Ethics of Artificial Intelligence

2024 Winter Online Program

Program dates:
Jan. 24 to Feb. 7, 2024

10 sessions of 2-hour long classes: 7:30-9:30 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST)

Program fee:
USD$450 per person

Learning Objectives
- The primary goal of this course is for you to introduce the main ethical issues surrounding AI.
- The secondary goal is for you to improve your critical reasoning, reading, writing, and oral presentation skills.

Course Description
The course proceeds from the general to the particular. It starts by discussing the nature of AI and ethics. Then, the class will see different approaches to the questions of why ethics matters for AI and how to apply ethical stances to AI. The following sessions are dedicated to how AI challenges specific ethical principles such as privacy, justice, responsibility, and autonomy. The final lecture concerns the ethics of Autonomous Vehicles, as a case study of a specific domain of AI.

Apply by Jan. 3, 2024: go.ncsu.edu/gti-ethicsofai
Program Calendar
The lecture times will be 7:30-9:30 PM U.S. Eastern Time

1/24: AI and agency: What is AI? What type of agency is it?
1/25: What is ethics: What is a moral problem? What’s the purpose of moral theory? Introduction to main ethical theories
1/28: Why ethics matters for AI: Why should humans care about regulating AI by ethical rules? Why should private companies think ethically and not just legally?
1/29: How to apply ethics to AI: Discussion of competing approaches to how to apply ethical values to AI design and marketing
1/31: Privacy and AI: The need for AI systems to collect data for better performance vs. privacy rights
2/1: (Un)Just AI: Can AI algorithms be biased? The problem of implicit biases in AI and possible solutions
2/2: Responsibility in AI: Legal liability vs. moral responsibility. The problem of many hands in AI decisions
2/5: Autonomy and AI: Does AI software undermine human autonomy? How can human autonomy be preserved?
2/6: Ethics in Autonomous Vehicles: Introduction to the main ethical issues of AVs: potential benefits and risks
2/7: Final project: Students presentations

Admissions Requirements

- This program is only open to students from NC State partners’ universities
- Undergraduate students in philosophy, humanities, social sciences, engineering and computer science majors, or students in other disciplines who are interested in this topic
- English requirement: The entire course will be taught in English, so students will need to provide their CET 4, CET 6, TEM4 or University Entrance Exam English score as proof of English language proficiency.