

## **PHIL 3423    Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence**

*TR11                    Tues, Thurs            11:00am – 12:15pm*

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Can a machine be conscious or possess genuine intelligence? What is intelligence? Can there be a behavioral criterion for intelligence? Is there a unique capacity human minds have that cannot be replicated by technological means? Are neural processes in some fundamental way different from processes in a digital computer? What's the relationship between computational processes and physical processes? Can a software event cause a physical event? Can computational processes support semantics? What does it mean to say that a machine understands something?

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a research area that combines computer science, philosophy and biology. This course will introduce students to philosophical thinking about AI from historical and technological perspectives and progress through a number of core topics in classical AI. We will discuss landmark essays that form the foundation of AI and engage in a philosophical examination centered around concepts such as intelligence, perception, learning, memory, understanding, language, etc. The overall goal is to enable students to appreciate the philosophical importance and successfully navigate the conceptual complexity of the topics of machine intelligence and human-computer interaction.