SoPA course explores tech ethics through Sci-Fi lens

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In the current era of rapidly advancing technology, Tulane School of Professional Advancement's (SoPA) Information Technology (IT) Program is engaging students through a new course that prompts students to think critically about ethical dilemmas in technology appearing in iconic science fiction works like *Star Trek* and *Black Mirror*.

The course, "Ethics of Technology in Science Fiction," was developed by Tulane SoPA IT faculty member Blaine Fisher and is listed in Tulane's schedule of courses as CPST 3100. Fisher says enrolled students will engage in discussions and contemplate the profound questions that these technologies pose.

"As knowledge races ahead, it often leaves wisdom struggling to catch its breath," Fisher remarked. "This course serves as a much-needed rest stop where we can catch our breath and realign our priorities."

Students will explore a variety of dilemmas ranging from futuristic concepts like time travel and cloning to the dystopian human rights ideals in "The Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood and warfare technology in "Ender's Game" by Orson Scott Card.

As the world continues to grapple with the ethical ramifications of technological advancement, this course offers invaluable opportunities for dialogue, reflection, and ethical engagement in shaping the future of technology and society.

The online class kicks off on Thursday, May 23, 2024, with lectures held once per week throughout the [Full Summer Session](). Enrollment is currently open, but space is limited.

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