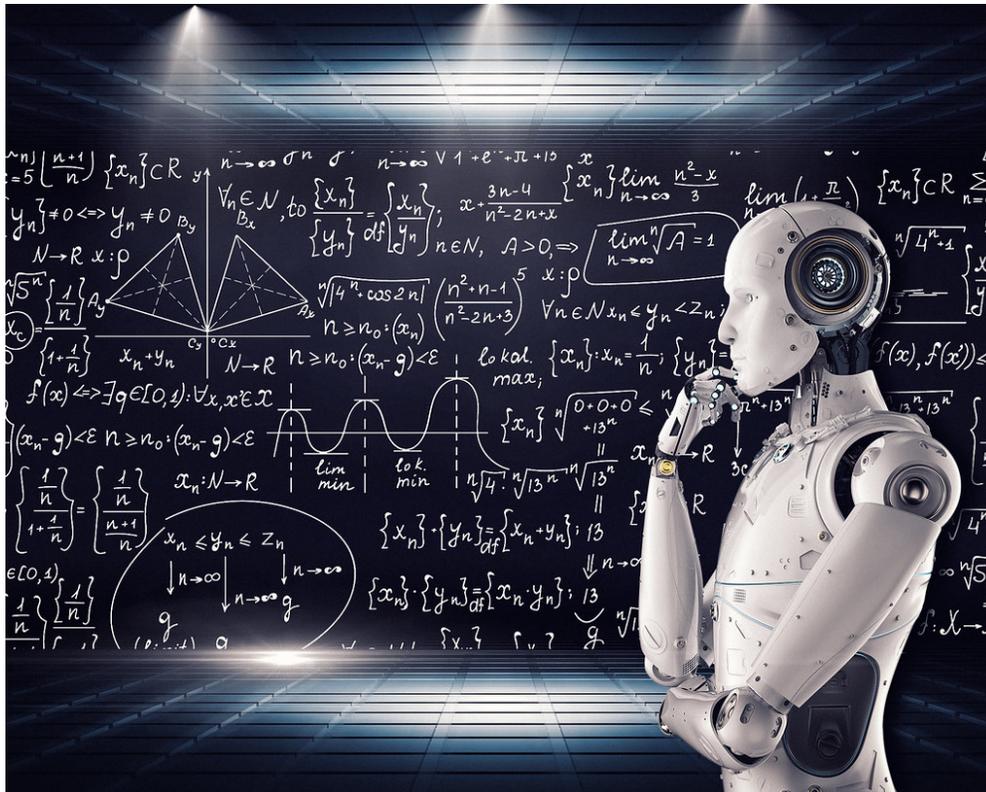Philosophy 134-84 Computers, Ethics, and Society

Format: Online, Asynchronous

Fall 2022

Dr. Javier Cardoza-Kon

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In the digital age, we increasingly spend our lives online, and a growing part of philosophical thinking reflects this meaningful change. This course applies moral, epistemological and political thinking to normative issues surrounding the use of the internet. We will cover moral theories and apply them to real world issues involving social media, government intervention, privacy, democracy, and revolution.. Questions we will discuss include the following: what is the value of anonymous interaction; what challenges do epistemic bubbles, echo chambers and fake news pose to democracy; what should be the limits of free expression on the internet; why should we care about online privacy (if at all); is hacktivism an acceptable form of civil disobedience, and how are algorithms biased against minorities?

GE Area: V. Prerequisites: Completion of core GE, satisfaction of Writing Skills Test and upper division standing.