

Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence
Paper 1
Due Tuesday, March 20.

Here are two statements relevant to our readings and discussion so far:

1. Cognition is computation.
2. Eventually, computers will be intelligent.

Both are controversial among AI scholars. In this paper, you will explore the *relationship* between these statements. Specifically, you will address the two questions

- If you believe statement 1, must you necessarily believe statement 2?
If you believe statement 2, must you necessarily believe statement 1?

Note that whether you (or I, or anyone) *actually* believe statement 1 or statement 2 is irrelevant to these questions. Note also that we'll be continuing to explore more scholars' beliefs about these statements and questions as the course progresses.

In your paper, spend about 2 pages on each question; you don't need to provide an introduction, conclusion, etc. For each question, you should

- Answer the question, and explain, citing evidence and arguments from our readings.
- Consider any "objections" to the answer you give; that is, do any of our readings suggest that the question should be answered differently?

Drafts: I will happily give you feedback on as many drafts of this paper as you wish to generate before the due date. I will take no more no more than 2 business days to return comments on your draft (therefore, the last day to send me a draft is March 15). Because of the difficulties in meeting in person during the week, you may email your drafts to me as attachments, and I will return them in the same way.

Academic Dishonesty: This paper should be completely your own work. You may discuss it with, and get help from, anyone in class, but the work should be own. Be sure to provide the names of anyone in class with whom you discuss your work. Any source you used, whether an in-class reading or an outside source, must be cited completely and accurately. You may use whichever citation style you are accustomed to; if you don't have a style of choice, you may use <http://www.liu.edu/CWIS/CWP/library/workshop/citmla.htm>. The BC library has many useful resources on how to use other sources while avoiding plagiarism; see http://dewey.brooklyn.cuny.edu/resources/subject.jsp?sub_id=42#149

Fussiness: The paper should be typed (of course). At least 3.5 pages, but no more than 5 full pages, double-spaced (1-inch margins, 10-12 point font). You must turn in a hardcopy at the beginning of the class—if your paper is not turned in when I collect most of the papers, you will automatically lose a third of a grade (e.g. an A will become an

A-). Papers not handed in on the 15th will receive a 0, unless you contact me before class with a compelling reason for an extension.

Grading: While I am mostly concerned with your ideas (the “content” of the paper), the way in which your ideas are expressed is very important to whether or not your paper is successful. I expect your papers to be free of spelling and grammar errors, and will *mark you down severely* if they are not. If you are worried about this, I strongly recommend that you take advantage of the writing tutors at The Learning Center. Assuming your papers are grammatically correct, your grade depends on how well you demonstrate your grasp of the material we’ve been discussing in class. I expect you to summarize accurately relevant parts of the reading—those parts to which you to bolster the points you make—and, as necessary, to take issue with some/all of the authors we’ve read. You will *not* be graded on whether your ideas or “right” or “wrong,” but how well you support them.