

ERASMUS

SOCIOLOGY

1	Name of the course	Algorithmic Age: How Artificial Intelligence is Reshaping the Social World
2	Name and surname of the lecturer, title / academic degree	Jarosław Chodak, Ph.D.
3	Language	english
4	Website	
5	Semestr	Winter and summer
6	ECTS and number of hours	<p>Hours with the participation of an academic teacher:</p> <p>Lecture 30h, 5 ECTS Consultations 2h Total number of hours with the participation of an academic teacher 32h Number of ECTS credits with the participation of an academic teacher 3</p> <p>Non-contact hours (student's own work) Studying literature 10 h Preparation to the exam 18h Total number of non-contact hours 28h Number of ECTS points for non-contact hours 2</p> <p>Total number of ECTS points 5</p>
7	Prerequisites	English B1-B2
8	Description of the course	<p>The Algorithmic Age signifies a period where Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a powerful force reshaping the social world. This course traces AI's evolution from foundational concepts to cutting-edge generative AI, exploring how these technologies function, their vast potential, and inherent limitations.</p> <p>It examines AI's transformative effects on work, culture, democracy, and personal connections, including concepts like 'algorithmic intimacy.' The curriculum delves into pressing issues such as disinformation, algorithmic bias, surveillance, and the complex ethical dilemmas surrounding AI governance. Ultimately, this course aims to provide the understanding to critically assess and navigate the profound societal shifts driven by AI, fostering reflection on the collective future in an increasingly algorithmic world. It offers an exploration of one of the most defining challenges and opportunities of our time.</p>

9	Topics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. From Turing to Generative AI: The Foundations and Evolution of Artificial Intelligence 2. How Artificial Intelligence Works 3. The Limits and Potential of AI: Language, Contextual Reasoning, Creativity, and Emotions 4. The Impact of Digital Technologies on Social Interactions 5. The Future of Work: Automation, Robotization, and New Employment Models 6. AI's Influence on Entertainment and Culture: Revolution, Homogenization, or Content Nihilism? 7. The Power of Algorithms: Social Implications of Control and Surveillance 8. Algorithmic Intimacy: Exploring Emotional Bonds with AI Companions and Digital Entities 9. Democracy in the Age of AI: Threats and New Opportunities 10. AI, Polarization, and the Fragmentation of Society 11. "The Unbearable Lightness of Being" of Algorithms: Disinformation, Deepfakes, and Computational Propaganda 12. The Sociology of Algorithms: Machine Habitus and New Forms of Socialization 13. Theoretical Frameworks for Understanding AI's Societal Challenges 14. To Regulate or Not to Inhibit?: Ethical Dilemmas in AI Governance 15. The Future of Humanity in the Algorithmic Age: Coexistence, Transcendence, or Existential Risk?
10	Literature	<p>Required Reading:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Crawford, K. (2021). The Atlas of AI: Power, Politics, and the Planetary Costs of Artificial Intelligence. Yale University Press. 2. Elliott, A. (2022). Making Sense of AI: Our Algorithmic World. Polity Press. 3. Elliott, A. (Ed.). (2022). The Routledge Social Science Handbook of AI. Routledge. 4. Kaplan, J. (2016). Artificial intelligence: what everyone needs to know. Oxford University Press. 5. Nowotny, H. (2021). In AI We Trust: Power, Illusion and Control of Predictive Algorithms. Polity. <p>Supplementary:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Airoidi, M. (2022). Machine Habitus: Toward a Sociology of Algorithms. Polity Press. 2. Elliott, A. (2022). Algorithmic Intimacy: The Digital Revolution in Personal Relationships. John Wiley & Sons. 3. Elliott, A. (2024). Algorithms of Anxiety: Fear in the Digital Age. John Wiley & Sons. 4. Kislev, E. (2022). Relationships 5.0: How AI, VR, and Robots Will Reshape Our Emotional Lives. Oxford University Press. 5. Narayanan, A., & Kapoor, S. (2024). AI Snake Oil: What Artificial Intelligence Can Do, What It Can't, and How to Tell the Difference. Princeton University Press.

11	Learning outcomes	<p>Knows and understands at an advanced level selected facts, objects and phenomena in the field of sociological sub-disciplines as well as other detailed social issues (K_W02) P6U_W P6S_WG</p> <p>Student can use his/her sociological knowledge in predictable conditions and in conditions requiring non-standard solutions (K_U01) P6U_U P6S_UW</p> <p>Can discuss social issues and critically evaluate the positions of other debaters (K_U06) P6U_U P6S_UK</p>
12	Method of verification of learning outcomes (separately for each effect)	<p>K_W02: exam</p> <p>K_U01: exam</p> <p>K_U06: exam</p>
13	Teaching methods	<p>informative lecture</p> <p>problem-based lecture</p>
14	<p>1. Assessment methods</p> <p>2. Assessment criteria</p>	<p>1. exam</p> <p>2. passing grade for a minimum of 50% positive responses</p>