

UQ 2019/2020 Summer Research School of Social Science

Project title:	The ethics and impact of the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in government decision making
Project duration:	6-10 weeks
Description:	<p>Background Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being touted as an important and disruptive new technology to transform large areas the economy and society, such as health care, social services, manufacturing and security. Governments too are increasingly interested in the opportunities such technologies may offer. At the same time, there is also widespread concern about negative consequences of AI, such as reproducing bias and disadvantage, reducing accountability and transparency, and increasing privacy and data protection risks. This project also connects with work occurring in collaboration with CSIRO.</p> <p>Aims This project will involve the systematic identification of examples of government use of AI across the world, as a precursor for using such examples as pilot studies for the application of a new applied framework for ethical framework for AI in government, which has been developed by the project supervisor.</p> <p>Approach The project will involve a thematic review of academic, government and industry publications documenting actual use of AI in government. The review will outline key features of these cases.</p>
Expected outcomes and deliverables:	<p>Scholars will gain knowledge in the ethical and social implications of new and emerging digital technologies. It will introduce scholars to the range of conceptual and applied approaches to evaluating the ethical and social implications of these technologies.</p> <p>A key outcome will be the delivery of report on government use of AI, with the intent of developing this into an academic journal article and/or a piece in <i>The Conversation</i>.</p>
Suitable for:	This project is open to applications from students with a background in social science and humanities who have an interest in technology, or scholars with a technology background with an interest in social science research questions and approaches.
Primary Supervisor:	Associate Professor Paul Henman p.henman@uq.edu.au 07 3443 3142
Further info:	Interested applicants are welcome to contact the supervisor prior to applying.