

# DISCUSSION TOPICS

## Spring 2024

Prompted by recent developments that have challenged the status of higher education as we know it, this term's conversations will focus on **The Ethics of Higher Education**, looking at salient ethical and social considerations that are front and center in conversations regarding the current state and future of higher education. Our C4E postdoctoral scholar with expertise in philosophy of education, Dr. Alex Nikolaidis, will facilitate our conversations this term.

12:00-1:00 pm

Zoom Link: <https://ucf.zoom.us/j/97394687549> Code: 960457

### Wed, Jan 24

#### Teaching in the Age of AI

How do the possibilities of AI change the nature of teaching in higher education? What are the aims of higher education in the age of AI? How does AI shift our understanding of academic integrity? This conversation will address these and other questions about teaching in the age of AI.

**Podcast:** Harvard EdCast (February 8, 2023), Educating in a World of Artificial Intelligence, s.1 ep. 415.

<https://the-harvard-edcast.simplecast.com/episodes/educating-in-a-world-of-artificial-intelligence>

### Wed, Feb 7

#### Ethics Education for Computer Scientists

How should we teach ethics to computer science students to ensure a responsible design of AI? How do we instill a motivation in students to become responsible engineers? This conversation will address these and other pedagogy-relevant questions about computer science education.

**Podcast:** Ethics in AI (November 11, 2020), Ethics in AI Education.

<https://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/ethics-ai-education>

### Wed, Feb 21

#### Teaching Divisive Concepts

What are "divisive concepts" and why are they divisive? Should we be teaching divisive concepts in higher education? This conversation will address the above questions, the ethics of teaching in higher education, and more.

**Podcast:** Ethics and Education (June 14, 2022), "Divisive Concepts," Ethics in Higher Ed Miniseries, ep.1.

<https://ethicsandeducation.wceruw.org/podcast/divisive-concepts-ethics-in-higher-ed-1/>

### Wed, Mar 6

#### Campus Speech

Is college campus speech free? Are universities indoctrinating their students? Should university students be more tolerant of different perspectives and opinions? Is academic freedom under threat? This conversation will address the state of free speech on college campuses and its relation to central democratic values like autonomy and liberty.

**Podcast:** New Books in Higher Education (May 15, 2023), Campus Misinformation.

<https://newbooksnetwork.com/campus-misinformation>

### Wed, Mar 27

#### Decolonizing Higher Ed

What is the legacy of colonialism in higher education? Is colonialism still a part of the higher ed curriculum? What demands does decolonization make on universities and how are these related to questions of social justice? This conversation will address whether universities have an ethical obligation to decolonize, who is responsible for taking action in that direction, and more.

**Podcast:** Times Higher Education Podcast (April 13, 2023), How to deal with the legacy of empire in higher education.

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/campus/podcast-how-deal-legacy-empire-higher-education>

### Wed, Apr 10

#### The Ethics of College Admissions

Who should be admitted into universities? Should universities prioritize merit over need? Who should receive financial aid and what should this aid look like? This conversation will address important ethical dilemmas that arise in the college admissions process.

**Podcast:** Ethics and Education (February 8, 2022), The Ethics of College Admissions.

<https://ethicsandeducation.wceruw.org/podcast/the-ethics-of-college-admissions/>

*Suggestions for future topics? Write to us directly at [centerforethics@ucf.edu](mailto:centerforethics@ucf.edu)*