

MODULE 3 · WEEK 3 · LESSON 4

Responsible AI: Bias, Fairness and Inclusion in Practice

From principles to checklists

WHAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO

- Explain how bias enters at data, design and deployment
- Run a 5-point fairness checklist on an AI-assisted decision
- Advocate for inclusion of low-resource languages and users

LESSON CONTENT

Three entry points of bias

Data: historical inequities baked into examples. Design: proxy variables and thresholds chosen carelessly (e.g. postcode as a poverty proxy). Deployment: applying a model to populations it never trained on. Each entry point has a different fix.

The 5-point fairness checklist

1) Who is affected and who is missing from the data? 2) Which proxies could encode protected traits? 3) What are error rates for different groups? 4) Is there a human appeal path? 5) Would we accept this decision if it targeted us? Five questions before any AI-assisted decision touches a person.

Inclusion as engineering

Test outputs in your users' languages and literacy levels. Provide low-bandwidth and offline alternatives. Responsible AI is not a philosophy seminar; it is a set of engineering habits with names and checkboxes.

KEY TERMS

Proxy variable	A stand-in feature that encodes a protected trait.
Fairness checklist	Pre-deployment questions on impact and bias.
Appeal path	A human route to challenge an automated decision.
Inclusion testing	Checking quality across languages/abilities.

HANDS-ON TASK

Checklist a real decision · Tools: Notes + news search

1. Find one AI-assisted decision affecting people (bank, hiring, grading).
2. Run the 5-point checklist on it in writing.
3. Propose one concrete fix for the weakest point.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- ✓ Before you go, three takeaways from this lesson.
- ✓ One: Explain how bias enters at data, design and deployment.
- ✓ Two: Run a 5-point fairness checklist on an AI-assisted decision.

- ✓ Three: Advocate for inclusion of low-resource languages and users.
- ✓ And your hands-on task: checklist a real decision.
- ✓ Find one AI-assisted decision affecting people (bank, hiring, grading).
- ✓ When it is done, mark the lesson complete on your dashboard, keep the artifact for your portfolio, and step into the next lesson.
- ✓ I will see you there.

Watch the lesson video on your dashboard, complete the task, then mark the lesson complete. Your artifact belongs in your Portfolio of Evidence.