

**Subject card**

<b>Subject name and code</b>	Ethics and philosophy of new technologies - lecture, PG_00198193						
<b>Field of study</b>	Administration						
<b>Date of commencement of studies</b>	October 2026	<b>Academic year of realisation of subject</b>			2027/2028		
<b>Education level</b>	Master's studies	<b>Subject group</b>			Obligatory subject group in the field of study Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study		
<b>Mode of study</b>	full-time studies	<b>Mode of delivery</b>			at the university		
<b>Year of study</b>	2	<b>Language of instruction</b>			Polish		
<b>Semester of study</b>	4	<b>ECTS credits</b>			3.0		
<b>Learning profile</b>	academic	<b>Assessment form</b>			credit		
<b>Conducting unit</b>	Faculty of Law and Administration -> Rector						
<b>Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)</b>	<b>Subject supervisor</b>	dr hab. Tomasz Wiślak					
	<b>Teachers</b>						
<b>Lesson types</b>	<b>Lesson type</b>	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	<b>Number of study hours</b>	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
<b>Learning activity and number of study hours</b>	<b>Learning activity</b>	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	<b>Number of study hours</b>	30		2.0		43.0	75
<b>Subject objectives</b>	The aim of the course is for students to master the conceptual framework and acquire the analytical skills necessary or helpful for identifying, describing, and evaluating ethical issues related to the implementation and use of new technologies in public administration and the judiciary, with particular emphasis on the use of artificial intelligence in legal decision-making.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[ADMINMU2_K03] He/she is prepared to practise the profession responsibly, with due respect for ethical standards, including in positions that require the professional title of Master's degree holder, in public administration as well as in other entities in roles related to administrative activity and the application of law in specific domains of social and economic life.	is familiar with and understands the ethical and regulatory standards related to the use of artificial intelligence tools in public administration, with particular emphasis on the law enforcement process	[SK4] test/exam - oral or written
	[ADMINMU2_U05] Is able to assess the level of their knowledge and skills, and understands the need for continuous learning and the ongoing development of their professional competences, using various sources and tools for this purpose.	is able to formulate ethical arguments in a language that lawyers and policymakers can understand	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU3] text preparation/written work understand
	[ADMINMU2_W03] Knows and understands the current dilemmas concerning the functioning of public administration and the application of legal institutions within the sphere of the state, administration, and the economy, including in the context of the creation and development of various forms of entrepreneurship, with particular emphasis on regulations concerning new technologies law.	is able to independently identify ethical dilemmas in the digitization of public services	[SW5] implementation of a problem task
	[ADMINMU2_K01] Being aware of the role of knowledge in solving problems related to the organization and functioning of public administration, as well as the application of law in selected domains of social and economic life, he/she is prepared to think critically and evaluate substantive content, including legal norms, and to draw on expert knowledge.	is able to critically evaluate technological solutions from the perspective of constitutional values and human rights	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SK3] text preparation/written work

Subject contents	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ethical traditions in relation to technology. Utilitarianism, deontology, virtue ethics, and care ethics - their application to technological issues.</li> <li>2. Philosophy of technology. Technological determinism and social constructivism. The political nature of artifacts. Technological mediation.</li> <li>3. Moral responsibility in complex systems. The many hands problem (van de Poel). Distributed responsibility and the ethos of public service.</li> <li>4. Artificial intelligence in administrative decisions. Decision automation, limits of acceptability, the right to a rationale for decisions.</li> <li>5. Algorithmic bias and fairness. Fairness from a technical and philosophical perspective. Citizen profiling versus the principle of non-discrimination.</li> <li>6. AI explainability and the accountability gap. Explainable AI (XAI). The problem of attributing responsibility for algorithmic errors.</li> <li>7. The virtues of civil servants and judges in an AI environment. Techno-legal virtues. Professional aretology in the context of decision support systems.</li> <li>8. Philosophical concepts of privacy. Contextual integrity of information. Information ethics. Privacy and autonomy.</li> <li>9. Digital surveillance and surveillance capitalism. Social credit. Biometrics in public administration. The smart city as a surveillance environment.</li> <li>10. Personal data protection: the ethical dimension. The notice and consent model in the citizen-state relationship.</li> <li>11. Digital transformation of public administration. Digital exclusion as a justice issue. Accessibility and subsidiarity.</li> <li>12. Value-sensitive design in the public sector. Embedding values in system architecture. Disinformation, deepfakes, and institutional trust.</li> <li>13. AI regulation - ethical principles. Risk classification. The juridification of technology from a Habermasian perspective. The precautionary principle vs. the proactionary principle.</li> <li>14. Transhumanism, human enhancement, and the boundaries of humanity. The right to share in the benefits of technological progress (Art. 15 ICESCR).</li> <li>15. Summary: languages of technology ethics. The language of rights, virtues, values, and risks. Global technological justice. Perspectives for law and administration.</li> </ol>

Prerequisites and co-requisites	basic knowledge and skills in the use of digital technologies		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
		51.0%	10.0%
		51.0%	40.0%
		51.0%	50.0%
Recommended reading	Basic literature	<p>Chojnowski M., Etyka sztucznej inteligencji. Wprowadzenie, Warszawa 2022 (<a href="https://ethicstech.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/ESIW-v2.0_FINAL.pdf">https://ethicstech.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/ESIW-v2.0_FINAL.pdf</a>)</p> <p>Floridi L., The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence: Principles, Challenges, and Opportunities, Oxford University Press, Oxford 2023.</p> <p>Friedman B., Hendry D.G., Value Sensitive Design: Shaping Technology with Moral Imagination, MIT Press, Cambridge MA 2019 (ISBN: 978-0-262-03953-6).</p> <p>Szutka A. Czym zajmuje się etyka sztucznej inteligencji? Filozofuj! 2024 nr 1 (55), s. 1719.</p> <p>Widlak T., Techno-Legal Virtues in Hybrid Adjudication: Judicial Excellence in AI-Augmented Courts, <i>Minds and Machines</i> (Springer).</p>	
	Supplementary literature	<p>Boddington P., AI Ethics: A Textbook, Springer, 2023</p> <p>Coeckelbergh M., Why AI Undermines Democracy, Polity 2024</p> <p>Coeckelbergh M., The Political Philosophy of AI, Polity 2022</p> <p>Sandel M.J., The Case Against Perfection: Ethics in the Age of Genetic Engineering, Harvard University Press, Cambridge MA 2007.</p> <p>Smuha (red.) N.A., Cambridge Handbook of the Law, Ethics and Policy of AI, CUP 2025</p> <p>Vallor S., The AI Mirror: How to Reclaim Our Humanity in an Age of Machine Thinking, Oxford University Press 2024</p> <p>Vallor S., Technology and the Virtues: A Philosophical Guide to a Future Worth Wanting, OUP 2016</p> <p>Widlak T., Temida z charakterem: filozoficznoprawny przewodnik po cnotach sędziowskich, Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Gdańskiego / Wolters Kluwer Polska, Gdańsk 2025.</p>	
	eResources addresses	<p>Basic</p> <p><a href="https://ethicstech.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/ESIW-v2.0_FINAL.pdf">https://ethicstech.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/ESIW-v2.0_FINAL.pdf</a> - Chojnowski M., Etyka sztucznej inteligencji. Wprowadzenie, Warszawa 2022</p>	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed			
Work placement	Not applicable		

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