

LESSON RATIONALE:

Algorithms are informing and quickly replacing human judgement in many aspects of our lives. While service providers started out using algorithms to make predictions about our preferences for products and entertainment -- e.g., Amazon, Spotify, Google, Netflix, Facebook, etc. -- today algorithms are being used to predict and make critical determinations such as your criminal status, your credit score, your health, and even your future success as an employee or student.

This lesson is designed to provide students with a quick and simple methodology to understand and demonstrate knowledge of the global impact of algorithms, gain a perspective on the use of data in China and Europe, and how these comparative international examples can frame their beliefs about personal privacy in the United States.

INTRODUCTION (5 MINS)

Recap the Lesson 6 on Privacy. Ask students to think about why or why not privacy is important to them.

Explain that today's lesson will focus on two very different international perspectives on privacy: The Chinese social credit score system and the European "Right to be forgotten."

IDH SPECIAL REPORT: (10 MINS) CHINESE SOCIAL CREDIT SCORES VIDEO

Play the IDH Special Report: Chinese Social Credit Scores Video for the students. While watching, have students write down anything that surprises them, or questions they have from the video.

Ask students to reflect as a whole group on the video by asking these questions aloud:

- What surprised you about this video?
- What questions do you have about social credit scores?



GRADE LEVEL

High School
Grades 9-12

TIME

45-50
minutes (mins)

COMMON CORE STANDARDS

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.9-10.3
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RST.9-10.5
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.9-10.1

MATERIALS

Paper
Writing utensil

LESSON OBJECTIVE(S):

Explain how a social credit score system works.

Explore how Chinese social credit scores differ from U.S. ideas about privacy.

Evaluate the European versus Chinese approaches to privacy.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:

What is the Chinese social credit score system?

What is the European "right to be forgotten?"

What are the similarities and differences between the U.S. and international ideas about privacy?

KEY VOCABULARY

Privacy
Social credit score
Right to be forgotten

CLASSROOM SET UP

Students will be working independently and in small groups. Desks should be arranged to easily see a video.



SOCIAL CREDIT SCORE WORKSHEET (20 MINS)

Put the students into four Teams: A, B, C, and D. Hand out the **Social Credit Score Worksheet** to each team and have them answer the questions about privacy using Messy Data, Biased Data, and Humans vs Robots.

Bring the class back together for a discussion on the Social Credit Score Worksheet. **Ask each team to report on their answers.**



IDH SPECIAL REPORT: (15 MINS) THE RIGHT TO BE FORGOTTEN VIDEO



Play IDH Special Report: The Right to Be Forgotten Video for the students. While watching, have the students write down any scenarios from the Social Credit Score Worksheet that they wish would be “forgotten.”

For each of the scenarios from the **Social Credit Score Worksheet**, have the students discuss whether they would prefer China’s social credit score system or Europe’s “right to be forgotten.”

WRAP UP: FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT (5 MINS)

As an exit ticket, have students write down their preferences from the prior discussion and turn it in for a formative assessment.



Need help facilitating classroom discussions centered on technology, algorithms, AI, digital ethics or more?

The IDH can help! Reach out with any questions or concerns!

www.institutefordigitalhumanity.org

Name:

Date:

SOCIAL CREDIT SCORE WORKSHEET

This worksheet should be used to determine your social credit score. Follow the directions for each section, making sure to total your points at the bottom.

**STARTING SCORE:
700**

Add points if you did the following:

Praised the government on social media	100
Praised the President on social media	150
Praised the President to one of your friends	100
Displayed the United States flag outside your home	50
Displayed the United States flag at your workplace	50
Registered for the military draft	100
Had perfect attendance at work or school last month	50
Paid all of your bills on time last month	50

Subtract points if you did the following:

Criticized the government on social media	200
Criticized the President on social media	250
Criticized the President to one of your friends	200
Participated in a protest critical of government	250
Refused military or government service	250
Missed work or school more than once last month	25
Missed a payment on one of your bills last month	25
Missed two or more bill payments last month	50
Played too many video games last month	25
Crossed a street somewhere other than a crosswalk	25
Spread fake news on social media	50

TOTAL SCORE:

Social Credit Score Grading:

- A) 960 - 1000
- B) 850 - 955
- C) 600 - 840
- D) Below 600 (untrustworthy*)

Minimum Score Requirements

- A: attend a top university
- A: take on a leadership role in the government

- B: work for the government or a top employer
- B: leave the country

- C: leave the state; travel within the country
- C: purchase an airplane or train ticket
- C: receive benefits from government programs

*If you receive a score below a C, the government considers you untrustworthy. You and your family will not be allowed to attend universities, work at anything other than menial and low-paying jobs, receive government benefits, purchase airplane or train tickets, travel outside of the area in which you live, or enjoy other privileges.