<https://brynmawr.wufoo.com/forms/new-course-proposal/>

**Instructor Name:** Alyssa Pivirotto

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**Department:** Data Science

**Program Chair Email Address:** [mschulz@brynmawr.edu](mailto:mschulz@brynmawr.edu)

**Course Level:** 200

**Long Course Title (60 char):** Power, Pluralism, and Parity: Intersectional Data Feminism

**Transcript Course Title (30 char):** Intersectional Data Feminism

**Course Catalog Description:**

Data is often perceived as objective and impartial, but the processes of data collection, analysis, and visualization are deeply influenced by existing power structures. In this course, we will explore the intersection of data and these power structures through the lens of feminist theory. Examining the intersection of data with gender, race, class, and disability, we will question how data can both reinforce and challenge systems of oppression. Readings and discussions will center the experiences of the affected communities as we explore methods to make data practices more inclusive and equitable. Through the combination of readings, class discussions, and hands-on activities, students will engage with key concepts in data feminism. We will apply these concepts to real-world examples, using Python for data analysis. No prior programming experience is required, as the course will provide the necessary foundational skills. By the end of the course, students will be equipped to critically analyze data practices and contribute to more just and ethical data-driven decision-making.

**Course Prerequisites:** None

**Semester:** Spring

**How often will the course be offered?** Every Spring or Occasionally

**How does the proposed course fit into the departmental offerings and major program?** Elective

**Please describe the integration of this course into the existing departmental curriculum.**

This course supplies a data science ethics course during the spring semester. Currently, there are two data ethics course run in the fall that count towards the data science minor (one within the data science program and one within the political science department). This course focuses on a feminist perspective to data ethics introduced in other courses.

**If the course counts for major/minor credit in additional departments, please list them here:** None

**If the course counts towards any concentrations, please list them here:** None

**Does this course fulfill the Writing in the Major requirement?** No

**Does this course satisfy one of the Approaches to Inquiry (100- and 200- level courses only)?** Does not meet an Approach (Not sure about this)

**Which learning goals from the syllabus demonstrate how the course addressed the Approach indicated above?** None

**Does this course satisfy the Power, Equality, and Justice requirement?** Yes

**Please include a brief statement (one paragraph) explaining which Power, Inequality, and Justice learning goal(s) the course will address and how. You are encouraged to include this statement in your syllabus. The learning goals are listed to the right.**

This course will address the learning goal of developing an understanding of how axes of power and marginalized identities, specifically in this case intersectional gender identity, interact to produce inequalities and hierarchies. We will focus on how these inequalities and hierarchies manifest themselves in algorithmic bias and data collection, analysis, and visualization methods. To do so, students will complete readings and discussion based assignments along with hands-on activities to understand this intersection.

**Does this course assume mastery of quantitative skills (QR Ready)?** No

**Does this course satisfy the Quantitative and Mathematical Reasoning requirement (QM)?** No

**Is this a Praxis course?** No

**Is this a limited enrollment (capped) course?** Unsure

**How many units will students receive for the course?** Unsure

**Proposed weekly meeting days/times:** To Be Determined

**Self-Scheduled exams are the standard at Bryn Mawr College. If there is a compelling reason to offer an alternative type of exam, please explain:** No Final Examination

\begin{itemize}

\item{Proposal: students will identify a crucial topic, issue, or dataset within the field of data science and write a proposal around this topic.}

\item{Data Description: students will examine and explore the data within their topic of identifying concerns or assumptions of the data collection and cleaning process.}

\item{Methods Analysis: students will complete either an in-depth analysis of currently used methodologies or a comparative analysis of utilized methods.

\item {Final presentation: Students will present on their work and utilize any feedback from fellow students and the instructor in their final paper.}

\item {Final Write-up: Combining the previous three papers along with addressing previous feedback and examining future implications, students will summarize their findings and conclusions in a final paper.}

\end{itemize}

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\begin{minipage}[b]{0.75\linewidth}

\noindent \textbf{Title:} Unmasking AI \\

\textbf{Author:} Joy Buolamwini \\

\textbf{Publisher:} Penguin Random House; publication year: 2023 \\

\textbf{ISBN-13:} 978-0-593-24183-7\\

\textbf{Available at:}

\href{https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/670356/unmasking-ai-by-joy-buolamwini/}{Several Vendors}, \\

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