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Fall 2015

CSCI 3080

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This is an older syllabus and should not be used as a substitute for the syllabus for a current semester course.

Recommended Citation

Preliminary Remarks

Welcome to CSCI 3080, "Ethics in the Computing Profession." This course is a critical look at the ethical issues that are relevant to the computing profession. Students are expected to be involved in the discussions that will be at the heart of this course offering. The ultimate goal of the course is to enable students to express and defend **their** positions on these critical ethical issues relevant to the computing profession.

Required Text

Baase, Sara. *A Gift of Fire: Social, Legal, and Ethical Issues for Computing Technology*, 4th ed. Prentice Hall, 2013. ISBN-13: 978-0-13249267-6.

Course Format

The course will be conducted primarily as a forum of discussion — students will conduct a brief overview of a topic from the text and then facilitate a discussion. Each student should read the appropriate section in the textbook dealing with the topic to be presented/discussed and participate in the discussion of the same. Students who are presenting a topic will be required to summarize the appropriate textbook pages, make a 10-minute oral presentation of the important issues raised in the section, and then lead a peer-discussion of the topic. Although it is perfectly alright to quote from the textbook, the presentation should not merely be a string of quotes lifted from there.

The semester schedule is as follows (subject to adjustment as necessary):

Date(s)	Activity
Aug. 21	Preliminary meeting; administrivia
Aug. 28, Sep 4	Discussion forum (facilitated by the instructor)
Sep. 11 – Nov 27	Student-led discussion forum
TBA	Final exam (in-class)

Course Grades

Grades will be based on the overview presentation, participation in class discussions, a short paper assignment, and the final exam. The weights assigned to these grade components are as follows:

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Oral Overview          30%
Class Participation    30%
Short Paper (5 pages)  20% (Due May 1st, topic TBA)
Final Exam             20% (In-class, firmly scheduled for May 8th)
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Numerical grades translate to their letter grade counterparts using the following table:

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90 – 100   A       60 – 79   C        Below 50   F
80 – 89    B       50 – 59   D
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Scheduled topics (may be adjusted as necessary):

Ethics	Cybercrime	Professional Ethics
Privacy	Workplace Issues	
Freedom of Speech	Evaluating Technological Innovations	
Intellectual Property	Evaluating Technological Failures	

Office Hours

The instructor should normally be available for consultation at his office (MTH 308) during the following times:

> Monday: 3-5 pm
> Tuesday: 1-2 pm
> Friday: 3-5 pm

Other times by appointment only. You may contact the instructor via email:

> e-mail: farjana.eishita@uno.edu

Attendance

Attendance is a significant component of the final grade. Consequently, attendance will be taken at each session of the class.

Student Learning Outcome

- Students will be able to apply different ethics model to practical technical scenario
- Students will be able to show their knowledge towards the ethics recourse
- Students will be able to analyze the ethics models, compare among them develop their own appropriate model for different test cases.

Academic Dishonesty

As a matter of policy, we call your attention to the University's rules regarding academic dishonesty:

> http://www.uno.edu/studentaffairs/sa-documents/academicdishonestypolicy.pdf

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. In particular, it includes "inappropriate and unauthorized collaboration during an academic exercise" and "unauthorized use or possession of specialty prepared materials, such as notes or formula lists, during an academic exercise." In the event of academic dishonesty, the student will be assigned a grade of 0 or "F" on the exam or exercise, and further action might be taken as specified in the Policy Manual.

Students With Special Needs

Finally, we provide here a link to the home page of the University's Office of Disability Services (ODS) that contains valuable information for students with special needs (http://www.ods.uno.edu/). As expressed therein, The University is committed to providing for the needs of enrolled or admitted students who have disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). In general, University policy calls for reasonable accommodations to be made for students with documented disabilities on an individualized and flexible basis. It is the responsibility of students, however, to seek available assistance at the University and to make their needs known.