In two of the last classes of the term, we will be hosting an AI poster session. For those of you who don’t know what this is, it’s sort of like a science fair. Most conferences these days have them. People present their work in a large-size poster format. Participants can circulate among the posters, checking out the work, asking questions, and discussing it with the authors. It provides a nice complement to the traditional method of presenting papers in a lecture format.

For our class, everyone will be responsible for preparing a large-format poster describing their work (details below). You will have an opportunity to be both a presenter and a reviewer, both of which will count towards your grade. We will have some guest visitors, and possibly also snacks (poster sessions are often held during a reception or other food-and-drink-friendly venue).

Your effort counts for 10% of your final grade for the course. It should be fun.

**Assignment**

You need to create a poster describing an AI technique, technology, or application area. The choice is up to you. Some examples might be:

- History of some aspect of AI and prospects for the future
- Survey of techniques and applications in an area of AI
- Detailed description and analysis of an AI technique and its application
- Your proposal for an AI solution to a real-world problem (you make up the problem; solutions don’t have to be implemented although implementable would be nice...
For topics, browse the textbook for interesting subject areas, especially those not covered in the syllabus. The Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) has some very nice “AI Topics” pages with lots of ideas and suggestions for further reading or viewing. One warning: Like AI problems, AI topics are big and complicated. Whatever you choose, you will need to focus. If this is not a strength for you, do not leave it until the last minute.

Your poster must be both technically detailed and visually appealing. For example, a bunch of PowerPoint bullet lists is unlikely to be visually appealing. There are examples of real research conference posters in the halls of CSB. Mind you, not all of them are good posters.

You should print your poster on eight (2 wide × 4 high) landscape pages to make a roughly 22” wide by 34” high poster. Leave margins for joining the pages together. Don’t bother printing on a large-format printer. Do not stick the pages together until we set them up in class. Just bring the pages with you to class and be prepared to set them up and present them.

**Grading**

Posters will be reviewed by me, your peers, and some guest reviewers, so you will be both a presenter and a reviewer. Your grade will be some weighted combination of the following:

- My review of your poster
- The reviews of your peers and of the guest reviewers
- My grade of your reviews of others’ posters

The following areas will be judged by reviewers:

- Content:
  - Relevance: Was the topic clearly related to AI and the things discussed during the course? Did the poster make those connections clear?
  - Depth: Did the poster provide an appropriate level of technical detail about the topic? Were appropriate references cited?
  - Novelty: Did you learn something new, or get a new appreciation for something you already knew?
- Presentation: Was the poster visually appealing? Did it clearly illustrate the main points of the work?
- Presenter: Did the presenter understand the work well? Were they able to describe it clearly and concisely, or answer questions about it?

This list is subject to revision for the final reviewing form, but you get the picture.