HALMSTAD UNIVERSITY
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School of Information Technology

SYLLABUS
-translated from Swedish
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Course Code: IK8027 / 1,1

Critical Design and Practical Ethics for AI, 3 credits

Kritisk design och praktisk etik för AI, 3 hp

Second cycle
Main field: Informatics, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (A1N)

Syllabus is adopted by the Research and Education Board (2022-04-14) and is valid for students admitted for the autumn semester 2022.

Placement in the Academic System

The course is given as a single subject course.

Prerequisites and Conditions of Admission

Degree of Bachelor or Degree of Bachelor of Science in Engineering or the equivalent of 180 Swedish credit points or 180 ECTS credits at an accredited university. Applicants must have written and verbal command of the English language equivalent to English course 6 in Swedish Upper-Secondary School.

Course Objectives

The course objective is to introduce critical and ethical issues surrounding data and society, to train the student to problematize and reason about artificial intelligence (AI). It blends current and historical perspectives on ethics of data use, and case examples to help students develop an understanding of current ethical issues connected to AI. Concepts addressed include: privacy and surveillance, data and discrimination, sustainability, trust, and transparency. These issues will be addressed by the student throughout the lifecycle of data—from collection to storage to analysis and application.

Following successful completion of the course the student should be able to:

Knowledge and understanding

- discuss and explain ethical challenges of AI

Skills and ability

- explore the potential effect of AI on organisations and society

- critically analyze and distinguish relevant perspectives of AI

Judgement and approach

- reflect and problematize on the role of AI in organisations and society

- critically reflect on one's own role in the creation of AI, and its possible consequences

Primary Contents

The course deals with different perspectives on AI and its real and potential effect on organisations and society. The course is based on five different perspectives on AI: accountability, surveillance capitalism, power and bias, sustainability, and trust. Continuous critical reflection is performed based on the course literature. Active discussions founded in different ethical perspectives are an important part of the course

Teaching Formats

The teaching primarily consists of lectures, seminars, and discussions based on course content such as podcasts and videos through the university's learning platform. The teaching is conducted in English.

Examination

The overall grades of Fail or Pass will be awarded for the course.
The examination consists of an individual written assignment.

Name of the test		Grading
Written Assignment	3 credits	U/G

If there are special reasons, the examiner may make exceptions from the specified examination format and allow a student to be examined in another way. Special reasons can e.g. be a decision on learning support.

For elite sports students according to Riktlinjer för kombinationen studier och elitidrott vid Högskolan i Halmstad, DNR: L 2018/177, the examiner has the right to decide on an adapted examination component or let the student complete the examination in an alternative way.

Course Evaluation

Course evaluation is part of the course. This evaluation should offer guidance in the future development and planning of the course. Course evaluations should be documented and made available to the students.

Course Literature and Other Study Resources