

## **Summary Report of Social Justice Automation Tool**

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The Social Justice Automation Tool is an innovative research project that addresses a critical challenge in educational design: the complex and often subjective process of ensuring syllabi reflect principles of social justice and inclusive pedagogy. Grounded in theoretical work by scholars like Iris Marion Young and Bell Hooks, the research seeks to create a technological solution that can systematically evaluate and improve course materials.

The current landscape of syllabus design presents several significant challenges. Traditional review processes are manually intensive, requiring substantial time and expertise. These reviews are inherently subjective, prone to individual biases, and lack standardization. Additionally, educators often struggle to quickly assess and adjust their course materials to ensure they meet evolving standards of equity and inclusivity. The Social Justice Syllabus Design Tool (SJSDDT) aims to address these limitations by introducing an automated, data-driven approach to syllabus analysis.

At the core of the project is a sophisticated technological framework that employs multiple advanced techniques from natural language processing and machine learning. The tool can process syllabi from various input formats, extracting and analyzing content across different sections. By utilizing techniques such as text classification, keyword extraction, sentiment analysis, and named entity recognition, the system can provide nuanced insights into the social justice dimensions of a course curriculum.

The technical architecture of the tool is robust and multi-layered. Using React JS for the front end, Django and Python for backend processing, and D3.js for visualization, the system creates an interactive environment for syllabus analysis. OpenAI API integration enables advanced keyword identification and contextual understanding. The tool generates comprehensive outputs, including structured data, keyword insights, sentiment analysis, and emotional tone assessment for different sections of a syllabus.

Visualization is a critical component of the tool's approach. The system offers multiple visualization techniques to help educators understand their syllabus's social justice alignment. These include heatmaps that identify keyword relevance, dot plots and horizontal bar charts displaying emotional tone, and word clouds highlighting key themes. Such visualizations not only reveal the current state of a syllabus but also help identify potential gaps in coverage of social justice principles.

The research project goes beyond mere analysis, offering actionable insights for educators. By evaluating course content against the Social Justice Pedagogy Syllabus Evaluation Tool (SJPSET) framework, the system provides a structured method for assessing inclusivity. The sentiment and emotional analysis, powered by tools like VADER and NRCLex, offers a deeper understanding of the syllabus's tone and potential implicit biases.

Looking forward, we envision a significant expansion of the tool's capabilities. Future development plans include incorporating more advanced visualization methods, developing machine learning models for automated feedback, and integrating the tool with broader educational platforms. The ultimate goal is to create a scalable, intelligent system that can help educators continuously improve their course design to create more equitable and engaging learning environments.

This research represents an exciting intersection of technology, education, and social justice. By leveraging computational tools to address systemic challenges in curriculum design, the project offers a promising approach to making education more inclusive, reflective, and responsive to diverse student experiences. It demonstrates how sophisticated data analysis and visualization techniques can be applied to complex social challenges, providing educators with powerful tools for introspection and improvement.