



Module Specification

Introduction to Ethical AI

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Introduction to Ethical AI

Module code: UFCEHT-30-2

Level: Level 5

For implementation from: 2026-27

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Arts, Technology and Environment

School: CATE School of Computing and Creative Technologies

Partner institutions: University Centre Weston

Field: Computer Science and Creative Technologies

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module will introduce basic questions and concepts in artificial intelligence ethics, as well as more general philosophical questions about the ethical issues raised by the adoption of AI in our everyday life.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Educational aims:

- Develop a solid understanding of fundamental AI concepts and techniques.
- Explore the ethical considerations, legal issues, and moral implications associated with AI.
- Understand the pros and cons of AI and its societal impact.
- Prepare students for further studies in AI.
- Application and use of AI in academia

Outline syllabus: · Definition, scope, and ethical considerations of AI.

- What qualifies as AI versus traditional software and the ethical implications of AI decision-making in autonomous systems.
- Morality of creating and destroying AI, and conditions for AI moral status.
- Rule-based approaches (e.g., Asimov's Three Laws of Robotics), bottom-up approaches, and top-down approaches.
- Potential threats posed by AI and the alignment of human and AI aims e.g. the risk of AI surpassing human intelligence (AI singularity) and the ethical implications of AI in military applications.
- Ethical concerns of AI e.g. AI in warfare, moral dilemmas of autonomous vehicle decision-making in accident scenarios, societal impact of adult entertainment, privacy, and bias issues in AI healthcare diagnostics etc.
- Introduction to AI/ML, eg. regression, classification, and optimisation techniques.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Lectures covering the fundamental AI concepts and techniques, followed by practical delivery through a series of workshops, labs, and project-based tasks to develop the required skills. Regular discussions and presentations will foster critical thinking and communication skills.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Explain the key concepts, techniques, and applications in AI.

MO2 Discuss the ethical, legal, and moral implications of AI.

MO3 Implement simple machine learning techniques such as regression and classification.

MO4 Evaluate the results from a machine learning model.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/325E36C4-0DE5-C396-59FC-67DAA55AA0E9.html) via the following link <https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/325E36C4-0DE5-C396-59FC-67DAA55AA0E9.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The Ethical AI module is assessed through a combination of a report and a practical portfolio. Tutor-led formative feedback will be available throughout the module to support students in their learning and development.

Resit opportunities will follow the same format as a first sit. Re-working of assessments may be considered if appropriate.

Assessment tasks:

Report (First Sit)

Description: The 2000 Word Report will allow students to analyse a specific AI application, exploring its ethical, legal, and moral implications.

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Students are provided with a dataset and required to create and test a model. This includes implementing a simple AI model using techniques such as regression or classification and evaluating its performance.

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4

Report (Resit)

Description: The 2000 Word Report will allow students to analyse a specific AI application, exploring its ethical, legal, and moral implications.

Weighting: 70 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Students are provided with a dataset and required to create and test a model. This includes implementing a simple AI model using techniques such as regression or classification and evaluating its performance.

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Software Development [UCW] FdSc 2025-26

Cyber Security and Networking [UCW] FdSc 2025-26