

## Technology, research and ethics

### Introduction

Iordanis Kavathatzopoulos

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## The course

- Lectures, seminars, project
- *Literature*: Rachels, Wallace & Allen, Gustafsson et al, papers
- *Examination*: Participation with abstracts, group project, essay
- Theories (philosophy, psychology) and practical methods applicable in professional issues

2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Program

Date, room	Subject	Presenter	Literature, etc.
28 Oct, 2344	Introduction	IK	Links, papers
11 Nov	Ethical skills	IK	Papers
18 Nov	Philosophy	Groups	Rachels
25 Nov	Prof. ethics	Groups	Wallace & Allen, etc.
03 Dec	Research issues	Groups	Gustafsson et al.
03 Dec	Methods, Training	IK, ML	Papers, links
13 Jan	Seminar	All groups	Projects

3

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### What is morality and ethics?

- **Content:** "Right actions are moral but wrong actions are immoral"
- **Choice:** "Morality and ethics are related to choice"

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Technology and ethics

- Technology is necessary, modern society can not function without it
- Technology affects significant values for persons and organizations
- Technology is malleable, it can be a tool for almost any purpose
- Technology has a much bigger impact, both positive and negative, on all aspects of life, compared to any other human artifact

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Ethical usability?

- Ethical aspects have an increasing impact on technology usability
- Good technology do not cause conflicts
- Good technology satisfies important values and interests
- People do not want to and cannot use technology that does not satisfy the above, independently of its other usability aspects

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Do we need ethics?

- There are really no problems! Just follow the law, the rules, or your moral feeling!
- Education in ethics cannot make people better!
- It is impossible to use ethics education in real life!

8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Do we know what is right?

- World: changing, global, unpredictable, complex
- Scientific and technical development
- Problems vary, are personal, different
- People are complex, isolated, undefined
- No functioning authorities & guidelines
- Decentralization, delegation
- Intense public and media interest

9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Can it be serious?

- Low usability and less profits
- Bad service, no trust
- Higher stress, worse environment
- Confusion, fear, desperation ...

Sub optimality: Nothing spectacular but devastating in time

10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Is it easy or difficult?

Generally we are constrained because of our nature but ethics are harder:

- Incompatible values decide right and wrong
- Contradictory cases, e.g. double standards
- Strong emotions
- Authority is very important
- Focus on content not on process

11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Gaining Knowledge

	Nature, technology	Society, morality
Content Answer Facit	No	Yes
Method Process Skill	Yes	No

12

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Ethical insecurity?

Handling of moral issues creates a big risk:

*Important myths can be destroyed*

- *For persons:* Resolution of problems, personal development, but risk to lose enthusiasm, get disoriented, lost, cynical
- *For organizations, society:* Hero, e.g. whistle blowing (courageous, responsible), or offend persons and principles (show no respect, disloyalty, treason, hostility)

13

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## What do we need?

- *Ethical competence:* Know how to handle ethical issues, how to think
- *Ethical processes:* Roles, procedures, mechanisms in organizations
- *Ethical confidence:* Know that we can find good solutions and trust our ability (i.e. know that our skill and our way of handling moral issues is working)

14

---

---

---

---

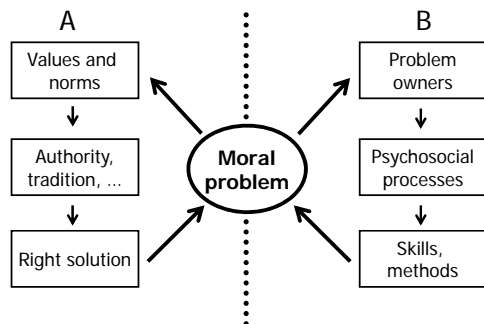
---

---

---

---

## Different approaches



15

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---