



## Prescription

This course looks at the range of applications of artificial intelligence in the world of today and the future. It surveys the kinds of problem that can be solved with AI technology and techniques and considers the implications and consequences of using AI technology in these applications. It will discuss the positive and negative outcomes and the ethical issues and principles that need to be considered when creating technological solutions using AI.

## Course learning objectives

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Identify potential applications of Artificial Intelligence in a wide variety of domains.
2. Explain a range of different AI techniques and their strengths, limitations, and applicability.
3. Critically discuss the possible consequences and ethical implications of applying AI techniques to a task or domain.
4. Critically evaluate research papers and popular articles describing AI techniques and applications.

## Course content

The course is primarily offered in-person, but there will also be a remote option and there will be online alternatives for all the components of the course for students who cannot attend in-person.

Students taking this course remotely must have access to a computer with a camera and microphone and a reliable high-speed internet connection that will support real-time video plus audio connections and screen sharing. Students must be able to use Zoom; other communication applications may also be used. A mobile phone connection only is not considered sufficient.

The assessment of the course includes student-led seminars and debates, which will be run in-person on the Kelburn campus. There will be a remote option for students who cannot attend in-person and who have a strong justification (for example, being enrolled from overseas). These students must contact the course coordinator in the first two weeks to get permission and make arrangements.

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The course builds on relevant knowledge and generic skills from an undergraduate programme. Students who do not have a background in computer science or artificial intelligence techniques will be expected to have knowledge about some relevant topics such as ethics, law, science/technology and society, information systems. Students with no relevant background knowledge should expect to have to do additional, self-directed reading in order to gain the relevant background.

## Withdrawal from Course

Withdrawal dates and process:

<https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/study/course-additions-withdrawals>

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## Lecturers

### Andrew Lensen (Coordinator)

andrew.lensen@vuw.ac.nz +64 4 886 5336

329 Cotton, Kelburn Various guest lecturers from around the university!

## Teaching Format

This course will be offered in-person and online. For students in Wellington, there will be a combination of in-person components and web/internet based resources. It will also be possible to take the course entirely online for those who cannot attend on campus, with all the components provided in-person also made available online.

Two hours of seminars per week, plus weekly student presentations or debates in the later half of the course.

## Student feedback

This is the first time we have run the course so there is no feedback to report upon.

## Dates (trimester, teaching & break dates)

- Teaching: 05 July 2021 - 08 October 2021
- Break: 16 August 2021 - 29 August 2021
- Study period: 11 October 2021 - 14 October 2021
- Exam period: 15 October 2021 - 06 November 2021

## Class Times and Room Numbers

### 05 July 2021 - 15 August 2021

- **Wednesday** 12:00 - 12:50 – LT105, Alan MacDiarmid Building, Kelburn
- **Friday** 12:00 - 12:50 – LT105, Alan MacDiarmid Building, Kelburn

### 30 August 2021 - 10 October 2021

- **Wednesday** 12:00 - 12:50 – LT105, Alan MacDiarmid Building, Kelburn
- **Friday** 12:00 - 12:50 – LT105, Alan MacDiarmid Building, Kelburn

## Other Classes

In the second half of the course, a third class slot (Monday 12-12:50 pm in AM101), will be used for presentations and debates.

## Set Texts and Recommended Readings

### Required

Mandatory, recommended, and supplementary readings will be updated regularly at <https://rl.talis.com/3/victoria/lists/CA86348A-D592-2A20-D160-611A7E247984.html>

## Mandatory Course Requirements

There are no mandatory course requirements for this course.

- However, failing to attend at least 10 of the 12 student-led sessions (presentations and debates) will limit your grade to a maximum of a C. Exceptional circumstances that will prevent a student from meeting this should be discussed with the course co-ordinator as early as possible.

*If you believe that exceptional circumstances may prevent you from meeting the mandatory course requirements, contact the Course Coordinator for advice as soon as possible.*

## Assessment

This course is internally assessed.

Failing to attend at least 10 of the 12 student-led sessions (presentations and debates) will limit your grade to a maximum of a C. Exceptional circumstances that will prevent a student from meeting this should be discussed with the course co-ordinator as early as possible.

Assessment Item	Due Date or Test Date	CLO(s)	Percentage
Short reading log on assigned readings.	Weeks 2 and 4	CLO: 4	5%
Group seminar #1 (Summary notes, presentation, student-led discussion)	Week 5 (hand-in), week 5/6 (seminar)	CLO: 1,2	5%
Short reflective report on another group's seminar.	Week 6	CLO: 3,4	2%
Structured survey of the AI methods used in applications within a specific domain.	Week 7	CLO: 1,2,3,4	25%
Group seminar #2 (Summary notes, presentation, student-led discussion)	Week 8 (hand-in), week 8/9 (seminar)	CLO: 1,2,3,4	15%
Short reflective report on another group's seminar.	Week 11	CLO: 3,4	8%
Participation in a structured debate on the future of AI.	Weeks 11/12	CLO: 3	0%
Capstone report investigating the applications and implications of AI in a specific application area. A variety of assessment formats will be accepted (subject to course coordinator approval), which may involve written, programming, analysis, and/or interactive/multimedia components.	During the assessment period.	CLO: 1,2,3,4	40%

## Penalties

The penalty for assessment that is handed in late without prior arrangement is one grade reduction per day. Assessment that is more than one week late will not be marked.

## Extensions

Individual extensions will only be granted in exceptional personal circumstances, and should be negotiated with the course coordinator before the deadline whenever possible. Documentation (eg, medical certificate) may be required.

## Submission & Return

All work will need to be submitted through the ECS submission system or Blackboard (depending on assessment item), accessible through the course web pages. Marks and comments will be returned through the ECS marking system, also available through the course web pages.

Turnitin will be used to check for plagiarism in written assessment.

## Group Work

The two student-led seminars will involve groupwork, up to a maximum of 15% of the final grade.

## Workload

The student workload for this course is 150 hours.

## Teaching Plan

See [https://ecs.wgtn.ac.nz/Courses/AIML430\\_2021T2/LectureSchedule](https://ecs.wgtn.ac.nz/Courses/AIML430_2021T2/LectureSchedule)

## Communication of Additional Information

All online material for this course can be accessed at [https://ecs.wgtn.ac.nz/Courses/AIML430\\_2021T2/](https://ecs.wgtn.ac.nz/Courses/AIML430_2021T2/)

## Links to General Course Information

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism>
- Academic Progress: <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress> (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/study/dates>
- Grades: <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades>
- Special passes: Refer to the Assessment Handbook, at <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf>
- Statutes and policies, e.g. Student Conduct Statute: <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy>
- Student support: <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/students/support>
- Students with disabilities: [https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability/](https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/st_services/disability/)
- Student Charter: <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter>
- Terms and Conditions: <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/study/apply-enroll/terms-conditions/student-contract>
- Turnitin: <http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin>
- University structure: <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/about/governance/structure>

- VUWSA: <http://www.vuwsa.org.nz>

**Offering CRN:** [33072](#)

**Points:** 15

**Prerequisites:** 60 300-level pts

**Duration:** 05 July 2021 - 07 November 2021

**Starts:** Trimester 2

**Campus:** Kelburn