

Teaching web architecture and ethics to highly gifted high school students in a summer school

René Pickhardt, Olaf Goerlitz, Steffen Staab



Where are ethics in websci education?





Tim Davies @timdavies



Interesting to see 'ethical aspects' as core slide in presentation on Internet and #websci13. Wondering where ethics is in websci education

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5:31 AM - 1 Mai 13

Antwort an @timdavies



About the German summer high school



- 96 students in 6 courses
 - 16 students per course
 - 2 (voluntary) teachers per course
- 11th and 12th grade
 - Between 14 and 19 years
- 17 days with 50 hours of total course time
- Almost no preparation
- Very heterogeneous knowledge
- Students are recommended by their teachers



- Course goals
- Course structure
- Teaching methodology
- Evaluation
- Lessons learnt
- Future work



Goals for the Course



- Students should be able to
 - understand the technical parts of current web architecture in particular
 - Protocols
 - -the decentralized & open aspects
 - Design decisions
 - know and identify (currently ongoing) ethical issues on the Web and be able to form a solid opinion abut them



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Course content



- 2 kind of topics
 - Technical topics
 - -IP, TCP, HTTP
 - -DNS
 - Routing protocols
 - -HTML
 - Unique resource identifier
 - Ethical topics
 - net neutrality
 - copy right infringement
 - censorship on the web
 - Governance of the Web



Course structure



- First week
 - teaching of theoretical knowledge on technical issues
 - Implementing HTTP in Java using sockets
- Midterm:
 - Presenting learnt material in a theater play
- Second week
 - Ethical discussions
 - Writing a 25 pages essay on the studied material



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Teaching approach differed in various situations



- Theoretical knowledge
 - Bottom up
 - Each student had to present a 20 minute talk
- Programming HTTP (have the studens could not code)
 - Top down
 - Learning by doing
- Ethical aspects of the web
 - Introductory talk by a student
 - Group discussions
 - Role play





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How did we evaluate the course



- Voluntary course
 - ==> no exams or other direct evaluation methods
- 25 pages essay by students
- Written feedback (daily basis)
- Oral presentation
 - Prepared talk
 - Rotational talks



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Take aways



- Web ethics can be understood much better if the web architecture is well known and understood
- Already high school students can be well aware of ethical issues on the web
- This could only be a small part of a web science course



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Teaching Web Science as a massive open online course

René Pickhardt, Steffen Staab



Structure of our MOOC



Foundations of the web

- Lesson 1 & 2: History of the Web & Web Architecture
- Lesson 3: Structure of the Web

Theoretical results of web user behavior

- Lesson 4 & 5: Micro and Macro behavior of web users
 & Social Network (Analysis)
- Lesson 6 & 7: Information Retrieval & Recommender systems

The Web & society

- Lesson 8: Trust and Security
- Lesson 9: Web Economics
- Lesson 10: Web Governance and Web Ethics

http://www.moocfellowship.org/submissions/web-science



Vote now for our MOOC



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Web Science

Prof. Dr. Steffen Staab and Rene Pickhardt

Field/Discipline: Interdisciplinary

Language: English

Institution: Institute for Web Science and Technologies

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心 Vote

Description

This MOOC consists of ten lessons divided into three parts.

- 1. Lesson 1 3: Foundations of the web
- 2. Lesson 4 7: Theoretical results of web user behavior
- 3. Lesson 8 10: Web & society

Lesson 1 & 2: History of the Web & Web Architecture



Prof. Dr. Steffen Staab

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Rene Pickhardt