

# Future Scenario Planning

## Individual Assignment RE

Students will develop a framework for a long-range forecast of a complex societal phenomenon associated with social inequality. The predictive framework will be grounded in probabilistic reasoning and aimed at identifying the most likely future scenario. Students will conduct desk research to justify the framework's components and estimate the probabilities of future events.

The predictive framework will be accompanied by a cover note that explains the rationale for the prediction, justifies the components of the framework, and interprets the modelling results. The cover note should also reflect on the limitations of the model, including a critical evaluation of potential biases in the sources used.

Students may choose to focus on any topic that is of significant societal concern. Students may choose the same topic for the RE Future Scenario Planning and the SSH Essay on Social Inequality assignments, though they are not required to do so. However, students **may not** choose a topic that is closely related to their group project. Every student must choose a distinct societal issue as the topic for their prediction framework.

## Deadlines

Tuesday, May 6, 2025	<b>Peer feedback session</b> <i>During Check-in</i>
Wednesday, May 7, 2025 (5 p.m.)	<b>Progress check</b> <i>Feedback in Check-In on Tuesday, May 13</i>
Wednesday, May 28, 2025 (5 p.m.)	<b>Final submission</b> <i>Final submission of PDF file via Canvas</i>

## Assessment Criteria

1. Presents a long-range forecast of a complex societal phenomenon associated with social inequality.
2. Scope and clarity of the modelling topic.
3. The components of the prediction framework and the estimated values are theoretically justified.
4. The results of the modelling are correctly interpreted.
5. The predictive framework is visually appealing and understandable.
6. The limitations of the predictive framework are outlined and discussed, with particular attention to potential biases.
7. Relevant academic and non-academic sources are adequately utilised, critically evaluated, and correctly referenced.
8. The word limit for the covering note is 1000 words (strict maximum), excluding references.

## Learning Objectives

1. Explain the social issues related to predictive (recommendation) systems
2. Apply qualitative data to make predictions about future scenarios.
3. Draw connections between qualitative and quantitative data in order to answer a research question.
4. Evaluate the reliability of predictions using the adequate techniques for the relevant method.

### Version History:

Jan. 20, 2025: V1.0

Jan. 29, 2025: V1.1

- Updated dates