Advanced Computer Ethics: A Study of Artificial Intelligence

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Advanced Computer Ethics: A Study of Artificial Intelligence

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Dr. Frances Grodzinsky & Dr. Amanda Moras
Computer Science: Game Design & Development

**THESIS**

**BACKGROUND & SIGNIFICANCE**

Considering that computer technologies are the fundamental infrastructure of the information age, ethical questions arise regarding access and control, privacy, property, identity, and professional responsibility. It is important to have a future Computer Scientists and Game Developers that understand the ethical boundaries involved in software development.

**A.I.: REALITY & FICTION**

As per the criteria and goals laid out by the proposal, the first portion of the work I completed in this thesis is Concept. Computer ethics course involved getting a better understanding on the effect of technology and the Technological Age on society, the role that Ethics plays in the field of Computer Science, and, to gain the ability to explain and critically analyze thematic issues, problems, and questions using the knowledge, concepts, and methods of inquiry from computer and information ethics alongside using logic and reason to communicate that knowledge in written argument form.

The extra work put in to my study of Artificial intelligence included doing out-of-class research for both my personal presentation and my final essay, which also dealt with the ethics involved in the creation (and "killing") of artificially intelligent machines like the Blade Runner movie. Given that we create artificial intelligence in a human likeness, it is important to pay attention to ethical consequences that follow from these creations. In regards to the Replicants of Blade Runner and Google's self-driving car, there are a lot of aspects about both that deal with ethical situations mostly attributed to humans: such as having rights, specifically. My presentation opened up a lot of discussion in regards to the ethics surrounding Google's car, and the conversation continued throughout the different topics of my presentation. I did indeed accomplish my thesis-created goal by making my oral presentation on Artificial Intelligence extremely thought-provoking and interactive, and my audience found it both interesting and informative.

**CONCLUSIONS**

To better understand the effect of technology and the Technological Age on society.

To recognize community and social responsibility in the development of software and a commitment to the common good.

To understand the power and responsibilities inherent in developing and using technology.

To learn to respect differences in race, culture, communication style and gender.

Objectives:

To gain the ability to explain and critically analyze ethical issues, problem, or questions using the knowledge, concepts, and methods of inquiry from computer and information ethics.

To develop the ability to communicate arguments in their writing and oral communications by integrating appropriate evidence.

**REFERENCES**


**GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

Goals:

To better understand the role that Ethics plays in the field of Computer Science.

To recognize community and social responsibility in the development of software and a commitment to the common good.

To learn how intellectual property is gathered, transmitted and shared.

To understand the power and responsibilities inherent in developing and using technology.

To learn to respect differences in race, culture, communication style and gender.

**METHODOLOGY**

As per the goals of this project, I will learn how to read, summarize and critique published scientific articles, books and selected case studies. I will also be exposed to the variety of written formats including user documentation, internal programming comments, journals, papers and discussion boards.

I will also use the critical thinking skills learned from the articles and books and apply them to my presentation on A.I., in order to not only present the topic on A.I., but also make a point as to why it’s important (and why it’s important to understand the ethics surrounding A.I.).

**PERSONAL REFLECTIONS**

As per the goals of this project, I will learn how to read, summarize and critique published scientific articles, books and selected case studies. I will also be exposed to the variety of written formats including user documentation, internal programming comments, journals, papers and discussion boards.

I will also use the critical thinking skills learned from the articles and books and apply them to my presentation on A.I., in order to not only present the topic on A.I., but also make a point as to why it’s important (and why it’s important to understand the ethics surrounding A.I.).

Considering that presentation topic does not have an article associated with it, I like the most of the students’ presentations, I intend on making more thorough reading and interacting via creative learning. In this sense, I will not be following the guidelines of a specific article or piece of literature. Yet, instead, be creating my own guidelines for this presentation to make it unique and engaging.

**CONCLUSIONS**

As per the criteria and goals laid out by the proposal, the first portion of the work I completed in this thesis is Concept. Computer ethics course involved getting a better understanding on the effect of technology and the Technological Age on society, the role that Ethics plays in the field of Computer Science, and, to gain the ability to explain and critically analyze ethical issues, problems, and questions using the knowledge, concepts, and methods of inquiry from computer and information ethics alongside using logic and reason to communicate that knowledge in written argument form.