University of Gdańsk

Subject card

Subject name and code	Legal and ethical aspects of AI, PG_00188673		
Field of study	English Studies		
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject	2027/2028
Education level	Master's studies	Subject group	Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study
Mode of study	full-time studies	Mode of delivery	at the university
Year of study	2	Language of instruction	Polish
Semester of study	4	ECTS credits	2.0
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form	credit
Conducting unit	Institute of English and American Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector		
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	mgr Katarzyna Irytowska	
	Teachers		

Lesson types

Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
Number of study hours	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15

E-learning hours included: 0.0

Learning activity and number of study hours

Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan	Participation in consultation hours	Self-study	SUM
Number of study hours	15	1.0	34.0	50

Subject objectives

Students will be introduced to the following issues related to artificial intelligence.I. Morality, ethics, lawII. The language of legal and ethical discourse about artificial intelligenceIII. InformationIV. Ethics of information.V. Algorithm or what?VI. Artificial agent, or whose agent? VII. Artificial agent, or whose agent? VIII. SingularityIX. Privacy in the age of artificial intelligenceX. Reuse of informationXI. Accountability.XII. Artificially intelligent lawyerXIII. Conclusions - A unified framework of rules for AI in society

Learning outcomes

Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
[FAMU2_W15] Knows and understands the grammatical and lexical principles of the English language, the principles of constructing written and oral statements, and the cultural conventions of communication in English at the C2 level.	Knows and understands the legal considerations and ethical aspects of the professional activity of a specialist in natural language processing.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[FAMU2_W16] Knows and understands the fundamental dilemmas of modern civilization in the context of issues related to intercultural linguistic and literary communication and the role of modern technologies in the work of the English philologist.	Knows and understands the concepts and principles of copyright law and property protection law applicable to the professional activities of a specialist in natural language processing.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[FAMU2_U05] Can use and present orally and in writing knowledge in the field of auxiliary and related sciences, which is a context for English linguistic and literary studies and supports the professional work of an English philologist.	Is able to use and present orally and in writing the knowledge of legal and ethical aspects of artificial intelligence necessary in the professional activities of a natural language processing specialist.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[FAMU2_W12] Knows and understands the main development trends in literature, in particular with regard to research into English-language literature.	Knows and understands selected issues in the legal and ethical aspects of artificial intelligence necessary in the professional activities of a specialist in natural language processing.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[FAMU2_W14] Knows and understands selected issues connected to various disciplines constituting auxiliary and related sciences of English Philology, necessary as a context for research in the field of English linguistics and English-language literatures or in the professional activity of the English philologist.	Knows and understands the fundamental dilemmas of modern civilization in connection with the development of artificial intelligence.	[SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion [SW2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[FAMU2_K06] Is ready to observe, disseminate and develop the principles of ethics in research work in the field of English linguistics and literature and in professional work.	Is ready to observe, disseminate and develop the principles of ethics in the professional activities of a specialist in natural language processing.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[FAMU2_K05] Is ready to think and act in an entrepreneurial way in various spheres of professional activity related to the use of the English language	Is ready to think and act in an entrepreneurial manner in the professional activities of a natural language processing specialist.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[FAMU2_K02] Is prepared to recognise the importance of knowledge and skills in English Studies in solving cognitive and practical problems and to seek the advice of a supervisor in their chosen place of work in the event of difficulty in solving problems on their own.	Is ready to recognize the importance of knowledge and skills in the legal and ethical aspects of artificial intelligence in solving cognitive and practical problems in the professional activities of a specialist in natural language processing, and to consult a research supervisor or mentor at the chosen workplace in case of difficulties in solving problems independently.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK2] presentation/project/paper/ report
[FAMU2_U07] Can lead a debate on linguistics and literature within the framework of English Philology, present and evaluate various opinions and positions, and discuss them in English and Polish.	Is able to conduct a debate, in particular on topics concerning the legal and ethical aspects of artificial intelligence, present and evaluate various opinions and positions and discuss them.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion

Subject contents	I. Morality, ethics, lawMorality and ethicsNormative ethicsRelationship between law and moralitySanctioning of morality by lawImmanuel Kant and the universal law of libertyJohn Stuart Mill and the principle of harmMoralism and paternalism of lawMoral neutrality of lawII. The language of legal and ethical discourse on artificial intelligenceIs there a legal or jurisprudential definition of artificial intelligence and why is the legal definition different from the jurisprudential definition?Descriptive statements (sentences)Evaluations and evaluative statementsDirectives and normsRegulations and normsPerformative utterances and speech act theorySystem of sources of Polish lawSystem of sources of EU lawStandardization documents and formal specificationsProgram documentsThe impact of political decisionsWhy not Asimov's laws?Fundamental rights as moral and legal entitlementsIII. InformationData vs. informationInformation and its medium from Wiener and Shannon to the law on the computerization of administrationSynergy of informationAttributes, features, records, objectsMan as an objectPersonal and non-personal data - introductionCyberspaceCyberspace as a legal conceptState information infrastructure and its regulationCyber security information vs. critical infrastructureInformation security criminal law protection of IT systemsHacking of artificial intelligence - introductionIV. Information ethics. Part ISupervised and self-directed learningAnticipation and understanding Athens and Babylon from Toulmin to Pearl Human and robot interaction as a methodHuman and robot interaction as an effectArtificial intelligence and robotics, common parts and disconnected areasIn the thicket of ethical standardsTeaching ethics in depth. Between Kaiser and MaThe double success of AI ethics according to L. FloridiInformation resource and antitrust law. Abuse of dominant position in the infosphereCovert or unconscious discrimination gender, race, ethnicity, religion, age, etc.VI. Algorithm or what?al-KhwarizmiClassical algorithms understandingArtificial intelligence algorithmsTechnical understanding of algorithms in AI using machine learning as an exampleAlgorithm as a black boxBlack Box SocietyVirtualization of the operating environment of artificial intelligence algorithmsArtificially intelligent entity. Difference towards computer, machine, bot, platform, base and programTransparency of the algorithmLaw as codeAlgorithm as a work. Copyright protectionAlgorithm as a program. Special protection in copyright law.Algorithm as a set of operations on a database. Legal protection of databases.Algorithm as an innovation. Patent protectionAlgorithm as part of the critical infrastructure of the state and its protection.VII. Artificial agent, or whose agent? Part IThe concept of homo poieticus as a bridge between phisis and techneArtificially intelligent evilThe tragedy of goodwillThe curse of the Turing testDo we need artificial conscious agents?Legal personality of the agentStatement of intent made by artificial intelligenceArtificial intelligence and the rules of civil liabilityVIII. Artificial agent, or whose agent? Part IIBinary ethics and mathematical ethicsSelection algorithms (examples: disaster medicine, war medicine)Formalized ethics in the pre-AI era (examples: ethics committees, clinical trials)Dilemmas of non-artificial intelligence - Prenatal testing, breeding with selection, eugenicsAI-based personalization as a new challenge for consumer lawCollision autonomy of artificial intelligenceIX. SingularityThe concept of singularityMatrixThe extent to which data processing technology exceeds human capabilitiesAutomation and the labor marketThe future of workAutomation of operationsComputerization vs. automationWeapons automationWhen an option becomes an obligationX. Privacy in the age of artificial intelligenceThe concept of privacy in different culturesPrivacy in law - from Warren and Brandeis to RODOPrivacy versus data protectionInformational self-determinationPrivacy vs. transparencyPublic informationCelebritiesOntological interpretationDigital immortality - data processing after a person's death and dead accountsXI. Reuse of informationThe concepts of re-use and PSI in European lawOpen data,Shared data spaces,Data lakesXII. Accountability. Part IDistribution of moralityResponsibility for the slaveRequirements for trustworthy artificial intelligenceBusiness ethicsCompliance vs. ethicsData accountability vs. algorithm accountabilityAttacks on supervised learning systemsOperational risksAttacks on spam filters using AIAttacks on fraud detection systemsAttacks on resources - buffer overflows and offsite processingAttacks on development environments (attacks on platforms, devices and libraries)XIII. Accountability. Part IIAccountability (accountability)What is human-centric AI?Human oversightAI governance. Is a regulator needed?XIV. Artificially intelligent lawyerRoss - an artificially intelligent assistantCourt AIExpert systems in courtsArtificial intelligence and access to justiceAI in the service of a law firmOut-of-court dispute resolution using AIArtificially intelligent witnesses - AI and the law of evidencePredictive policingAI in the service of anti-money launderingAI and facial recognition. The Clearview caseAI at EuropolAI in the settlement of inheritance casesXV. Conclusions - A unified framework of principles for AI in societyDoing good: promoting prosperity, human dignity and sustainable developmentNon-profit: privacy, security and nec temere nec timide.Autonomy: the right to decide (whether to decide)Justice: prosperity and solidarityExplainability and accountability
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Choice of the Specialisation Natural Language Processing
Assessment methods and criteria	

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
active participation in class activities	51.0%	20.0%
project	51.0%	80.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	1. Grant Thomas D., Wischik Damon J., *On the path to AI: Laws prophecies and the conceptual foundations of the machine learning age*, Pylgrave, Cambridge 2020 https://lawcat.berkeley.edu/record/1171568; 2. 3. Hildebrandt Mireille *11. Closure: on ethics, code and law* In: *Law for Computer Scientists* [Internet]. 2019. https://lawforcomputerscentists.pubpub.org/pub/nx5zv2ux; 4. 5. Hildebrandt Mireille *9. Legal Personhood for AI? In: Law for Computer Scientists* [Internet]. 2019. https://lawforcomputerscientists.pubpub.org/pub/4swyxhx5; 6. Lai Luigi, Świerczyński Marek [red.] *Prawo sztucznej inteligencji,* C.H.Beck, Warszawa 2020; 7. Müller Vincent C, *Ethics of Artificial Intelligence,* In: *The Routledge social science handbook of AI, "Ethics of AI and Robotics" for Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* , Routledge, London 2020, https://www.researchgate.net/publication/340885907_Ethics_of_Artificial_Intelligence; 8. Surma Jerzy [red.], *Hakowanie sztucznej inteligencji*, PWN, Warszawa 2020; 9. Weiyu Keng Siau, *Artificial Intelligence (AI) Ethics: Ethics of AI and Ethical AI* Journal of Database Management 2020 31(2):74-87 *https://www.researchgate.net/publication/340885907_Ethics_of_Artificial_Intelligence*; 10. Zalewski Tomasz, *Rozdział I. Definicja sztucznej inteligencji* [w:] Luigi Lai, Marek Świerczyński [red.] *Prawo sztucznej inteligencji*, C.H.Beck, Warszawa 2020 https://www.ksiegarnia.beck.pl/media/product_custom_files/1/9/19235-prawo-sztucznej-inteligencji-luigi-lai-fragment.pdf; **Dokumenty:** 1. *White Paper on Artificial Intelligence: a European approach to excellence and trust* https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/white-paper-artificial-intelligence-european-approach-excellence-and-trust_en 2. *Proposal for a Regulation on European data governance (Data Governance Act)* https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/proposal-regulation-european-data-governance-data-governance-act 3. *Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy AI prepared by the High-Level Group on Artificial Intelligence published on 8 April 2019* https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/ethics-guidelines-trustworthy-ai 4. *Policy and Investment Recommendations for Trustworthy AI prepared by the High-Level Group on Artificial Intelligence published on 8 April 2019* https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en/news/policy-and-investment-recommendations-trustworthy-artificial-intelligence 5. *The Report on liability for Artificial Intelligence and other emerging technologies preared by the Expert Group on Liability and New Technologies New Technologies Formation and published on 21 November 2019* https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/dae/document.cfm?doc_id=63199 6. *Council of Europe: Recommendation CM/Rec(2020)1 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the human rights impacts of algorithmic systems (Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 8 April 2020 at the 1373rd meeting of the Ministers Deputies)* https://search.coe.int/cm/pages/result_details.aspx?objectid=09000016809e1154 7. *Executive Order on Maintaining American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence, 11 February 2019* https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-maintaining-american-leadership-artificial-intelligence/

Supplementary literature	1. Adams-Prassl Jeremias, When Your Boss Comes Home [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 11] 2. Ajunwa Ifeoma, The Paradox of Automation as Anti-Bias Intervention [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 26] 3. Barabas Chelsea, Beyond Accuracy and Bias: The Pursuit of Ethical AI in Criminal Law [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 6] 4. Basl John, AI Rights [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 9] 5. Basl John, Behrends Jeff, Why Everyone Has It Wrong About the Ethics of Autonomous Vehicles [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 29] 6. Behrends Jeff, Ethics Education in Computer Science: The Embedded EthiCS Approach [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 30] 7. Book Forum on Smart Cities in Canada: Digital Dreams, Corporate Designs (Valverde & Flynn eds., 2020) [2021 C4eJ 9] (feat. Mariana Valverde & Alexandra Flynn (editors); Beth Coleman, Renee Sieber, & David Murakami Wood (commentators); Jamie Duncan (moderator)) 8. Brown Étienne, Misinformation and Freedom of Expression [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 4] 9. Cantwell Smith Brian, Reckoning and Judgment [2017 Ethics of AI in Journal 8] 10. Das Sunit, AI in Medicine: Hopes? Nightmares? [2017 Ethics of AI in Journal 7] 11. De Stefano Valerio, Algorithmic Bosses and How to Tame Them [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 12] 12. Donath Judith, Artificial Entities [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 7] 13. Editors Preface, in Oxford Handbook of Ethics of AI (Dubber, Pasquale, Das) [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 25] 14. Estlund Cynthia, Why Work Is a Social Good and Freedom Is Overrated [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 13] 15. Eubanks Virginia, Automating Inequality: How High-Tech Tools Profile, Police and Punish the Poor [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 16] 16. Fancy Muriam, Governance of Ethical AI: Methodologies to Procure Low Risk AI for Public Use [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 27] 17. Ferry-Danini Juliette, What Is the Problem with the Opacity of Artificial Intelligence in Medicine? [2021 Ethics of AI in Journal 3] 18. Fox Mark S., Accountable AI Systems [2018 Ethics of AI in Journal 21] 19. Goldenberg Anna, Advances and Challenges of AI in Healthcare [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 32] 20. Goodman Ellen P., Smart City Ethics [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 15] 21. Gowder Paul, Legal Ethics in the Age of Law & Tech [2017 Ethics of AI in Journal 2] 22. Greene Daniel, Making Ethics in Machine Learning [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 33] 23. Halpern Joe, Moral Responsibility, Blameworthiness, and Intention: In Search of Formal Definitions [2017 Ethics of AI in Journal 4] 24. Hanna Alex, Data, Transparency, and AI Ethics [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 18] 25. Hannah-Moffat Kelly: Response to E.G. Rajan on Crime Prediction Support System [2018 Ethics of AI in Journal 20] 26. Heffernan Teresa, The Ethical Imagination: Humanities versus Artificial Intelligence [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 27] 27. Heffernan Teresa, AI, the Immortality Industry, and the Ethics of Death [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 22] 28. Hildebrandt Mireille, Legal Ethics in the Age of Law & Tech [2017 Ethics of AI in Journal 1] 29. Hildebrandt Mireille, The Ethics of Agonistic Machine Learning [2018 Ethics of AI in Journal 7] 30. Hume Kathryn, Ethical Algorithms: Bias and Explainability in Machine Learning [2018 Ethics of AI in Journal 14] 31. Jackson Jason, The Ethics of AI: A Political Economy Approach [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 13] 32. Jasanoff Sheila: Ethical Futures, Imagination and Governance in an Unequal World [2017 Ethics of AI in Journal 6] 33. Kearns Michael, The Ethical Algorithm [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 2] 34. Kingwell Mark, Respect and the Artificial Other [2017 Ethics of AI in Journal 5] 35. Koivisto Ida, Thinking Inside the Box: The Promise and Boundaries of Transparency in Automated Decision-Making [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 3] 36. Lanier Jaron Z., Ethics in the Digital Era, EDPS 2017, https://edps.europa.eu/press-publications/press-news/videos/ethics-digital-era-interview-jaron-lanier_en 37. Lauriault Tracey, From Aspiration to Reality: Open Smart Cities [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 3] 38. McIlraith Sheila, Making Good Decisions and Getting AI to Do the Same [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 17] 39. Pasquale Frank, Legal Ethics in the Age of Law & Tech [2017 Ethics of AI in Journal 3] 40. Posada Julian, The Future of Work is Here: Toward a Comprehensive Approach to Artificial Intelligence and Labour [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 16] 41. Rajan E.G. Crime Prediction Support System [2018 Ethics of AI in Journal 19]

		42. Robertson Kate, Cynthia Khoo, Yolanda Song, To Surveil and Predict: A Human Rights Analysis of Algorithmic Policing in Canada [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 19] 43. Rudzicz Frank, The Future of Automated Healthcare [2018 Ethics of AI in Journal 6] 44. Sauter Molly, Algorithmic Ethics and Personhood [2017 Ethics of AI in Journal 10] 45. Scassa Teresa, Pandemic Privacy (The Ethics of COVID) [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 4] 46. Searle John, Consciousness in Artificial Intelligence, Talks at Google, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHKwIYsPXLg 47. Sidewalk Toronto Revisited: Looking Back, Looking Ahead (Ethics in the City) (panel video) [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 6], https://c4ejournal.net/2020/05/26/sidewalk-toronto-revisited-looking-back-looking-ahead-ethics-in-the-city/ 48. Slee Tom, Private Sector AI: Ethics and Incentives [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 8] 49. Soden Robert, Responsible AI in Disaster Risk Management: A Community of Practice Perspective [2021 Ethics of AI in Journal 1] 50. Sunit Das, Vinyas Harish & Felipe Morgado, Artificial Intelligence, Medical Diagnostics and the Limits of Certainty [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 1] 51. Suriyakumar Vinith, Chasing Your Long Tails: Differentially Private Prediction in Health Care Settings [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 25] 52. The Future of Work in the Age of Automation and AI: An International & Interdisciplinary Workshop (conference video) [2020 Ethics of AI in Journal 5] 53. Thomasen Kristen, Out of Their Cages and Into the City: Robots, Regulation, and the Changing Nature of Public Spaces [2019 Ethics of AI in Journal 31] 54. Vardi Moshe, The Ethical Crisis in Computing? [2018 Ethics of AI in Journal 18] 55. Vervaeke John, Why the Creation of A.I. Requires the Cultivation of Wisdom on Our Part [2018 Ethics of AI in Journal 22] 56. Więckowski Zbigniew, Sztuczna inteligencja (AI) w prawie europejskim, ECPP 2021, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yJLCdJEgvk0 57. Zemel Richard, Ensuring Fair and Responsible Automated Decisions [2018 Ethics of AI in Journal 9]
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed		
Work placement	Not applicable	

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