

Jenna Davidson, Jennifer Dickerson, Kenny Malaney, Kristian Knowles

English 1102h / K. Redding

Panel Research Proposal

22 February, 2016

### The Age of Artificial Consciousness

Science fiction has been used to entertain us and cause us to ask questions about the possible and potential consequences of many topics such as time travel, artificial intelligence, the discovery of advanced civilizations, and much more. Through this lens, our panel will examine and explore the applications, challenges, and dangers associated with artificial consciousness.

Our panel hopes to address the following: what is classified as a robot with consciousness, what are the applications, what are the ethics and challenges, and lastly, what are the dangers that stem from humanoid robots. To start the panel, Jennifer Dickerson will discuss *Artificial Consciousness: What is it?* Kenneth Malaney will pursue, *What are the Applications of Conscious Humanoid Robots*. Kristian Knowles will cover the intriguing question about the ethics in robotics through her paper *The Ethics Surrounding Artificial Consciousness in Humanoid Robots*. Jenna Davidson will bring attention to the dangers of conscious robots through her research *The End of Humanity*. We will look at how science fiction as a whole is used to analyze the various scenarios our future technology could put us in, and how best we could adapt and prepare for a future with conscious robots. To support our findings, each presenter looked at religious, philosophical, and scientific perspectives, as well as fictional works such as film and literature.