Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Media and Communication Studies

# Course Reading

## Data, Power and Ethics

**Valid from 01/20/2025**

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| **Course Code:** | MKGB95 |
| **Course Title:** | Data, Power and Ethics |
| **Credits:** | 7.5 |
| **Degree Level:** | Undergraduate level |

### Books

Bucher, T. (2018). *If...then: Algorithmic power and politics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Dyer-Witheford, N., Kjøsen, A. M., & Steinhoff, J. (2019). *Inhuman power: Artificial intelligence and the future of capitalism*. London: Pluto

Morris, J. W., & Murray, S. (2018). *Appified: Culture in the age of apps*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press http://biblos.kau.se/record=b1692628~S2

Stark, B., Stegmann, D., Magin, M., & Jürgens, P. (2020). *Are algorithms a threat to democracy? The rise of intermediaries: A challenge for public discourse*. Algorithm Watch https://algorithmwatch.org/en/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Governing-Platforms-communications-study-Stark-May-2020-AlgorithmWatch.pdf (chapters 1-4, pp. 6-27)

### Book Chapter

McNamara, D., Graham, T., Broad, E., & Ong C. (2019). Trade-offs in algorithmic risk assessment: An Australian domestic violence case study. In Daly, S. Devitt, & M. Mann (Editor). *Good data* (p. 96-116) Institute of Network Cultures https://networkcultures.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Good_Data.pdf

Seaver, N. (2019). Knowing algorithms. In J. Vertesi & D. Ribes (Editor). *DigitalSTS: A field guide for science & technology studies* (p. 412-422) Princeton University Press https://doi.org/10.1515/9780691190600-028

### Articles

boyd, danah & Crawford, Kate (2012). Critical Questions for Big Data. *Information, Communication & Society*, *15* (5), p. 662-679. https://doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2012.678878

Caplan, R., Donovan, J., Hanson, L., & Matthews, J. (2018). Algorithmic accountability: A primer. *Data & Society*. https://datasociety.net/wpcontent/uploads/2018/04/Data_Society_Algorithmic_Accountability_Primer_FINAL-4.pdf

Couldry, N., & Mejias, U. A. (2019). Data colonialism: Rethinking big data's relation to the contemporary subject. *Television & New Media*, *20* (4), p. 336-349. https://doi.org/10.1177/1527476418796632

Gillespie, T. (2010). The politics of platforms. *New Media & Society*, *12* (3), p. 347-364. https://doi.org/10.1177/1461444809342738

Gorwa, R (2021). Elections, institutions, and the regulatory politics of platform governance: The case of the German NetzDG. *Telecommunications Policy*, *45* (6). https://doi.org/10.1016/j.telpol.2021.102145.

Gorwa, R (2019). What is platform governance?. *Information, Communication & Society*, *22* (6), p. 854-871

Gorwa, R., Binns, R., & Katzenbach, C. (2020). Algorithmic content moderation: Technical and political challenges in the automation of platform governance. *Big Data & Society*, *7* (1)

Helberger, N. (2020). The political power of platforms: How current attempts to regulate misinformation amplify opinion power. *Digital Journalism*, *8* (6), p. 842-854. https://doi.org/10.1080/21670811.2020.1773888

Herschel, R., & Miori, V. M. (2017). Ethics & big data. *Technology in Society*, *49*, p. 31-36. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160791X16301373

Illiadis, A. & Russo, F. (2016). Critical data studies: An introduction. *Big Data & Society*, *3* (2). https://doi.org/10.1177%2F2053951716674238

Jungherr, A (2023). Artificial Intelligence and Democracy: A Conceptual Framework. *Social Media + Society*, *9* (3). https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051231186353

Mann, M. & Matzner, T. (2019). Challenging algorithmic profiling: The limits of data protection and anti-discrimination in responding to emergent discrimination. *Big Data & Society*, *6* (2). https://doi.org/10.1177%2F2053951719895805

McDermott, Y. (2017). Conceptualising the right to data protection in an era of Big Data. *Big Data & Society*, *4* (1). https://doi.org/10.1177%2F2053951716686994

Milan, S. (2017). Data activism as the new frontier of media activism: preprint of paper in G. Yang & V. Pickard (2017). (eds.), Media activism in the digital age. *SSRN Scholarly Paper ID 2882030*. https://ssrn.com/abstract=2882030

Nielsen, RK & Ganter, SA (2018). Dealing with digital intermediaries: A case study on the relations between publishers and platforms. *New Media & Society*, *20* (4), p. 1600-1617

Tsamados, A., Aggarwal, N., Cowls, J., Morley, J., Roberts, H., Taddeo, M., & Floridi, L. (2020). The ethics of algorithms: Key problems and solutions. *SSRN Scholarly Paper ID 3662302*. https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3662302

Zwitter, Andrej (2014). Big Data ethics. *Big Data & Society*, *1* (2). http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/2053951714559253

**Web resources**

Carey, Benedict (2019, January 30). This is your brain off Facebook. New York Times. www.nytimes.com/2019/01/30/health/facebook-psychology-health.html

Diakopoulos, N. & Friedler, S. (2016, November 17). How to Hold Algorithms Accountable. Technology Review. https://www.technologyreview.com/s/602933/how-to-hold-algorithms-accountable/

franzke, aline shakti, Bechmann, Anja, Zimmer, Michael, Ess, Charles, & the Association of Internet Researchers (2020). Internet research: Ethical guidelines 3.0. https://aoir.org/reports/ethics3.pdf

Lewis, Paul (2017, October 6). "Our minds can be hijacked": The tech insiders who fear a smartphone dystopia. The Guardian. www.theguardian.com/technology/2017/oct/05/smartphone-addiction-silicon-valley-dystopia

**Reference material**

Bigo, D., Isin, E., & Rupert, E. (eds.) (2019). *Data politics: Worlds, subjects, rights*. Abingdon: Routledge https://library.oapen.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.12657/24706/9781138053250_text.pdf (chapters 4, 7, 9, and 12)

Ess, C. (2020). *Digital media ethics: Digital media and society series* (Third edition). Cambridge, MA: Polity

Flew, T. & F. Martin, R. (2020). *Digital platform Regulation*. Palgrave

Girasa, R (2020). Bias, Jobs, and Fake News. In Girasa, Robert (Editor). *Artificial Intelligence as a Disruptive Technology: Economic Transformation and Government Regulation* () Palgrave Macmillan https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-35975-1_6

Heldt, A. P. (2022). EU digital Services Act: The White Hope of Intermediary Regulation. In T. Flew and F. R. Martin (Editor). *Digital platform Regulation* () Palgrave Macmillan

Kearns, M. & Roth, A. (2020). *The ethical algorithm: The science of socially aware algorithm design.* Oxford: Oxford University Press

Van Hoboken, J. (2019). The privacy disconnect. In R. F. Jørgensen (Editor). *Human rights in the age of platforms* (pp. 255-284) Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press https://library.oapen.org/handle/20.500.12657/24492

Additional course readings of 50-100 pages will be provided by the course convenor.

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Approved by the Faculty Board of Arts and Social Sciences 08/28/2024