Governing Artificial Intelligence

Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
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Instructor: Sushant Kumar
E mail: sushant.kumar@jgu.edu.in
Lectures:
Classroom:
Office hours:

Course Description: What is Artificial Intelligence? How did we get here with this technology? How does Generative AI impact young learner's learning abilities? How do we assess its usefulness against its harms? How do AI data centers impact our physical environment? What kind of labour issues are embedded in the AI value chain? Should innovations like AI be allowed at any cost? How do we balance the need for innovation against issues of safety, privacy and dignity of humanity? How are countries and communities across the world grappling with the challenge thrown up by this technology? How is India responding? Should we merely bandwagon the geopolitical race for developing the next large language model? Or should we listen to the needs of our people and see if AI is one of the answers or not before pushing the technology? Basically, proof of concept and the need for technology in the first place before pouring in thousands of crores of public money. How do we govern emerging technologies with uncertain outcomes? These are just some of the burning questions we as society are faced with in the age of AI that this course will help explore.

Course Intended Learning Objectives (Aim)"

After successful completion and engaging participation in the course, you should be able to:

- Know proper usage of the term "AI" and its history
- Have a critical understanding of issues plaguing different kinds of AI technology
- Analyze global governance models on AI
- Understand India's policies and initiatives regarding AI technology
- Apply anticipatory governance models and futures thinking on AI

In terms of skills useful for your academic and non-academic career in general, you should be able to:

- Critically read policy literature and synthesize major viewpoints in scholarly manner
- Cultivate habit of scholarly writing regularly
- Sharpen analytical abilities and develop critically engaging arguments
- Develop oral presentation and persuasion skills
- Develop scientific writing skills
- Improve skills to provide constructive criticism and engage in scholarly peer-review process

3. Scheme of Evaluation and Grading

Evaluation is comprised of two components: **internal (50%)** and **external (50%). Internal evaluation** is comprised of:

Classroom reading (10%): Each student will introduce and present an assigned reading once a semester during class at a given time (5 points). The introduction will reflect the nature of the reading, the basis of the argument of the author and have 3-4 questions for class to discuss together. Apart from this, all students will be assessed for completing class readings diligently in every class and half of this grade (5 points) will go towards that.

2 Assignments (20% each): Each student will complete two assignments during the period of the course. The exact nature and content of the assignments will be communicated to students in time.

All assignments will be run through plagiarism and AI detectors and points will be deducted in proportion of AI use percentage.

The **external (50%)** component will comprise of an in-class examination held during the final examination week of the University.

4. Grading
As per JSGP/JGU grading pattern.

5. Academic Integrity

Academic Honesty, Cheating, and Plagiarism: As per University policy. All papers and presentations are an individual effort. Unless specified, you are strongly recommended to do your own work.

Participation/Attendance Policy: As per University policy. You are required to have a minimum of 75% attendance to be able to not obtain a "no-bar" status for this course. You will receive an attendance only if you attend the entire class. Please refrain from coming up with any excuse for a late show-up in the class.

Amendments: The instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus during the semester. In the event of a change, the class will be informed at the next session and an updated copy of the syllabus will be posted for the students. Students are required to have the latest version of the syllabus.

6. Disability support
Should you need any services or accommodation, due to a disability, to fully participate in class proceedings or during the examination, please contact the disability services immediately at disabilitysupport@jgu.edu.in.

7. Keyword Syllabus: Artificial Intelligence, Public Policy, Policymaking, Governance, Institutions, Science and Technology

8. Session Plans and readings (tentative)

Essential Readings: All readings on the syllabus will be posted on canvas. We won't follow one textbook as such, but Stilgoe's *Who's Driving Innovation* and Narayanan and Kapoor's *AI Snake Oil* would come up more than a few weeks. I will post individual chapters of the book as needed. Those interested can ofcourse purchase a hard copy.

Stilgoe, J. (2020). Who's driving innovation. *New Technologies and the Collaborative State. Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan*.

Narayanan, A., & Kapoor, S. (2024). AI snake oil: What artificial intelligence can do, what it can't, and how to tell the difference. In *AI Snake Oil*. Princeton University Press.

Additional assigned articles and material will be available through the course site. If you have any problems opening them, please contact the course instructor.

Module 1: History and foundations of AI

Module 2: Hallucinations, Bias, Environmental and other Problems

Module 3: Geopolitics and Global Value Chain in AI

Module 4: AI Data Centres, Labour Issues

Module 5: Indian AI Policies and Initiatives

Module 6: Governance Frameworks

Tentative Topics & Readings

I. History and foundations of AI

Historical evolution of AI

AI snake oil Introduction

https://fortune.com/2025/09/03/what-previous-ai-winters-can-tell-investors-and-executives-about-what-might-be-coming-next-for-ai/?trk=feed_main-feed-card_feed-article-content

Jill (2022). "ChatGPT is multilingual but monocultural, and it's learning your values." December 6.

II. Issues

AI Hallucination

Why an overreliance on AI-driven modelling is bad for science— Narayanan and Kapoor

Gender Bias

Environmental Problems

Content Moderation— Snake Oil Ch 6

III. **Human in the loop movie**

IV. Geopolitics, Global Value chain

Data colonialism

U.S, China, Europe and India

AI Data Centres and local conflicts

V. Labour issues

Data annotation work

Ghost workers

China Vocational Training

VI. Indian AI Policy

People Centered Approach to Indian AI Policy

AI Nationalisms

Vigyan Dhara

NITI Aayog Paper

VII. Governance Frameworks

Responsible AI

EU AI Act

U.S AI Bill of Rights

AI Safety Institutes

Red Teaming

Digital Public Infrastructure

AI as Normal Technology

Anticipatory Governance

Snake Oil Chapter 7

Long List of Readings (tentative):

1. Jack Stilgoe (2023). "We need a Weizenbaum test for AI." Science. August 11. https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.adk0176
2. Jill (2022). "ChatGPT is multilingual but monocultural, and it's learning your values." December 6.

3. **Pause Giant AI Experiments: An Open Letter** https://futureoflife.org/open-letter/pause-giant-ai-experiments/
4. Future of Life Institute (2023). *Policymaking in the Pause: What can Policymakers Do Now to Combat Risks from Advanced AI Systems?*
5. AI Hallucinations: https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-025-00068-5
6. AI Snake Oil Introduction, chapter 6, 7
7. AI and Future of Personhood Intro
8. Johanna Okerlund, Evan Klasky, Aditya Middha, Sujin Kim, Hannah Rosenfeld, Molly Kleinman, Shobita Parthasarathy (2022). *What's in the Chatterbox? Large Language Models, Why They Matter, and What We Should Do About Them*. *https://stpp.fordschool.umich.edu/sites/stpp/files/2022-04/UM%20TAP%20Large%20Language%20Models%20Executive%20Summary%202022.pdf*
9. https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/14/technology/china-surveillance-artificial-intelligence-racial-profiling.html
10. Surveillance Humanitarianism: https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/11/opinion/data-humanitarian-aid.html
11. https://ainowinstitute.org/publication/analyzing-indias-ai-industrial-policy
12. https://www.epw.in/journal/2024/40/insight/what-would-people-centred-ai-policy-india-look.html
13. AI governance in India – law, policy and political economy by Divij Joshi. https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/10193736/1/AI%20governance%20in%20India%20law%20policy%20and%20political%20economy.pdf
14. Provocation on AI Sovereginity : https://cdn.sanity.io/files/cfrp3y1m/production/12a38b33cd77eff1e15025165a08096d31064a43.pdf
15. MPs discourse: https://cerai.substack.com/p/indian-mps-are-also-curious-about?just_subscribed=true
16. Governance fix https://academic.oup.com/policyandsociety/advance-article/doi/10.1093/polsoc/puae022/7702536

Field Code Changed

17. Eric Lander and Alondra Nelson (2021). "Americans Need a Bill of Rights for an AI-Powered World." *WIRED.* October 8.
18. Mohamed, S., Png, MT. & Isaac, W. Decolonial AI: Decolonial Theory as Sociotechnical Foresight in Artificial Intelligence. *Philos. Technol.* **33**, 659–684 (2020). https://doi.org/10.1007/s13347-020-00405-8
19. Delhi Predictive Policing: https://www.vidushimarda.com/storage/app/media/uploaded-files/fat2020-final586.pdf

AI & Environment

1. https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/musk-xai-colossus-supercomputer-boxtown-memphis-tennessee-rcna206242

2. https://codegreenasia.substack.com/p/issue-01

3. **https://codegreenasia.substack.com/p/issue-06-critical-panic?utm_source=substack&publication_id=2949816&post_id=158352819&utm_medium=email&utm_content=share&utm_campaign=email-share&triggerShare=true&isFreemail=true&r=588qaq&triedRedirect=true**

Copyright

4. Usage of copyright content: Digital news publishers join legal battle against Openai: Indian express

Future of work

5. Future of work report: Digital Futures Lab

Gender bias

6. https://digitalfutureslab.notion.site/From-Code-to-Consequence-Interrogating-Gender-Biases-in-LLMs-within-the-Indian-Context-1069c92254ab80e4bdfce1f2b004a42f

7. The gendered nature of AI: Men and masculinities through the lens of ChatGPT and GPT4

Governance

8. https://www.responsible.ai/navigating-organizational-ai-governance/

9. EU AI ACT: https://www.trail-ml.com/blog/eu-ai-act-how-risk-is-classified
10. https://www.wired.com/story/ai-desperately-needs-global-oversight/
11. Review of ethics guidelines: https://www.nature.com/articles/s42256-019-0088-2
12. Participative Approach, CeRAI
13. **https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2025/01/06/ai-decision-making-doesnt-need-to-be-explainable-but-it-should-be-responsive/**
14. Platform cooperativism: https://itforchange.net/sites/default/files/2009/Gender-Perspectives-Digital-Economy-Sapni-GK.pdf
15. Better Feeds: Algorithms That Put People First
16. It's just distributed computing: Rethinking AI governance
17. Shoshana Zuboff—Age of Surveillance capitalism and AI

AI, social media and society

1. *Content moderation chapter from AI snake oil, ch 6*
2. Karen Hao (2021, March 11). "How Facebook got addicted to spreading misinformation." *Technology Review.*
3. G. Lewis-Kraus, "How Harmful Is Social Media?", New Yorker, June 3, 2022.
4. https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2023/12/11/teens-social-media-and-technology-2023/
5. **https://www.cbsnews.com/news/meta-facebook-instagram-children-teens-harm/**
6. https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/mark-zuckerbergs-gamble-and-the-risks-of-privatising-digital-public-spaces-9781107/
7. https://www.nytimes.com/live/2025/01/07/business/meta-fact-checking

8. https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-00902-2