



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, LINGUISTICS AND THEORY OF SCIENCE

AIS101 Artificial intelligence in Society: Language, Knowledge, and Ethics, 7.5 credits

Artificiell intelligens i samhället: språk, kunskap och etik, 7,5 högskolepoäng
First Cycle

Confirmation

This course syllabus was confirmed by Department of Philosophy, Linguistics and Theory of Science on 2023-05-29 and was last revised on 2023-11-13 to be valid from 2024-01-15, spring semester of 2024.

Field of education: Arts 100%

Department: Department of Philosophy, Linguistics and Theory of Science

Position in the educational system

The course is given as a free-standing course.

Main field of studies

Linguistics

Language Technology

Specialization

G1N, First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements

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Entry requirements

General entrance requirements for university studies and the Swedish upper secondary course English 6 or equivalent.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate awareness of how AI technologies are designed,

- understand the standards used in evaluating and assessing the impact of AI technologies,
- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of societal issues related to the design, evaluation, and use of AI,

Competence and skills

- provide an analysis via a structured line of argumentation of a topic, issue, or debate from the relevant literature,
- discuss potential improvements for AI systems relating to current societal debates around the use and development of AI on the basis of the perspectives presented in the course;

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate ability to critically discuss questions and lines of argument related to the design of AI systems, their social impacts, and philosophical perspectives on these issues,
- examine and evaluate the experts' and the public's views regarding the impact of AI on society from interdisciplinary technological, philosophical, and theory of science perspectives.

Course content

AI stands for Artificial Intelligence, which refers to the development of computational systems that can perform tasks which typically require human intelligence, such as perception, reasoning, learning, decision-making, and natural language processing. AI has become increasingly important in various fields, including healthcare, finance, transportation, education, and entertainment, and has the potential to transform many aspects of society.

This course aims to provide students with an interdisciplinary perspective on current developments in AI and how these are impacting society, science, and philosophy. The course will encourage interdisciplinary mutual understanding: we start with a smorgasbord selection of topics that will cover methods, algorithms, implementations, and applications of AI in the fields of science, humanities, and social sciences; we will then examine the implications of these systems for current ethical questions, linguistic understanding, reasoning, and communication, and the production and establishment of knowledge in society and scientific domains.

The course will be taught by experts in (Computational) Linguistics, Logic, Theoretical and Practical Philosophy, and Theory of Science. The lectures will critically evaluate the impact of AI from each discipline's perspective and explore how each field can

contribute to answering questions like how AI is changing society, the role of knowledge and expertise in public discourse, and ethical considerations related to AI uses. In addition, the course will introduce students to theoretical and practical questions in philosophy related to the implementation, use, and capabilities of AI systems. The course will thus facilitate students in attaining a better understanding of how their own field connects with AI.

Overall, this course offers a comprehensive interdisciplinary approach to understanding the impact of AI on society, providing students with a broad range of skills and knowledge on a variety of pertinent issues.

Form of teaching

The course is given either as a distance or an on-site course.

The course consists of (i) lectures, (ii) seminar discussions, and (iv) individual work.

Language of instruction: English and Swedish

Assessment

The course is assessed by participation in classes and seminars, assignments and/or a written exam.

Obligatory attendance may be required for some components. Students will be given a chance to compensate the missed sessions with additional tasks and assignments during the course if possible but otherwise they will have to take them the next time the course runs.

If a student who has twice received a failing grade for the same examination component wishes to change examiner ahead of the next examination session, such a request should be made to the department in writing and should be approved by the department unless there are special reasons to the contrary (Chapter 6 Section 22 of the Higher Education Ordinance).

If a student has received a recommendation from the University of Gothenburg for study support for students with disabilities, the examiner may, where it is compatible with the learning outcomes of the course and provided that no unreasonable resources are required, decide to allow the student to sit an adjusted exam or alternative form of assessment.

In the event that a course has ceased or undergone major changes, students are to be guaranteed at least three examination sessions (including the ordinary examination session) over a period of at least one year, but no more than two years after the course has ceased/been changed. The same applies to internships and professional placements (VFU), although this is restricted to just one additional examination session.

Grades

The grading scale comprises: Pass with Distinction (VG), Pass (G) and Fail (U).

Course evaluation

Students who have participated in or have completed the course are given an opportunity to anonymously convey their experiences and suggestions about the course in a course evaluation.

The results of the evaluation and possible changes to the course will be shared with students who participated in the evaluation and students who are starting the course.