



136158 Artificial Intelligence in Social Work

Proposing Professor: **Alessandro Sicora**

Teachers: **Alessandro Sicora**

Ryszard Necel, Vice-Dean for Science, Faculty of Sociology, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań (Poland)

Date	Time	Topics	Room
21/05/2026	9.00 – 13.00	1. Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social work in Poland: institutional framework, professional role, and key tasks. Current stage of AI development and adoption in Polish social work. Research findings on social workers' attitudes and imaginaries concerning AI. 2. Demonstration and discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ethics of working with AI: professional standards and guidelines; key ethical risks and mitigation strategies. Uses of AI in social work: from administrative automation to generative AI; opportunities and limits across different tasks and settings. Case studies and practical examples (including short videos/images where relevant): predictive systems, administrative support tools, generative AI for reflective practice and professional sensitivity. Guided discussion on usefulness, limitations, and risks. 	Aula 9
21/05/2026	14.00 – 16.00	3. Workshop activities <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prompt literacy: how to write and refine prompts; prompt types; critical issues (bias, hallucinations, confidentiality, tone). Case management exercise (2 sessions): small-group work on anonymised cases, covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. structuring information (facts, needs, resources, risks), b. formulating diagnostic questions, c. planning and coordinating support (goals, tasks, timelines, indicators). 	Aula 9

SEMINAR DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVE

This seminar provides an applied, practice-oriented introduction to the use of artificial intelligence in social work. It aims to help students understand how AI is currently used—and could be used—in professional contexts, while critically engaging with ethical, organisational, and professional implications.

The seminar combines:

- a conceptual and research-informed overview of AI in social work,
- ethical guidance grounded in existing standards and key risk areas, and
- hands-on activities based on demonstrations and case-based exercises.

Participants will learn how to use AI responsibly to support administrative work, reflective practice, and case management, while maintaining human judgement, accountability, and data protection.

TARGET STUDENTS

Students enrolled in the Laurea in Servizio Sociale and the Laurea Magistrale in Metodologia, Organizzazione e Valutazione dei Servizi Sociali are the primary audience for the seminar. If the maximum number (20) of participants is not reached, applications from students in other degree programs within the Department of Sociology and Social Research may be considered. These will be accepted in the chronological order of registration, provided the application was submitted within the enrollment deadline.

Requirements: basic familiarity with AI tools and ability to access and use Google Gemini for the workshop exercises.

PROFESSOR

Prof. Dr. Ryszard Necel is a university professor in sociology. He works at the Faculty of Sociology at Adam Mickiewicz University, where he serves as Vice-Dean for Research. His work focuses on the sociology of social problems, social rights advocacy, social innovation, and social work. He combines reflections on social policy with contemporary sociological theories. His publications have appeared in the Journal of Contemporary Central and Eastern Europe, International Social Work, the International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction, and Global Networks.

CREDIT AND EVALUATION

A minimum attendance of 5 hours (corresponding to 75% of the 6-hour seminar, rounded up to the nearest whole hour) is required. The guidelines for the evaluation of the seminar's outcome will be provided at the beginning of the seminar. Upon successful completion of the seminar, students will be awarded 1 ECTS credit.

REGISTRATION

Registration is obligatory and must be done online at <http://www.sociologia.unitn.it/100/seminari-di-credito> by **14/05/2026** (maximum number of enrollees: 20). Please take note of the SANCTIONS PROVIDED for those who do not show up for the first and/or next meeting without having given proper notice. See <http://www.sociologia.unitn.it/100/seminari-di-credito>

OTHER INFORMATION

Prof. Sicora will assist Prof. Necel in helping students understand the seminar content and overcoming any language barriers.

For more details write to: alessandro.sicora@unitn.it