

Department of Computer Science
Graduate Comprehensive Exam
in
Communication
Fall 2021

- Answer the question on the paper supplied.
- Please use a DARK PEN instead of a light pencil. You will be responsible if words are not recognizable.
- Write on only one side of the paper.
- Write your SIX-DIGIT Texas State ID in the top right corner of each page of your answer. Do NOT put your name anywhere on the answers.
- If the answer is written on more than one page, number the pages consecutively.

Because your opinions are called for, there are no right or wrong answers. Your responses should include justifications for your views, and your analysis should be thorough and communicated clearly.

It was recently reported that a company is planning on using artificial intelligence (AI) to help judge the emotional state and responses of potential employees before deciding if a job candidate will be hired. Do you think AI should be used to attempt to interpret feelings of job interview candidates? Why or why not?

What about using AI to continuously monitor the emotions of those already employed in certain high-responsibility professions, such as airline pilots or surgeons? Why should or shouldn't they be monitored?

A few years back, a leading social media company ran an experiment unbeknownst to its users by trying to ascertain users' emotional states based on their posts and other online behavior. The data were then used to show ads specifically tailored to the emotions particular individuals were experiencing at that moment and even to attempt to influence those feelings and in turn human behavior. Do you think companies should have the right to actively gather information about and manipulate human emotions of specifically targeted people using AI? Why or why not?

Security cameras and facial recognition technology are now widely used for safety and security purposes. Do you think government agencies should have the right to use AI to evaluate and track the emotional state of people in public places, such as streets, university classrooms, and sporting events, to possibly prevent harmful behavior? Why or why not?