

Teaching AI Ethics in the Classroom

Teacher Training Guide · Module 9 of 15 · CHERIEDU Academy

1. Why AI Ethics Must Be Taught

Students who build AI without ethical understanding can create systems that discriminate, invade privacy, or cause harm. Ethics is not optional — it is the foundation of responsible AI development.

2. Core Ethics Topics by Grade

Grade	Ethics Topic	Teaching Approach
5–6	Privacy — who owns your data?	Story: "The Data Diary"
7–8	Bias — why AI can be unfair	Case study: hiring AI discrimination
9–10	Deepfakes & misinformation	Create and detect a deepfake image
11–12	AI rights, autonomous weapons, surveillance	Structured debate

3. The FATE Framework for Students

Letter	Stands For	Question Students Ask
F	Fairness	Does this AI treat everyone equally?
A	Accountability	Who is responsible if this AI causes harm?
T	Transparency	Can we understand how this AI makes decisions?
E	Ethics	Should this AI exist? What values does it reflect?

4. Real Case Studies to Discuss in Class

- Amazon's hiring AI: Penalised women's CVs because historical data was male-dominated.
- US COMPAS system: AI predicted higher recidivism rates for Black defendants than warranted.
- Facial recognition: Multiple innocent people arrested because AI misidentified them.
- Social media algorithms: Pushed extreme content to increase engagement — harming mental health.

5. Debate Formats That Work Well

- Oxford-style debate: Two teams argue for/against a proposition.
- Fishbowl: 4 students discuss while others observe and take notes.
- Socratic seminar: Teacher asks open questions, students build on each other's ideas.
- Role-play tribunal: Put an AI company on trial for a harm it caused.

