Learning from Machines Project:

Artificial intelligence (AI) is one of the most rapidly advancing transformative technologies today. Contemporary AI systems can not only outperform humans in certain tasks, but they are also now able to do things humans cannot—from beating our World Champions at Go (Silver et al., 2016), to solving 50-year-old grand challenges in biology (Senior et al., 2020; Callaway, 2020), to triaging COVID-19 patients (Lai et al., 2020). The Learning from Machines Project investigates historical and philosophical methods for understanding and learning from our machine counterparts, with the goals of eventually being able to reproduce some of their impressive behaviours or to use their achievements to advance our own epistemic ends. This multi-year project has received generous support from both the Schwartz Reisman Institute for Technology and Society and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Lead

- Karina Vold, FAS Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology

Collaborators outside the University of Toronto

- José Hernández-Orallo, Professor, Valencian Research Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Universitat Politècnica de València

Graduate Students at the University of Toronto

- Jessica Hall, FAS Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology
- Rachel Katz, FAS Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology

Undergraduate Students at the University of Toronto

- Amelia Kush, Cognitive Science Program