



This is a graded discussion: 10 points possible

due Oct 16 at 1:59am


Week 4 - Discussion 2


1 1

Your initial discussion thread is due on Day 3 (Thursday) and you have until Day 7 (Monday) to respond to your classmates. Your grade will reflect both the quality of your initial post and the depth of your responses. Refer to the Discussion Forum Grading Rubric under the Settings icon above for guidance on how your discussion will be evaluated.

Week 4 Symposium [WLOs: 2, 3] [CLOs: 3, 4, 5]<



If you are having trouble starting this video, please access it [here](https://ashford.mediaspace.kaltura.com/media/PHI208+SYMPOSIUM/0_m50lpjgp)  [\(https://ashford.mediaspace.kaltura.com/media/PHI208+SYMPOSIUM/0_m50lpjgp\)](https://ashford.mediaspace.kaltura.com/media/PHI208+SYMPOSIUM/0_m50lpjgp) .

Video transcript can be accessed [here](#) .

In the Ancient Greek world (the world of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle, often regarded as the birthplace of philosophy) a “symposium” was a banquet held after a meal, an “after party” of sorts that usually included drinking, dancing, recitals and engaging conversations

on the topics of the day.

For our purposes in this course, the Symposium discussions will not involve dancing, recitals or a banquet, but they will provide food for thought on current ethical issues and direct application of the ethical theory discussed in each of these weeks.

It is almost impossible these days to turn on the news or log onto social media without encountering a controversy that cries out for ethical discussion. For these Symposium discussions, your instructor will choose a topic of current ethical interest and a resource associated with it for you to read or watch. Your task is to consider how the ethical theory of the week might be used to examine, understand or evaluate the issue.

This week, you will consider how virtue ethics applies to a controversy, dilemma, event, or scenario selected by your instructor. It is a chance for you to discuss together the ethical issues and questions that it raises, your own response to those, and whether that aligns with or does not align with a virtue ethics approach. The aim is not to simply assert your own view or to denigrate other views, but to identify, evaluate, and discuss the moral reasoning involved in addressing the chosen issue.

Your posts should remain focused on the ethical considerations, and at some point in your contribution you must specifically address the way a virtue ethicist would approach this issue by explaining and evaluating that approach.

If you have a position, you should strive to provide reasons in defense of that position.

When responding to peers, you should strive to first understand the reasons they are offering before challenging or critiquing those reasons. One good way of doing this is by summarizing their argument before offering a critique or evaluation.

You must post on at least two separate days, must include at least one substantial reply to a peer or to your instructor, and your posts should add up to at least 400 words.

Your instructor may include additional requirements, so be sure to pay attention to the prompt.

This discussion will be assessed on a 10-point scale and is **worth 3% of your final grade.**

← Reply

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Cora Moore (<https://ashford.instructure.com/courses/73114/users/4924>)

10:05am



Week 4 Symposium: Artificial Intelligence and Virtue Ethics

To ensure that your initial post starts its own unique thread, do not reply to this post. Instead, please click the "Reply" link above this post.

This discussion runs from Tuesday, October 13, 2020 - Monday, October 19, 2020.

Initial post due Thursday by midnight, October 15

last day to participate is Monday - 10/19

You must post 4 posts over 3 days.

Please read the description above and/or watch the video explaining the symposium and its requirements. If you are still unsure about how to proceed with the discussion, please contact your instructor.

This week, we will discuss artificial intelligence in the context of virtue ethics. Examining AI is an ethical dilemma that affects our growth and development and challenges our views of what it means to be human. After reviewing the course materials for this week on virtue ethics and considering the resources for this discussion and questions, we will think about the ethical implications of artificial intelligence. Technology and AI are created to make our lives easier. The following resources provide an overview of the discussion of an AI device oddly called Aristotle that monitors and interacts with one's child, but which was discontinued over various concerns (Tsukayama, 2017). Some were privacy concerns (utilitarianism, deontology) others had to do with the role that technology is playing in childhood development, and whether that's conducive to flourishing children and parents (virtue ethics) (chipchick, 2017).

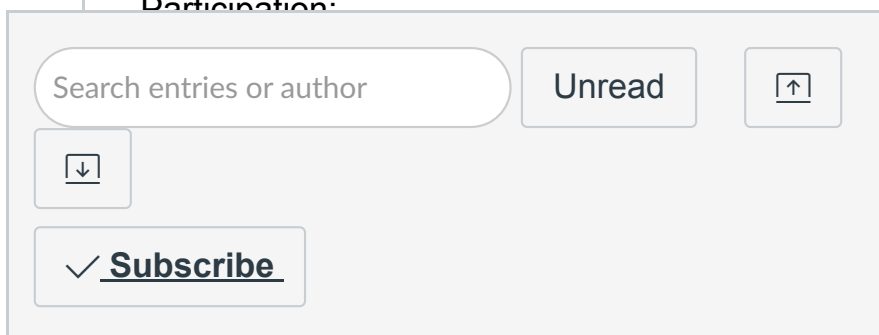
After viewing the resources for this discussion and this week, write your initial post answering the following questions

1. What are the ethical implications of artificial intelligence according to virtue ethics?
2. what does artificial intelligence tell us about what it means to be human?
3. If machines could be programmed to understand emotions, what would that say about human development?
4. Can AI be a virtue? Why or why not?

Your posts should remain focused on the ethical considerations, and at some point in your contribution, you must specifically address the way someone with a virtue ethic view would approach your issue by explaining, evaluating, and defending that approach.

Make sure to support your ideas with citations and references. In addition to the course materials, make sure to include at least 1 more academic, scholarly source.

Participation:



Search entries or author

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at include at least 3 substantial
at least 400 words.

Chipchick. (2017). Aristotle Brings Together a Baby Monitor, Nightlight, Speaker, Camera and Sound Machine into

One. <http://www.chipchick.com/2017/07/mattel-nabi-aristotle.html>
(<http://www.chipchick.com/2017/07/mattel-nabi-aristotle.html>)

Tsukayama, H. (2017, October 4). Mattel has canceled plans for a kid-focused AI device that drew privacy concerns. *The Washington*

Post. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-switch/wp/2017/10/04/mattel-has-an-ai-device-to-soothe-babies-experts-are-begging-them-not-to-sell-it/> (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-switch/wp/2017/10/04/mattel-has-an-ai-device-to-soothe-babies-experts-are-begging-them-not-to-sell-it/>)

them-not-to-sell-it/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.7f6c0cda3b76)

← (https://ashford.instructure.com/courses/70374/discussion_topics/1956610#)

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