CIS 380 Professional Practice Presentation: Algorithmic Injustice

Speaking Assignment (in person)

- Length: 7-8 minutes, 1-2 minutes questions

- Slides: Yes

- Register topic: Yes

Presentation dates: Wed-Fri-Mon, Nov 29 and Dec 1, 4 (finishing on Wed Dec 6 if necessary)

Assignment Description

For this presentation, you will address the issue of bias in Al systems. As a starting place, I have provided a digital copy of *Weapons of Math Destruction* by Kathy O'Neil. We will also watch the documentary *Coded Bias* in class, which addresses many of the same topics.

Browse through *Weapons of Math Destruction* and select a chapter from Chapters 3-10 to be the general topic for your talk. Read your selected chapter carefully and choose one example algorithm/system to be the main focus of your talk.

In addition to Weapons of Math Destruction and Coded Bias, you must find AT LEAST TWO news articles or scholarly papers from trusted sources about your topic. The articles do not have to discuss the same algorithm or system, but the algorithms must be in the same application. Of course, additional sources that cover your example algorithm/system are acceptable, provided as they are not articles about Weapons of Math Destruction or Coded Bias.

In your presentation, you will discuss your selected Al algorithm/system, including:

- How the algorithm is used, *i.e.*, what its purpose is and who the users are.
- Description of the algorithm and its behavior. That is, what is the biased behavior/result produced by the system?
- How the issues with the algorithm were uncovered and by whom.
- Any steps that have been taken to correct the problem(s).
- What tenets of the ACM Code of Ethics are broken and how developers could fix those issues.

Topic Registration and Possible Topics

Topic registration: You must register your topic by the deadline (Mon Nov 20, 11:59 PM) by submitting the following information into the Brightspace assignment:

- A 2-3 sentence description of the general topic you have chosen and the specific algorithm/system you will focus on..
- COMPLETE reference citations for the 2 additional sources, including the article or paper title, authors (if available), and links to where you found the sources. Citations must be in ACM or APA style. You do not need to give a citation in the topic registration for *Weapons of Math Destruction* and *Coded Bias*.

Topics do not have to be unique, but I will check the sources for duplicated topics for overlap of sources. If more than one student has chosen the same source, only the first person who registers the topic will be allowed to use the source.

Slides

- You must *UPLOAD* your slides by **11:59 AM** the Monday before the beginning of the presentations (Mon Nov 27, 11:59 PM).
- Failure to upload as specified before presentations means you *MISSED THE PRESENTATION*;
 no grace period.
- Slides must be uploaded ahead of time because:
 - You are expected to work on the talks in this class over time (not at the last minute)
 - All students are expected to *PRACTICE*. That cannot happen until the presentation is ready.