



Syllabus

Academic Year	2026/2027
Program	Data Science and Management
Course	Ethics for AI
Term	II semester
Year	1
SSD	M-FIL/02
Credits	4

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

Our society's economics, ethics, politics, and law—in short, our way of life—is being significantly and rapidly transformed as Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems are embedded in more and more facets of our lives. The course focuses on the ethical issues involved in the latest developments of AI, and in particular on the algorithmic judgment at its core, which as of today is developing at an impressive speed.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

They describe what a learner is expected to know, understand and be able to demonstrate after completion of a learning path.

Knowledge and understanding: Students will understand the foundations of ethics and the main differences between ancient and modern ethical approaches. They will also understand the key ethical challenges raised by digital technologies, especially algorithms and AI, and how these issues connect to debates in politics and law.

Applying knowledge and understanding: Students will be able to apply ethical theories and concepts to analyze real cases involving AI, algorithms, data, and social media. They will be able to identify risks, affected stakeholders, and possible ethical responses or mitigation strategies.

Making judgements: Students will develop the ability to critically evaluate ethical dilemmas in AI systems, including issues such as bias, fairness, accountability, privacy, and transparency. They will be able to compare alternative viewpoints and justify reasoned conclusions in complex and uncertain contexts.

Communication skills: Students will be able to communicate ethical analyses clearly and coherently, using appropriate terminology and structured argumentation. They will be able to explain ethical concerns and recommendations to both technical and non-technical audiences.

Learning skills: Students will strengthen their ability to independently explore emerging ethical issues in AI and digital technologies. They will be able to follow current debates and update their understanding as technologies, regulations, and societal expectations evolve.



Pre-requisites	No specific prerequisites are required.
Course content	This course will explore the ethical issues related to digital technologies, in particular AI and algorithms. In addition, the course will cover a range of current issues and topics through the application of important moral theories, exploring how digital technologies often challenge what we know about ethics, politics and law.
Reference Books	The course will be based on collection of top scientific articles and book excerpts. Articles and other materials (cases) will be available through the Luiss Learn platform.
Teaching Methods	The course will be based on lectures and classes organized around different lecture topics. Classes will entail additional material and cases that will illustrate the key ideas presented on each lecture. Students will be encouraged to actively participate in the lectures through questions, practical and theoretical elaborations.
Assessment	Assessment will consist of a written assignment. In the written assignment students are required to demonstrate that they can: <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Understand the foundations of ethics broadly· Understand the foundations of modern and ancient approaches to ethics and their main differences.· Have familiarity with the problems of ethics and some of the possible solutions specifically related to algorithms and AI· Apply their ethical understanding to analyze cases involving algorithms, AI, social media and data.
