Data, Artificial Intelligence and Inequality, Lectures

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Katsaus kursseistani / Kurssit / Data, Artificial Int-1XVG

📑 Uutiset

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What is AI, Data and Inequality course about?

This course is advanced and most suitable for students who enjoy interdisciplinary approaches to social sciences and are seeking knowledge about the contemporary information political sphere. Points of views covered by leading experts are: Internet Policy; Pareto Optimizing Accuracy and Fairness in AI design; IT Professional Ethics; Text Mining for Social Good; Automated Decision Making and Algorithmic Watch; Robotics, AI and Moral Action; Symphonic Social Science; Personal Data Activism – CASE: MyData-movement, and How the Finnish state AI-program Aurora was designed.

The AI, Data and Inequality -course focuses on the intersection of inequality and datafication.

"Datafication" here refers to an ongoing change in the infrastructure of contemporary societies where social interaction and decision-making in various everyday and institutional contexts is informed by increasing usage and analysis of data about human behavior. We look at how this general trend plays out in different contexts, what are its consequences and what kind of changes in suggests - both as a materially changing realities and new kinds of social imaginaries (the ways we think about the elements and forces of which society is made of).

In this course context "inequality" offers a critical lens to ask specific questions about the consequences and opportunities of datafication. As a general pervasive process that shapes social relations and order, datafication rearranges human relations and shapes operation logic of cultural, social and political institutions. It carries with it new kinds of opportunities but also risks relating to the existing social inequalities - ranging from profiling individuals, assessing their social worth and influencing their behavior to creating automatic algorithm-driven steering mechanisms and decision-making applications.

The crossroads of inequality and datafication also offers a useful point from which to think about the role of social inquiry in the contemporary situation.

The course structure aims at optimizing independent work, social reflection and delivering an up to date understanding of the relation of datafication and inequality. The introduction session will be held live. There after two video lecture based working packages are released each week of the course. Each session has a preliminary reading assigned, a short video lecture and a Q & A video with a visiting expert.

Having familiarized with the lecture theme, students are expected to come up with a thoroughly introduced and logically formed question that draws from the course material - a question that has gone unanswered to them, and contribute it at the course discussion forum for the course participants to discuss. These discussions will be reflected on also in a midway and finish live sessions.

At the end of the course students select the most intriguing question they have found during the course and write a short final academic essay of 1000 -1500 words introducing the importance of the question of their choice. The essay should utilize at least two readings introduced at the course and one cross referenced quality source of choice.

The course and live sessions will be held by Professor Risto Kunelius and PhD candidate Petteri Laine, who have also conducted the expert interviews presented on the course.

For questions you can write to petteri.laine@helsinki.fi

Welcome on the course!

Contacts

You can reach us best through:

Petteri Laine (petteri.laine@helsinki.fi), +358458990700

Risto Kunelius (risto.kunelius@helsinki.fi), 0401904085

Practical matters

The course consists of:

1. Recorded on-line lectures

The main content of the course are a series of quest lectures where scholars from University of Helsinki introduce specific issues related to digitalization, datafication, AI and use of algorithms. The selection includes lectures from data politics to ethics of artificial intelligence and from robotics to algorithmic decision making. Each lecture consists of a keynote talk, followed by questions and answers by the course coordinators. Lectures and discussions are **pre-recorded** and will be available on this moodle platform (we open two lectures every week). You can see the general outline on 6 weeks of lectures below, each lecture has its own section. You may view the lectures at the time of your own choosing and pace.

2. Assigned readings

For each lecture, we have designated one article or key text that *you have to read*. It is essential for your work on this course that you **read the core readings before viewing the lecture.** We also list other reading and resources for those who are inspired to engage more deeply into the topic. The readings are linked and/or listed in each lecture session. As the core readings necessarily offer only one entry point to the topic of the lecture, we encourage you to take advantage of the additional resources -- and welcome your suggestions about materials you might like to add on the course content.

3. Learning diary

In addition to viewing the lectures and reading the materials your work includes writing a reflective learning diary where you engage with the content of the lectures. Below, you can find a section where your diary entries can be submitted. Suggested length for an entry is **one proper logical paragraph**.

Generally speaking a good study journal entry picks up an idea, concepts, finding or argument from the lecture, reflects or questions it in the light of the readings (or your own experience, example, etc), and thus develops the conversation. A good entry can very well end up formulating a new question, something that we should all think about. During this course we focus particularly in formulating and asking a good question, thus the study journal entry does not have to include an argument. You do however need to *prime* your question in away that it relates to the material presented on the course and you do need to refer to specific content in rigorous academic manner.

These questions will be discussed on live-session with the class.

Remember that all entries are visible to all course participants.

To pass the course, you are required:

A) to write **a short academic essay (1000-1500 words)** on your chosen question. The essay should utilize at least *2 sources* presented on the course and in addition at least *1 **peer reviewed** quality source* of your own choosing.

B) submit **10 lecture diary** entries.

C) In addition we expect you to provide a **4 short comments** to other participants entries and engage in discussion with the comments you receive.

We strongly encourage you to submit each weeks entries at the end of the week. Keeping up with the pace of the course serves your learning, and also allows us to see how things are going.

4. Discussion sessions (optional)

As the course runs mostly on a flexible time plan, we remain open to online, live discussion along the way. We will organize a concluding the online live zoom discussion at the end of the course.

You are, of course, welcome to organize informal online-discussions among yourselves. Indeed, given the socially deprived conditions where we work at the moment, this would be highly recommended.

5. Final submission

At the end of the course we will ask you to revise your learning diary entries and choose a question to work on in your final "essay" submission. You will have a chance to edit and polish your points and arguments for this. For the grading (in terms of content) we will use the final version. Rigorous effort is expected and rewarded.

Final Essay submission deadline is on Friday **DEC 16th, 2022 at 2400H.**

6. Teaching locations

Date	Time	Location		Additional info
Tu 1/11/2022	2:15 PM–3:45 PM	Porthania, PIII,	Porthania, opens in new window ↗	+ Online lectures
Tu 8/11/2022	2:15 PM–3:45 PM			Online lectures
Tu 15/11/2022	2:15 PM–3:45 PM	Fab. 24, sali 532,	Fabianinkatu 24, opens in new window ↗	+ Online lectures
Tu 22/11/2022	2:15 PM–3:45 PM			Online lectures
Tu 29/11/2022	2:15 PM–3:45 PM	Fab. 24, sali 532,	Fabianinkatu 24, opens in new window ↗	+ Online lectures
Tu 6/12/2022	2:15 PM–3:45 PM			Online lectures
Tu 13/12/2022	2:15 PM–3:45 PM	Fab. 24, sali 532,	Fabianinkatu 24, opens in new window ↗	+ Online lectures

Learning Diary

📝 Learning Diary Entries

1. Please, open a learning diary *entry* in **your name**.

2. Write *an entry* **for each lecture topic** (max one A4 per topic)

3. Write a logical paragraph to *prime* your question, and then *ask a question* raised by each lecture, Q and A and the reading. These questions will be used as a structure for the LIVE reflection sessions.

Please, remember to use proper APA-style referencing with page numbers and bibliography! (Yes, also in your formal questions.)

4.   You may use this study journal and the discussions raised by your questions to support your argumentation in your final essay. You are advised to write your essay about the most intriguing question you have encountered during this course.

5.   Having written your study journal entry after each lecture, publish it on the Moodle-platform and *host the discussion around your entry*.

6.   Find 4 of your fellow students´ entries on the Moodle-platform and comment on their work and the questions they have raised. Should you find some entries that have not yet been commented on, give them preference. You may comment to more than 4 entries should you find interesting debates.

Week 1: NOV 1st Live and Independent work

Orientation session LIVE TUE 1.11.2022 1400H. Porthania, PIII and Zoom-link below

Course proceedings recording (Spring 2021)

Zoom link for the Data , AI and Inequality -course live sessions

Lecture 1: Introduction (Risto Kunelius and Petteri Laine)

READING: Data Colonialism - Rethinking Big Data's Relation to the Contemporary Subject; Couldry N. and Mejias U., 2019 Ladattu 18.03.2021 11:05

Abstract

We are often told that data are the new oil. But unlike oil, data are not a substance found in nature. It must be appropriated. The capture and processing of social data unfolds through a process we call data relations, which ensures the "natural" conversion of daily life into a data stream. The result is nothing less than a new social order, based on continuous tracking, and offering unprecedented new opportunities for social discrimination and behavioral influence. We propose that this process is best understood through the history of colonialism. Thus, data relations enact a new form of data colonialism, normalizing the exploitation of human beings through data, just as historic colonialism appropriated territory and resources and ruled subjects for profit. Data colonialism paves the way for a new stage of capitalism whose outlines we only glimpse: the capitalization of life without limit.

Professor Risto Kunelius - AI, Data and Inequality Introduction lecture (audio fixed)

Lecture Q and A

Preliminary literature Q and A

Lecture 2: Policy Horizons (Jockum Hildén)

READING: Grappling with Data Power - Normative Nudges from Data Protection and Privacy; Lynskey O., 2019 Ladattu 18.03.2021 11:10

Introduction

The power exercised by technology companies is attracting the attention of policymakers, regulatory bodies and the general public. This power can be categorized in several ways, ranging from the "soft power" of technology companies to influence public policy agendas to the "market power" they may wield to exclude equally efficient competitors from the marketplace. This Article is concerned with the "data power" exercised by technology companies occupying strategic positions in the digital ecosystem. This data power is a multifaceted power that may overlap with economic (market) power but primarily entails the power to profile and the power to influence opinion formation. ...

Dr. Jockum Hildén - General Introduction to Internet Policies Mini-lecture

ADI2021 dr. Jockum Hildén Q and A-session

Further connections from dr. Jockum Hildén Ladattu 18.03.2021 11:16

Week 2: NOV 7 Independent work

Lecture 3: Robotics, AI and moral action (Pekka Mäkelä)

`Rajoitettu` Saatavilla **7. marraskuuta 2022** alkaen

Lecture 4: Pareto Optimal Accuracy and Fairness (Antti Honkela)

`Rajoitettu` Saatavilla **7. marraskuuta 2022** alkaen

Week 3: NOV 14 Live and Independent work

[Tuesday 15th 1400H - LIVE Reflection with Pekka Mäkelä. Fab. 24, sali 532, Fabianinkatu 24 and Zoom link will be provided here.](#)

[Zoom link for the Data , AI and Inequality -course live session](#)

Lecture 5: Symphonic Social Science (Mika Pantzar)

`Rajoitettu` Saatavilla **14. marraskuuta 2022** alkaen

Lecture 6: Introducing Computational Social Sciences: Text Mining For Societal Good - Professor Krista Lagus

`Rajoitettu` Saatavilla **14. marraskuuta 2022** alkaen

Week 4: NOV 21 Independent work

Lecture 7: Automated Decision Making and Algorithmic Watch - Minna Ruckenstein

`Rajoitettu` Saatavilla **21. marraskuuta 2022** alkaen

Lecture 8: CASE MyData-movement - Personal Data Activism in the Times of Paradigmatic Change (Petteri Laine)

`Rajoitettu` Saatavilla **21. marraskuuta 2022** alkaen

Week 5: NOV 28 Live and Independent work

[TUE 29th 1400H Live Reflection with Digitalization and AI expert Leevi Saari from EU MEP Kumpula-Natri's cabinet. Fab. 24, sali 532, Fabianinkatu 24 and Zoom link below](#)

[Zoom link for the Data , AI and Inequality -course live session](#)

Lecture 9: IT-Professional Ethics (Kai Korpimies)

`Rajoitettu` Saatavilla **28. marraskuuta 2022** alkaen

Lecture 10: CASE Aurora AI - Finnish State AI Design (Aleksi Kopponen)

`Rajoitettu` Saatavilla **28. marraskuuta 2022** alkaen

Week 6: DEC 5th - Independent work. Write your essay.

Week 7: Live and Independent work. Finalise your essay.

[TUE DEC 13th 1400H Final Live Reflection. Fab. 24, sali 532, Fabianinkatu 24 and Zoom-link below](#)

🌐 [Zoom link for the Data , AI and Inequality -course live session](#)

[Final Essay Submission DL FRIDAY DEC 16TH 2400H](#)

Olet kirjautunut nimellä [Emma Maas](#). ([Kirjaudu ulos](#))

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