



Course Name: Ethics in Big Data & Artificial Intelligence

Course Number: 382-1-3602

Course Credits: 2

Lecturer: Mois Navon

Semester / Year: Spring 2022

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers an introduction to the ethical issues inherent in the technologies spawned by big data and artificial intelligence. As these fields enter every area of human existence, the ethics surrounding them is becoming ever critical. The course – seeking to touch upon all the prominent technologies driven by big data and artificial intelligence – will be divided into five parts. The first part will focus on ethics, what it is and why it is important. This will include an overview of various approaches to ethics in general and the ethics of technology in specific. Next we will dive into the big issues in big data. The third part will then focus on the ethical dilemmas involved in the autonomous systems driven by these technologies. Following this we will delve into the ethical issues of robotics and then conclude with a look into the future to discuss the ethical issues surrounding “the singularity.”

The goals of this course are to imbue the student with an appreciation for the value and necessity of ethics in general and as it applies to engineering in specific. The student will acquire the tools to engage in the ethical questions at home and in the workplace and to apply himself accordingly.

Course Demands

There will be two position papers and a final exam. The papers are to be 500-word (+/- 100) position papers on a topic of current ethical controversy concerning technology.

Each Paper = 15%

Final Exam = 70%

Final Grade: A passing grade in the course is contingent on receiving a passing grade on both papers – that is, a zero on either paper gives a zero in the class.

Course Outline: See Below

Week	Class	Subject	Detail	Required Readings	Optional Readings
1	1	Course Introduction	Overview, Motivations, Appetizers	(Soloveitchik 2012, pp. 6-11, 59-60)	
1	2	Introduction to Ethics (1)	Classical Moral Approaches	(Rachels and Rachels 2015b: Ch. 1)	(Vaughn 2015: 22-25); (Gaon [933] 1989: Intro,6); (Berkovits 2004); (Wurzburger 2008)
2	1	Introduction to Ethics (2)	Difficulties with Moral Approaches (1)	(Nietzsche 1974, p181-2); (Berkovits 2004, ch 11)	(Rachels and Rachels 2015b); (Wurzburger 1994)
2	2	Introduction to Ethics (3)	Difficulties with Moral Approaches (2)	(Blau 2002); (Plato 1997, Euthyphro); (Rachels and Rachels 2015a, 4.2)	(Lamm 2007); (Shatz 2012); (Wurzburger 2008, 75-81); (Spero 2016); (Shatz, 1996)
3	1	Ethics and Technology (1)	History and Approaches	(Johnson and Miller 2008a, pp35-42)	(Heidegger 2013); (Jonas 2000); (Verbeek 2015); (Kroes and Verbeek 2014); (Vallor 2018); (Miller 2011)
3	2	Ethics and Technology (2)	Mediation Theory & Ethics in the Workplace Today (Ex: Mobileye, Volkswagen, Toyota)	(Verbeek 2014); (Bunge 1977, p97-98, 106-107)	(Pimple 2013: Ch. 11);
4	1	Data Matters (1)	Bias In Models	(Hardt 2014)	(Crawford 2018); (Stewart 2020); (Solon Barocas, Moritz Hardt, and Arvind Narayanan 2019); (Johnson, 2020); (Hao 2019)
4	2	Data Matters (2)	Fairness, Accountability, Transparency	(Corbett-Davies et al. 2016); (Lepri et al. 2017, p619-622)	(Lum and Isaac 2016); (Barocas and Selbst 2016); (Nesterak 2021); (Helbing 2017); (Xiang 2021)
5	1	Ethical Dilemmas in Big Data and AI	Surveillance, Privacy, and Public Welfare	(Pimple 2013: Ch. 4); (Bamberger and Mayse 2020, pp3-9)	(Roessler 2017); (Munch 2021); (ACM Staff 2021); (Kozłowska 2018); (Xu et al. 2016); (Pimple 2013: Ch. 3-6);
5	2	Ethical Dilemmas in Big Data and AI	Manipulations, Nudges and Dark Patterns	(Susser, Roessler, and Nissenbaum 2019, p2-4); (Helbing 2017: see Big	(Noggle 2020); (Zimmerman 2016a); (Zimmerman 2016b)



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				Nudging); (Hirsch 2010, Vay. 19:11);	
6	1	Ethical Dilemmas in Big Data and AI	GANs, Deepfakes and Fake News	(Rini 2020, p7-8 "Backstop Crises"); (Levinas 1997, p6-9); (Ha-Levi [1523] 1978, #74)	(Rini 2017); (Citron and Chesney 2019); (Gino 2017)
6	2	Ethical Dilemmas in Big Data and AI	Virtual Reality (VR) - Real Implications for Unreal Activity	(Lanier 2017, ch.4); (Plato 1997, Republic, 514-516e); (Nozick 1974, p1-2);	(Chalmers 2017); (Madary and Metzinger 2016);
7	1	Ethical Dilemmas in Autonomous Systems	Autonomous Moral Agents (1)	(Muehlhauser and Helm 2012, ch. 4); (Moor 2011); (Purves, Jenkins, and Strawser 2015, ch. 3); (Penrose 1991, p423-4);	(Whitby 2011); (Moor 1995); (Spaulding 2020); (Wallach and Allen 2010, p.7); (Johnson and Miller 2008b)
7	2	Ethical Dilemmas in Autonomous Systems	Autonomous Moral Agents (2)	(Sparrow 2021, sec. 3-6); (Lichtenstein 2002, p3-8); (Anderson and Anderson 2009);	(Dehghani et al. 2011); (Anderson 2011); (Brand 2020); (Beavers 2012); (Bringsjord et al. 2011); (Turkle 2011b); (Jiang et al. 2021);
8	1	Ethical Dilemmas in Autonomous Systems	Autonomous Vehicles	(Thomson 1985)	(Lin 2016); (Navon 2022); (Harris 2008)
8	2	Ethical Dilemmas in Autonomous Systems	Autonomous Weapon Systems (AWS)	(Arkin 2008a); (Sparrow 2016, 7-9, 14-15); (Asaro 2020, 227-230); (Shatz 2007, xiv-xvii)	(Sparrow 2007); (Purves, Jenkins, and Strawser 2015); (Müller 2016); (Tegmark 2018: Weapons); (Arkin 2010); (Arkin 2008b); (Leveringhaus 2016); (Orend 2006); (Broyde 2007); (Klapper, Ish-Shalom, and Broyde 2006); (Bleich 2013, Ch. XI)
9	1	Introduction to Roboethics (1)	Ontology, Consciousness and the Hard Problem	(Coeckelbergh 2013, 62-64)	(Nagel 1974); (Searle 1980); (Chalmers 1995);
9	2	Introduction to Roboethics (2)	Machine Consciousness and Other Minds	(Penrose 1991, pp447-449); (Turing 1950); (Sebo 2018, p60-63)	(Reining 2020); (Hales 2014, ch 14); (Kastrup 2018); (Kastrup 2017); (Jiménez-



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					Rodríguez 2017); (Warwick 2012); (Elamrani and Yampolskly 2019); (Torrance 2011); (Nagel 1974); (Bringsjord 2010)
10	1	Ethical Dilemmas in Robotics	Mindless Robots	(Cappuccio, Peeters, and McDonald 2019, p25-28)	(Navon 2021); (Shmalo 2012); (Bryson 2010); (Heider and Simmel 1944); (Turkle 2011a)
10	2	Ethical Dilemmas in Robotics	Consciousness Robots	(Petersen 2017, p3-11); (Maimonides 1168); (Turing 1950, p443); (Bleich 1998, p57-60)	(Signorelli 2018); (Grau 2011); (Gunkel 2018); (Idel 2019); (Scholem 1969); (Kogan 1989, p132-137); (Bryson 2010); (Loike and Tendler 2003);
11	1	Ethical Dilemmas in Robotics	Social Robots (1)	(Nyholm 2020, p109-115); (Aristotle 2004, Intro p.xxix-xxxii)	(Richardson 2015); (Mayor 2018); (LaGrandeur 2013, ch 1); (Nyholm 2020, ch. 5); (Sparrow and Sparrow 2006); (Turkle 2011a);
11	2	Ethical Dilemmas in Robotics	Social Robots (2)	(Sparrow and Sparrow 2006, p153-156); (Berkovits 2002, pp.115-120); (Bertolini and Arian 2020, p44-49)	(Sparrow and Sparrow 2006); (Berkovits 2002, ch.4); (Darling 2017); (Turkle 2011a); (Soloveitchik 1989, ch. V); (Bertolini 2018); (Leibtag 2003, PART TWO); (Lichtenstein 2015)
12	1	End of Days Ethics	The End of Work – The Useless Class	(Keynes [1930] 2009); (Aristotle 2004, Book I, Ch. 7; Book X, Ch. 7); (Maimonides 1956, 3:54); (Grace et al. 2018, p.729 "Abstract")	(James 2020); (Danaher 2019); (Tegmark 2018: Jobs); (Navon 2007)
12	2	End of Days Ethics	Digital Eschatology - Superhumans and Immortality	(Sandler 2014, p241-7); (Dietrich 2011); (Soloveitchik 2012, pp.13-16)	(Loike and Tendler 2014, p48-56); (Tirosh-Samuelsan 2012); (Sotala 2012); (Geraci 2008); (Cholbi 2017); (Schneider 2019);
13	1	Review			



Week	Class	Subject	Detail	Required Readings	Optional Readings
13	2	Review			

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