



Ca' Foscari  
University  
of Venice

Department of Philosophy  
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**FARE**  
RICERCA IN ITALIA

FRAMEWORK PER L'ATTRAZIONE E IL RAFFORZAMENTO  
DELLE ECCELLENZE PER LA RICERCA IN ITALIA



image: Plaza George Orwell, Barcelona. / Wikimedia Commons

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# The Political Epistemology of AI.

**Matteo Pasquinelli**

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What kind of knowledge model is the current form of AI (i.e. machine learning) representing and reinforcing? In the history of human civilizations tools have always emerged along with a paradigm of technical knowledge, but this aspect seems very confused in an artefact that claims to directly automate human "intelligence" and "learning." The critical literature dedicated to the epistemology of machine learning (its genesis, validity and functions, briefly, its historical apriori) is still fragmentary and to fill this gap this seminar proposes to investigate the following themes: 1) Relation between the making of mechanical thinking in the modern age and algorithmic thinking in the 20th century. 2) Competition between paradigms of deductive and inductive logic, symbolic representation and statistical modelling, in early and current developments of AI. 3) Friction between the episteme of causation of traditional science and the episteme of correlation that the growing use of data analytics and machine learning come to exacerbate. 4) Role of ideological discourses in the reception and vehiculation of AI, which is gradually imposing itself as a hegemonic technique of surveillance and labor automation.



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