

Computing Ethics and Society
CSCI 263 - Fall 2025
BIAS Blog 2: Harms in Machine Learning
Due: 10/30/2025

Overview: The goal of this assignment is to prepare for a case study discussion while sharing your thoughts in the broader conversation about technology ethics. You will read a case study, reflect on the material through your own experiences and perspectives, and contribute your viewpoint to public discourse via your blog.

Suggested Timeline: Start Task 1 by Monday, 10/27, and Task 2 by Tuesday, 10/28. Start Tasks 3-4 by Thursday, 10/30. Submission is due to Moodle on Thursday, 10/30 by 11:59pm.

Task 1: Case Study: Read the **Understanding Potential Sources of Harm throughout the Machine Learning Life Cycle** case study. I would recommend skimming the article, reading the pertinent discussion questions at the end, then going back and reading in entirety. If you have questions about machine learning, reach out to your instructor.

Task 2: Discussion Questions: There are a selection of discussion questions at the end of the article. You will need to address at least three of the discussion questions.

Remember, blogs are intended for you to share your personal opinion on these articles. We are not looking for fully *correct* answers, we are looking for **your** answers, informed by your experiences, values, and reasoning. You can always revise this blog later on to incorporate feedback given.

What makes an answer thoughtful? Connect the concepts to your own life or observations. Instead of just defining terms, think about how these ideas play out in the real world you've experienced. Share examples, make connections, and don't be afraid to express genuine uncertainty or disagreement.

Task 3: New Question: To prepare for building up the skills to write your own case study later on in the semester, you are being tasked to write an example of a discussion question. The question can be related to anything in the case study and should ask readers something that allows them to connect with the material in a meaningful and engaging way. You do not need to supply an answer (though it would be nice to include), but you should reflect on why you came up with this question and what aspect of the reading it helps explore.

Task 4: Blog Formatting: Follow the steps from the first blog and update the relevant information. You can format your blog as you want, but it must clearly present:

- Brief (1-2 sentence) summary of the purpose of the case study
- Your answers to the discussion questions
- Your new discussion question and why you included it

- Reflection on the exercise

Remember: You're writing for the internet, not just for a grade on an assignment. Your perspective matters in the broader conversation about tech ethics, and this blog post is your contribution to that dialogue.

Submission: Submit a screenshot of your published blog post and a clickable url to Moodle.

Grading: Blogs are graded on the Pass/Sufficient/Incomplete grading scale. See Grading Blog Posts pdf for more information.