

## Summer Assignment: Creativity and Machines

This assignment will serve as a starting point for a discussion during the opening days of the course.

We often hear it exclaimed that a work of art, a book, an invention, or an idea is creative. What does this mean? Would it matter if the creation was produced by a machine and not a person? Your assignment is to write a single paragraph which responds to the statement “*A mechanical machine can produce creative work.*” It does not matter what stand you take. What matters is that you clearly articulate a position and then provide arguments and evidence to support this position. Try to be brief and concise.

The assignment should be typed into a Word document. Do your best to follow the guidelines below, but please, do not stress too much about your writing. At this point, it is more important to think about the ideas you want to express. The assignment will be collected and graded on a pass/fail basis.

### Guidelines:

- The paragraph should have a clearly stated thesis near the beginning.
- The paragraph should provide supporting arguments and evidence for the thesis.
- Sentences should hold together rather being a random collection of statements.
- Sentences should be properly constructed and serve effectively to convey your message.
- Check for and correct errors in punctuation, spelling, or sentence structure, including fragments and run-on sentences.

Bring a printed copy with you to our first class. Also, before coming to the class, submit your assignment via WISE. To get to WISE, go to [wise.willamette.edu](http://wise.willamette.edu) and log in with your Willamette user name and ID. You should see a tab for IDS 101 27 12/FA. Under the **Course Tools** heading on the left, click on **Assignments**. Then choose **Summer Assignment**. Attach your Word document and submit. If you have any problems, please email Professor Orr ([gorr@willamette.edu](mailto:gorr@willamette.edu)).