

SENG/COMP4920 - Essay Questions

Term 3, 2022 - UNSW

Word length - 2000w in total (not including bibliography or footnotes).

Due date - Friday October 28 (Week 7), 23:59.

Please submit your essay via turnitin (details to follow).

Answer one (1) of the following questions:

1. Compare and contrast act vs rule utilitarianism. How might their use to motivate collision-avoidance protocols for autonomous vehicles result in different protocols? Which of act and rule utilitarianism do you prefer for this purpose? Why? Justify your answer.
2. Expound and assess rule-based/Kantian ethics. Analyse the extent to which such an ethics might be used to design an *automated ethics*. What do you think that the risks and opportunities of such an automated ethics might be? Why? Justify your answer.
3. Is kicking a robot dog morally wrong, or morally permissible? In your answer, make explicit detailed reference to virtue ethics. Which answer or answers might virtue ethics give us? Are any of these answers correct? Why? Justify your answer.
4. In his *The uselessness of AI ethics* (2022), Luke Munn criticises much practice in AI ethics. Do you think that Munn's criticism is justified, and that his proposed solutions are sufficient? Why? Justify your argument with explicit detailed reference to Elettra Bietti's *From ethics washing to ethics bashing: a view on tech ethics from within moral philosophy* (2020).
5. Expound cognitivism and non-cognitivism in meta-ethics. Which do you find most plausible? Why? Of the one that you find most plausible, which variety do you find most plausible? Why?

This is the end of your questions. There are no more questions.