

**AI and Data Science
in Fiction and Society**

Seminar Kick Off



Goals

- Why should we read fictional literature at university at all?
 - given that we are not humanities students
- Fiction is a mirror of society
- Technology is developed in research labs
 - ...but its impact on society is seldom discussed therein
- In this seminar, we will discuss those impacts

Organization

- Requirements
 - Read a novel and present it in the seminar
 - Write a seminar paper
 - Review others' seminar papers
 - it is a good idea to also read the books for the seminar papers you review
- First step
 - Pick a novel
 - If not done yet, send a ranked list to Ms. Bianca Lerner
 - Until the end of today
 - You are invited to propose books **not** on the list on the Web page

Organization

- Getting your book
 - we have copies in the library (of books listed on the Web page)
 - you may need them for some time
- After assignment is finished, you can borrow “your” copy
 - personally at Mr. Scheuermann at the library
(office SW 287 in the castle)

Organization

- We will use a process called “peer review”
 - widely used (and discussed) in science
 - you will review your fellow students’ seminar papers
- Timeline
 - Prepare a draft until October 13th
 - You will get two seminar papers to review
 - Submit your reviews until October 27th
- Seminar (i.e. ,presentations, discussions)
 - November 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
 - Participate *actively*
- Final seminar paper submission: December 22nd

Preparing Your Seminar Paper

- Synopsis
 - Brief summary of the novel's contents
 - Main themes, characters, plot points
- Characters
 - Main characters? What do they represent?
- Technology
 - Which technology is described?
 - What does already exist, what is still to be invented?
- Interaction of technology and society
 - Which of the characters appreciate the technology?
 - Who are rather sceptics?
- Anything else you want to discuss
- Use further literature!

Preparing a Review

- 1st rule: be constructive!
- What you should point at
 - can you follow easily? is there information missing at any point?
 - are all claims well supported?
 - do you have any questions not answered?
 - aspects underrepresented
- What you should not do
 - provide general criticism (“don’t like the paper”)
 - correct every spelling mistake
 - rewrite the seminar paper

Preparing the Presentation

- Remember
 - we are here to discuss
- Therefore
 - don't just report facts
 - raise questions
 - be provocative

Questions?



Straw Poll (will be repeated at the end)

- Do you consider AI rather beneficial or harmful?

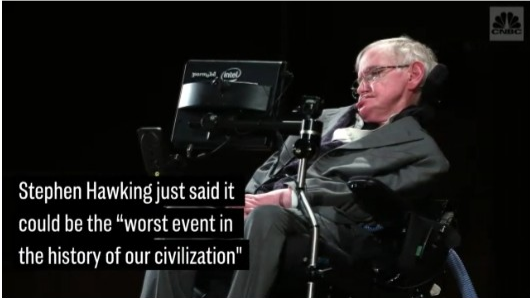
TECH TRANSFORMERS | A CNBC SPECIAL REPORT

TECH | MOBILE | SOCIAL MEDIA | ENTERPRISE | CYBERSECURITY | TECH GUIDE



Stephen Hawking says A.I. could be 'worst event in the history of our civilization'

- Physicist Stephen Hawking said the emergence of artificial intelligence could be the "worst event in the history of our civilization."
- He urged creators of AI to "employ best practice and effective management."
- Hawking is among a number of voices including Elon Musk who have warned about the dangers of AI.

Arjun Kharpal | @ArjunKharpal
Published 2:11 PM ET Mon, 6 Nov 2017 | Updated 3:39 PM ET Mon, 6 Nov 2017



TRENDING NOW

-  1. Miami home values show how 'climate gentrification' is changing coastal real estate
-  2. Paul Manafort's lawyers claim Trump is making things worse as they seek to move trial

Thought Experiment: Universal Paperclips

