

Course ID Courseclass:	231493 993SEPTSAIS19 (AI) – 231457 505TESOTESS19 (T&S)
Course:	SE Seminar in AI (Master Artificial Intelligence) SE Technology and Society (Bachelor/Master Sociology)
Instructor:	René Werner, M.A. E-Mail: rene.werner@jku.at
Hours / ECTS:	2 SSt. / 3 ECTS (AI) or 6 ECTS (Sociology)
Dates:	kusss.jku.at
Teaching Contents:	
<p>The seminar addresses the interrelation between technology and society. It is based on the discussion of theoretical and empirical texts, which offer insights into different aspects of the interplay between technology and society. We will address questions such as: How does technology shape society and is shaped by society? How are future technologies designed and who is being included/excluded in their creation and usage? How can we understand the prevalence and influence of algorithms in our everyday life?</p>	
Learning Objectives:	
<p>Students will study the co-constitutive and recursive properties of technology and (modern) society (1). They will engage with key theoretical and methodological approaches and will have a chance to look at the world from these sociological perspectives by discussing them (2). They will show what they'll have learned by writing reading cards and a term paper in which they engage with a topic of their own choosing in the broader context of this course (3).</p>	
Criteria for evaluation:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular attendance: 5 of 7 sessions. If you don't meet this criterion you can still pass by compensating with additional tasks. Active participation is also expected. Attendance and participation are not graded. • Preparation of reading cards for every text (in sum 10) where you show that you have engaged with the text. It is one Din-A4-page long. Reading cards of the same session are graded and in sum make up 50 % of the final grade. • Term paper: 10 pages in which you engage with the topic of the course (sociological perspective of the interrelation between technology and society) by choosing your own specific focus. You are expected to conduct your own literature research for the term paper's topic. The term paper makes up the second 50 % of your grade for the course. • Participants of Seminar in AI (231493) need to hand in 4 reading cards (not 10), and their term paper has a length of 6 pages (not 10), since they get 3 ECTS. 	
Teaching Methods:	
<p>The course will consist of a combination of reading-oriented discussion and other practical exercises. Basis for our discussions will be the literature of the sessions. We will engage with the texts in a variety of ways (e.g. plenary and small-group work). Students will also share and present their findings and discussion results. Furthermore, we will transfer the sociological perspectives from the texts by applying them to new examples and cases. We will compare perspectives from different texts and sessions and we will develop hypothetical research projects.</p>	
Literature:	
<p>The literature for the sessions will be available on Moodle. It is expected to conduct further literature research for the seminar paper.</p>	
Language: English	
Further Information: Incoming students are welcome.	