



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

AI Democracy and the Rule of Law - 62124

Last update 15-09-2024

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Law

Academic year: 0

Semester: Yearly

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Renana Keydar

Coordinator Email: renana.keydar@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: by appointment

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Renana keydar

Course/Module description:

This seminar explores the intricate relationship between artificial intelligence (AI), democratic principles, and the rule of law. As AI technologies rapidly evolve and permeate various aspects of society, they present both unprecedented opportunities and challenges to established democratic norms and legal frameworks. This course will examine how AI impacts democratic processes, civil liberties, and the administration of justice, while also considering how democratic values and legal principles can guide the development and deployment of AI systems.

Students will engage with cutting-edge research, case studies, and policy debates to develop a nuanced understanding of the complex interplay between technology, governance, and law. The seminar will cover topics such as algorithmic decision-making in public institutions, AI-driven voter targeting and information manipulation, automated law enforcement, and the ethical considerations of AI in the justice system.

Course/Module aims:

Develop a comprehensive understanding of the current and potential impacts of AI on democratic institutions and the rule of law.

Critically analyze the legal, ethical, and policy challenges posed by the integration of AI into governance and legal systems.

Explore potential regulatory frameworks and governance models for AI that align with democratic values and legal principles.

Enhance students' ability to engage in interdisciplinary thinking, combining insights from law, political science, ethics, and computer science.

Cultivate skills in legal research, critical analysis, and policy formulation related to emerging technologies.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Articulate the key challenges and opportunities that AI presents to democratic governance and the rule of law.

Evaluate existing and proposed legal and policy responses to AI's impact on democracy and justice systems.

Develop and defend policy recommendations for governing AI in a manner consistent with democratic principles and the rule of law.

Critically assess the ethical implications of AI applications in various domains of public life and governance.

Demonstrate proficiency in analyzing complex, multidisciplinary issues at the intersection of technology, law, and governance.

Effectively communicate complex ideas related to AI, democracy, and law through

written assignments and class discussions.

Apply legal reasoning and ethical frameworks to novel scenarios involving AI in democratic and legal contexts.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

Seminar Themes and Topics: Democracy, Rule of Law, and AI

Theme 1: Foundations and Context

1. Introduction to AI: Key concepts, current capabilities, and future projections
2. The pillars of democracy and the rule of law: Historical context and modern challenges
3. The intersection of technology and governance: Past, present, and future

Theme 2: AI and Democratic Processes

1. AI in electoral systems: Voting technologies, districting, and election security
2. AI-driven political campaigning and micro-targeting
3. Social media, AI, and the spread of misinformation/disinformation
4. AI and public opinion formation: Echo chambers, filter bubbles, and algorithmic curation

Theme 3: AI, Governance, and Public Administration

1. AI in policy-making: Data-driven governance and algorithmic regulation
2. Algorithmic decision-making in public institutions: Benefits and risks
3. AI and transparency in government: Open data initiatives and challenges
4. The role of AI in smart cities and digital governance

Theme 4: AI and the Justice System

1. AI in law enforcement: Predictive policing and surveillance technologies
2. AI in the courtroom: Risk assessment tools, sentencing algorithms, and due process
3. AI and access to justice: Legal tech, online dispute resolution, and AI-assisted legal services
4. AI and the future of legal practice: Implications for lawyers, judges, and legal education

Theme 5: Regulating AI in a Democratic Society

1. Existing legal frameworks and their applicability to AI
2. Proposed AI regulations: Comparative analysis of approaches (EU, US, China, etc.)

3. Balancing innovation and regulation: Strategies for responsible AI development

Theme 6: Ethical Considerations and Future Directions

- 1. AI ethics and its relationship to democratic values*
- 2. The future of democracy and rule of law in an AI-driven world: Challenges and opportunities*

Each topic could include:

- In-depth discussion of the subject matter*
- Case studies or real-world examples*
- Guest speakers from relevant fields (tech industry, government, academia)*
- Student presentations or debates on controversial aspects*
- Analysis of relevant legal cases, policies, or proposed legislation*

Required Reading:

Moodle

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 100 %

Additional information: