"How Engineers, Businesspeople and Lawyers Communicate With Each Other"

Spring Semester 2019 Syllabus:

This course will help students from business, engineering, and law learn to understand each other's perspectives, speak each other's language, and work together effectively to solve complex problems in a collaborative environment. Students will work in groups containing individuals from each discipline. They will be given instructions on forming a new business and will work together to develop responses to simulations and fact patterns regarding their new business which are related to privacy and data security – just like their instructors deal with every day! Grading will include a group project and group presentation, as well as a brief individual research project in a related topic.

This simulation will guide students through a collection of facts and series of events to emphasize interaction and communication between engineers, businesspeople, and lawyers.

Students will:

- Consider the facts presented and conduct research to identify additional relevant information
- Ask questions to ensure assignment transparency
- Collaborate with team members to produce and present required course deliverables

1. **Sessions**
    - Saturday January 5th 9:00AM – 4:00PM
    - Saturday January 12th 9:00AM – 4:00PM
    - Saturday January 26th 9:00AM – 4:00PM
    - Saturday February 9th 9:00AM – 4:00PM

    We will also have multiple guest lecturers from the field. Below is a general outline of the framework and schedule for the class:

    Week 1: Assignment of inter-disciplinary teams, overview of the legal / technological framework; simulated problem provided and reviewed

    Week 2: Class-wide discussion on teamwork and communication; review of course materials

    - Each discipline meets to discuss specific challenges about (i) the simulation and fact patterns provided; as well as (ii) teamwork and communication with other disciplines

    Week 3: Class-wide discussion on teamwork and communication; review of course materials

    - Each discipline meets to discuss specific challenges about (i) the simulation and fact patterns provided; as well as (ii) teamwork and communication with other disciplines

    Week 4: Team presentations and debriefs

    Course Materials

    - **Strengthsfinder 2.0** from Gallup and Tom Rath (Discover Your Clifton Strengthens)
        - *This will be provided by the instructors

- **The Language of Cyber Security** by Maria Antonieta Flores ($19.99 for Kindle edition on Amazon)
- **Crucial Conversations** by Patterson, Grenny, McMillan, and Switzler (Used $1.00 on Amazon)
- Any additional readings to be assigned will be provided by instructors or accessible through SCU library

2. Grading

Team Project: (50%): This assignment will help you gain knowledge and practice skills involving:

- Mastering fundamental concepts
- Apply understanding and techniques for team collaboration across disciplines

You will be organized into groups of students from each discipline (Law, Engineering, and Business) and will analyze a common case simulation based on a series of organizational challenges and using a multiple-discipline perspective. As the course progresses, you will be given "based on a true story" type facts impacting your business/organization. You will need to work within your group to assess the facts of the case, react to events, collect additional information through research and expert interviews, and provide documented responses (deliverables). Required deliverables may include (but are not limited to): key elements of a business plan with risk assessment, solution design documentation, and/or a legal analysis memo recommending a course of action for your business/organization.

Your group project will be due as notified by the instructors. This grade may include a team evaluation component using an online tool (catme).

Weekly analysis (20%): This assignment will help you gain knowledge and practice skills involving mastering fundamental concepts.

Each student must independently submit a weekly entry via Camino, including:

1. A summary of learnings from each class session in a concise format (within 48 hours of each class session).
2. Working notes for their self-directed research project (include - quiz on Camino, limited word count)
3. Additional postings and postings to group discussions (e.g. new sources of information) are encouraged but not required.
4. Progress toward collaboration - each person should analyze from all three points of view – requiring the other disciplines to explain their points of view to you

Industry Case/Self-directed Research (20%):

This assignment will gain knowledge and practice skills involving:

- Applying gained knowledge of relevant topics discussed in class
- Getting and responding to feedback
- Sharing knowledge collaboratively

You will select a topic of personal interest related to this course (or can be assigned a topic if asked) which should examine a current, real-world challenge involving effective communication in privacy and cybersecurity. You must submit either (or both):

1. A written 3-page (11pt Calibri font, max 1.5 spacing) executive style briefing on your topic.
2. Narrated, high-quality video (video equipment may be arranged through the SCU library)

Either submission type must be well-grounded and reference applicable research and use effective visuals.

You must obtain instructor approval of the topic (via Camino) by the second week of class. The due date for papers will be provided by the instructors.

Topics: May include participation in an industry event with corresponding trip report, executive summary/book review, or a report summarizing exploration of an interdisciplinary topic relating to privacy and cybersecurity.

Substance: Your paper should include analysis of the following:

- Describe the topic
- Analyze the best method for describing the topic/issue to the other disciplines and also those of your own discipline.
    - Note: Your analysis should include responses based on the personalities and interaction patterns with your group and what you've learned about them from Strengthsfinder 2.0 and Crucial Conversations.

Final Group Presentation: (10%)

This assignment will gain knowledge and practice skills involving:

- Applying gained knowledge
- Demonstrate learned collaboration skills
- Share critical analysis

During our last session, each group will present a report on:

- Their recommended approaches to all simulation facts /events they were presented with; and
- How each member of the group participated, debated and negotiated with each other, and what was and was not effective. Communication about each of these disciplines is the key to this course and to working in the tech world – we will be looking to see what each discipline brought to the table and what you learned in working with each other.

Presentations should be 15-20 minutes long – communication and interaction should be the focus of each presentation. Each teammate must present at some point during the course.

Instructor Discretion

Attendance: Group interaction and in-class discussions are critical to this course. You must attend every class and actively engage with classmates and advisors and share insights. Specifically, if you cannot attend the first class, we strongly recommend you drop the course from your schedule. We will excuse absences rarely. An unexpected absence will reduce your final course grade. At our discretion, we may drop you from the course or fail you upon two (2) absences.

We will circulate a sign-in sheet at each session.

5. Office Hours

Before and after class upon request

6. **Learning Objectives:** The course objective is to learn creative interdisciplinary problem-solving, interpersonal skills and initiative. It can be challenging to effectively communicate and collaborate with people from different disciplines. Students must learn to understand each other's perspectives, speak each other's language, and work to together effectively in a collaborative environment. They must represent their fields effectively, but also learn to appreciate and understand the other disciplines they will encounter in a work environment by interviewing and counseling one another. Students will also learn the underlying doctrinal and technical material related to the simulation (including privacy laws and data security practices) and will be able to apply those skills and the doctrinal/technical material to accomplish specified goals in the simulation.

Integration/Habit:

- Demonstrate appreciation and understanding of the other disciplines that you may encounter in a work environment by interviewing and counseling one another using structured techniques
- Find your voice and articulate your intentions and learning objectives
- Leverage advanced techniques to improve effectiveness of communications
- Demonstrate your ability to expand your information literacy
- Summarize incremental learning through writing and analysis
- Demonstrate a systems thinking mindset that integrates perspectives from multiple disciplines
- Actively seek, apply, and engage in discussion about related ethical issues using a critical thinking framework

Affective Objectives:

- Demonstrate empathy and "crucial conversations" skills
- Consider factors of personality and individual strengths to enhance communication and collaboration activities
- Explain how others can effectively build trust with you
- Analyze and synthesize multiple perspectives and sources of information through self-directed research, care about continuing to evolve your understanding and discover flaws in your logic
- Consider and apply a "hacker mindset" to gain additional perspective

- Critique performance of teammates using a structured approach
- Advocate an informed perspective from your chosen discipline (engineering, law, or business) as a confident and informed champion for intelligent, risk-aware privacy and data protection practices

Skills-based:

- Demonstrate creative interdisciplinary problem-solving between business, legal, and engineering mindsets through shared team assignments and class presentations
- Demonstrate confidence and compromise by understanding and speaking each other's discipline and personality/strength specific language
- Apply learned collaboration skills and understanding of the doctrinal/technical material to accomplish specified goals in team and individual assignments

Knowledge-based:

- Master the fundamental doctrinal and technical concepts and domain language in:
    - privacy law
    - data protection practices
    - cybersecurity
    - technology risk management
- Apply knowledge gained in this course to analyze real world problems