



Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul

FACULDADE DE FILOSOFIA E CIÊNCIAS HUMANAS

PROGRAMA DE PÓS-GRADUAÇÃO EM FILOSOFIA

SYLLABUS

**COURSE: Introduction to Neurophilosophy VIII:
The ethics of artificial intelligence: critical approaches**

INSTRUCTORS Professors **Nythamar de Oliveira/Camila Palhares Barbosa**

71535-03 CREDITS: 3.0 45 h YEAR/SEMESTER: 2024/2

Tuesdays at 9 a.m. Room 229 Building 8 (School of Humanities - PUCRS)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will begin with an introduction to Bioethics, Neuroethics, and AI Ethics, and will proceed to present the contemporary debates on the subject and the various critiques of mainstream AI ethics, specially from racial theory, feminist and LGBTQIA+ demands to a more inclusive and diverse approach. No previous knowledge of neurophilosophy, bioethics, AI or moral epistemology is required. All classes, readings and discussions will be conducted in English, but there is no requirement of proficiency in this language as the seminar will contribute to improve students' functioning in English.

METHODOLOGY:

This class will be run seminar-style. Students will be encouraged to take part in discussions and present papers or serve as commentators. Student presentations will be similar to our workshop and class presentations, in which a mini-paper about the reading may be presented or an original contributing paper. Afterwards, fellow students will comment on the presentation.

OBJECTIVES:

An introduction to neurophilosophy, neurophenomenology, social epistemology, and in-depth discussions on major topics and problems of Social Epistemology, Neuroethics, AI Ethics. Reading assignments from major contributions to this field.

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PROGRAMMATIC CONTENTS:

Week 1: Self-introductions and presentation of the syllabus

Week 2: AI Ethics and Critical Theory - Camila

Reading assignment: Waelen, R. Why AI Ethics Is a Critical Theory. *Philos. Technol.* 35, 9 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13347-022-00507-5>

Week 3: AI Ethics and Critical Theory - Nythamar

Reading assignment: Oliveira, N. A decolonial critical theory of artificial intelligence: intersectional egalitarianism, moral alignment, and AI governance. *Dossier • Filos. Unisinos* 25 (1), 2024. <https://doi.org/10.4013/fsu.2024.251.14>

Week 4: Social choice ethics in artificial intelligence

Reading assignment: Baum, S.D. Social choice ethics in artificial intelligence. *AI & Soc* 35, 165–176 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00146-017-0760-1>.

Week 5: Algorithmic injustice

Reading assignment: Birhane, A. Algorithmic injustice: a relational ethics approach. *Perspective| Volume 2, ISSUE 2, 100205, February 12, 2021*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.patter.2021.100205>

Week 6: Moral Agency and Robots

Reading assignment: Véliz, C. Moral zombies: why algorithms are not moral agents. *AI & Soc* 36, 487–497 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00146-021-01189-x>

Week 7: Feminist Critique

Reading assignment: West, Sarah Myers (2020). Redistribution and Recognition: A Feminist Critique of Algorithm Fairness. *Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, Technoscience*, 6(2), 1–24. <http://www.catalystjournal.org> | ISSN: 2380-3312

Week 8: Applied Ethics in AI

Reading assignment: Sterri, A. B., & Earp, B. D. (in press). The ethics of sex robots. In C. Véliz (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Digital Ethics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Available online ahead of print at https://www.academia.edu/42871768/The_ethics_of_sex_robots.

Week 9: Algorithm Oppression: proposing a shift in the discussion

No Reading assignment: Presentation of a paper/draft by Camila

Week 10 to Week 15: Discussions and student presentations

Timnit Gebru, *Oxford Handbook on AI Ethics Book Chapter on Race and Gender* <https://arxiv.org/abs/1908.06165>



GRADING POLICY:

Grades are based on point accumulation throughout the fifteen weeks, comprising class participation (by attending classes, raising questions, sharing students' views, insights, comments, and criticisms with classmates), quizzes (multiple-choice or truth/false), short essays and/or a research paper.

AI Ethics, Gender & Race Bibliography

Benjamin, Ruha. *Race After Technology: Abolitionist Tools for the New Jim Code*. John Wiley & Sons, 2019.

Broussard, Meredith. *Artificial unintelligence: how computers misunderstand the world*. MIT Press, 2018.

Buolamwini, Joy, and Timnit Gebru. "Gender shades: Intersectional accuracy disparities in commercial gender classification." In *Conference on fairness, accountability and transparency*, pp. 77-91. 2018.

Dubber, Markus D., Frank Pasquale, and Sunit Das. *The Oxford Handbook of Ethics of AI*. Oxford University Press, 2020.

Eubanks, Virginia. *Automating inequality: How high-tech tools profile, police, and punish the poor*. St. Martin's Press, 2018.

Hamidi, Foad, Morgan Klaus Scheuerman, and Stacy M. Branham. "Gender recognition or gender reductionism?: The social implications of embedded gender recognition systems." In *Proceedings of the 2018 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*, 2018.

Hicks, Marie. *Programmed inequality: How Britain discarded women technologists and lost its edge in computing*. MIT Press, 2017.

Noble, Safiya U. *Algorithms of oppression: How search engines reinforce racism*. NYU Press, 2018.

O'Neil, Cathy. *Weapons of math destruction: How big data increases inequality and threatens democracy*. Broadway Books, 2016.

Stitzlein, Sarah M. "Replacing the 'View from Nowhere': A Pragmatist-Feminist Science Classroom." *Electronic Journal of Science Education* (2004).



BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY (Neuroethics, AI Ethics, Social and Political Emotions):

- Alcoff, Linda Martin and Eduardo Mendieta, eds. *Identities: Race, Class, Gender, and Nationality*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2008.
- Anderson, Elizabeth. "The Social Epistemology of Morality: Learning from the Forgotten History of the Abolition of Slavery", in *The Epistemic Life of Groups: Essays in the Epistemology of Collectives*, M. Brady and M. Fricker (eds.), Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.
- Athanasίου, Athena, Pothiti Hantzaroula, and Kostas Yannakopoulos. "Towards a New Epistemology: The Affective Turn." *Historein* 8 (2008).
- Bickle, John, Peter Mandik, and Anthony Landreth, "The Philosophy of Neuroscience", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Fall 2019 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <<https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2019/entries/neuroscience/>>.
- Blackburn, S. *Ruling Passions*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998.
- Ben-Ze'ev, Aaron. *The Subtlety of Emotions. A Bradford Book*. The MIT Press. Cambridge, Massachusetts. London, England, 2000.
- Ahmed, Sara. *Cultural Politics of Emotion*. Routledge, 2004 (2nd edition 2014)
- Bringsjord, Selmer and Naveen Sundar Govindarajulu, "Artificial Intelligence", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Summer 2020 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <<https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/sum2020/entries/artificial-intelligence/>>.
- Chalmers, David J. *The character of consciousness*. Oxford University Press, 2010.
- Chalmers, David J. *A Computational Foundation for the Study of Cognition*. 1994.
<http://consc.net/papers/computation.html>
- Chalmers, David J. *Reality+ : Virtual Worlds and the Problems of Philosophy*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2022.
- Churchland, Patricia. *Braintrust: What neuroscience tells us about morality*. Princeton U Press, 2011.
- Clough, Patricia Ticineto and Jean O'Malley Halley (eds), *The Affective Turn: Theorizing the Social*, Durham: Duke UP, 2007.
- Damásio, António. *Self Comes to Mind: Constructing the conscious brain*. Pantheon, 2010.
- Damásio, António. *Looking for Spinoza: Joy, sorrow and the feeling brain*. New York: Harcourt, Inc., 2003.
- Feenberg, A. 2017. *Technosystem: The social life of reason*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard University Press.
- Gibbard, Allan. *Wise choices, apt feelings: a theory of normative judgement*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1990.



- Haraway, Donna (1995). "Saberes localizados: a questão da ciência para o feminismo e o privilégio da perspectiva parcial". *Cadernos Pagu*, Campinas, SP, n. 5, p. 7-4. Disponível em: <<https://periodicos.sbu.unicamp.br/ojs/index.php/cadpagu/article/view/1773/1828>>
- Haraway, Donna. *Primate visions: gender, race, and nature in the world of modern science*. New York, Routledge. 1989.
- Harding, S. *The Science Question in Feminism*. Ithaca & Londres: Cornell U Press, 1986.
- Jaeggi, Rahel. *Critique of Forms of Life*. Harvard University Press, 2016.
- Lutz, C. A. and Lila Abu-Lughod, *Language and the Politics of Emotion*, Cambridge UP, 1990.
- Malabou, Catherine. *What Should We Do with Our Brain?* Fordham University Press, 2008.
- Malabou, Catherine. *Que faire de notre cerveau?* Bayard, 2004.
- Malabou, Catherine. *Morphing intelligence: From IQ measurement to artificial Brains*. Translated by Carolyn Shread. New York: Columbia University Press, 2019.
- Malabou, Catherine. *Métamorphoses de l'intelligence: Que faire de leur cerveau bleu?* Paris: PUF, 2017.
- Malabou, Catherine. *Ontologie de l'Accident: Essai sur la plasticité destructrice*. Paris: Léo Scheer, 2009.
- Malabou, Catherine. *Changer de différence: Le féminin et la question philosophique*. Paris: Galilée, 2009.
- Malabou, Catherine. *Les Nouveaux Blessés: De Freud à la neurologie, penser les traumatismes contemporains*. Paris: Bayard, 2007.
- Malabou, Catherine. The end of writing? Gramatology and plasticity. *The European Legacy: Towards new paradigms*, Cambridge, v. 12, n. 4, p. 431-444, 2007b.
- Malabou, Catherine. *La plasticité au soir de l'écriture: Dialectique, destruction, déconstruction*. Paris: Léo Scheer, 2005.
- Nussbaum, Martha. *Political emotions: Why love matters for justice*. Harvard U Press, 2013.
- Nussbaum, M. *Upheavals of Thought: The Intelligence of Emotions*. Cambridge University Press, 2001.
- Prinz, Jesse. *Gut Reactions: A Perceptual Theory of Emotion*. Oxford U Press, 2004.
- Rescorla, Michael, "The Computational Theory of Mind", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Fall 2020 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL = <<https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2020/entries/computational-mind/>>.
- Russell, Stuart J.; Norvig, Peter. *Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach*. 4th Edition. London: Pearson, 2022.
- Solomon, R. *Not Passion's Slave: Emotion and Choice*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003.
- Stets, Jan E. and Jonathan H. Turner (eds), *Handbook of the Sociology of Emotions*. New York: Springer, 2006
- White, G. M. "Emotions Inside Out: The Anthropology of Affect," in M. Lewis and J. M. Haviland (eds), *Handbook of Emotions*, New York: Guilford, 1993.
- Yates, Candida. *The Play of Political Culture, Emotion and Identity*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015.



Secondary Bibliography (Neurophilosophy):

- Bear, Mark, Barry Connors & Michael Paradiso. 2006. *Neuroscience: Exploring the Brain*. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. Third edition.
- Bickle, John (editor) 2008. *Oxford Handbook of Philosophy and Neuroscience*. Oxford University Press.
- Brogaard, Berit (editor). 2014a. *Does Perception Have Content?* Oxford University Press.
- Bueno, Otavio and Scott A. Shalkowski. 2015a. Modalism and Theoretical Virtues: Toward an Epistemology of Modality. *Philosophical Studies* Volume 172, Issue 3: 671–689.
- Chalmers, David J. 2002. *Philosophy of Mind: Classical and Contemporary Readings*. Oxford University Press.
- Changeux, Jean-Pierre & Paul Ricoeur. 1998. *Ce qui nous fait penser. La nature et la règle*. Paris: Odile Jacob. ET: *What Makes Us Think. A Neuroscientist and a Philosopher Argue About Ethics, Human Nature, and the Brain* (Princeton U. Press, 2000)
- Changeux, Jean-Pierre. 2005. Creation, Art and the Brain. In: Changeux et al. (Eds.) *The Neurobiology of Human Values*. New York: Springer-Verlag, 2005, p. 1-10.
- Changeux Jean-Pierre and Dehaene Stanislas (1989), Neuronal Models of Cognitive Function, *Cognition* 33, pp. 63–109.
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- Dancy, Jonathan. 2000. *Normativity*. Malden, Mass.: Blackwell.
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- Darwin, Charles. 1981. *The Descent of Man, and Selection in Relation to Sex*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
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- De Oliveira, Nythamar. 2016b. Revisiting the Mind-Brain Reductionisms: Contra Dualism and Eliminativism. *Veritas* 61/3 (2016)
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- Farah, Martha J. 2012. Neuroethics: The Ethical, Legal, and Societal Impact of Neuroscience. *The Annual Review of Psychology* 63: p. 571-591.
- Farah, Martha J. and Todd E. Feinberg, editors. 2005. *Patient-Based Approaches to Cognitive Neuroscience*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press.
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- Giordano, James, and Bert Gordijn, eds. 2010. *Scientific and Philosophical Perspectives in Neuroethics*. Cambridge University Press.
- Glannon, Walter. 2011. *Brain, Body, and Mind: Neuroethics with a Human Face*. O.U.P.
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