2: Argument mining**
  - **Duration.** May 18 (publication) – May 31 (submission)
  - **Tutorials.** May 20 (task), May 27 (~~on-site programming~~), June 10 (solution)
- **Assignment 3: Argument assessment**
  - **Duration.** June 8 (publication) – June 21 (submission)
  - **Tutorials.** June 10 (task), June 17 (~~on-site programming~~), July 1 (solution)
- **Assignment 4: Argument generation**
  - **Duration.** June 29 (publication) – July 12 (submission)
  - **Tutorials.** July 1 (task), July 8 (~~on-site programming~~), July 15 (solution)
- **Conclusion (exam questions)** on July 15

Tentative dates  
of video uploads

Q&A 11:15–12:45



# Web resources of course

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*Corona-updated*

## ▪ PAUL

- **General.** Standard course information
- **Registration.** Module, course, course achievement, exam

## ▪ Course web page

- **General.** Detailed course information, general announcements
- **Lectures.** Slides

## ▪ PANDA

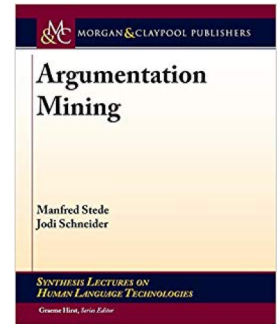
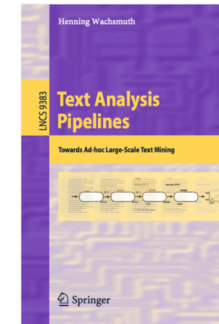
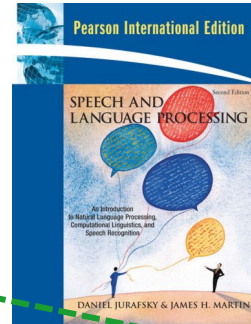
- **General.** All announcements, asynchronous Q&A (forum)
- **Lectures.** Videos, slides, synchronous Q&A (text chat)
- **Tutorials.** Videos, slides, synchronous Q&A (text chat)
- **Assignments.** Sheets, group forums and submissions, and results
- **Course achievement.** Submission

*Exam details later*

# Literature and code basis

## ■ Books (not obligatory)

- General NLP books  
(Jurafsky and Martin, 2009; Wachsmuth, 2015)
- "Argumentation Mining"  
(Stede and Schneider, 2018)
- Few exemplars ~~in library~~



See links on next slide + material on PANDA

## ■ Conference and journal papers

- References to papers will occur in course content
- Most papers can be found online (e.g., at [aclanthology.info](http://aclanthology.info))

## ■ Code

- Different general NLP libraries available freely  
[github.com/stanfordnlp/stanza/](https://github.com/stanfordnlp/stanza/), [www.nltk.org](http://www.nltk.org), [spacy.io](http://spacy.io), [pypi.org/project/polyglot/](https://pypi.org/project/polyglot/), [github.com/zalandoresearch/flair](https://github.com/zalandoresearch/flair)
- Papers often provide a URL where code can be found
- Still, extensive own implementation will be needed in programming tasks

# References

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- **Jurafsky and Martin (2009).** Daniel Jurafsky and James H. Martin (2009). Speech and Language Processing: An Introduction to Natural Language Processing, Speech Recognition, and Computational Linguistics. 2nd edition, Prentice-Hall, 2009.  
(draft of 3rd edition can be found here: <https://web.stanford.edu/~jurafsky/slp3/>)
- **Stede and Schneider (2018).** Manfred Stede and Jodi Schneider. Argumentation Mining. Synthesis Lectures on Human Language Technologies 40, Morgan & Claypool, 2018.
- **Wachsmuth (2015).** Henning Wachsmuth. Text Analysis Pipelines — Towards Ad-hoc Large-scale Text Mining. LNCS 9383, Springer, 2015.  
(free preprint can be found here: [https://webis.de/downloads/publications/papers/wachsmuth\\_2015.pdf](https://webis.de/downloads/publications/papers/wachsmuth_2015.pdf))