

NORWICH UNIVERSITY
School of Business & Management
IS330 – Ethics in Computing and Technology
Fall 2009
Syllabus

- I. **Title:** IS330 – Ethics in Computing and Technology
- II. **Credit Hours:** 3 credit hours.
Fall 2009: Section : R 1800 - 2030 Dewey 211
- III. **Instructor:** Dr. Peter Stephenson, CISSP, CISM, FICAF Email: pstephen@norwich.edu
Office: Dewey Hall, Room 205 802-485-2007 (x2007 on campus)
IM: AIM nuciso
- IV. **Course Description:** The course is designed to expose students to some of the ethical dilemmas posed to our culture as a result of the current technological trends. Students will study various ethical standards and creeds offered through a variety of organizations (e.g., ACM). Students will learn to evaluate case studies from an ethical perspective. Students will be expected to conduct literature surveys, produce bibliographies, write literature reviews, and present oral summaries of research as well as offer critical evaluation of writings related to ethics and technology.
- V. **Instructional Objectives:** By the end of this course, the student will be able to...
- A. Explain what we mean by ethics and ethical decisions
 - B. Describe the elements of classical ethics
 - C. Explain how ethics in a technological environment may differ from ethics in the business world and your private lives in general.
 - D. Relate ethics to technology through exploration of several ethical dilemmas
 - E. Evaluate codes of ethics in various organizations
 - F. Explain the relationship between ethics and law
 - G. Apply analysis to difficult ethical problems posed by technology in today's society
 - H. Evaluate ethical positions in technology as practiced by different cultures
- VI. **Text and Materials:**
- Harrington, Jan L. Technology and Society, Jones and Bartlett Publishers ISBN 0-7637-5094
- VII. **Assessment:**
- A. Your final course grade will be based on the following:
 - i. Analysis papers based on readings and research
 - ii. Midterm and Final examination, cumulative
 - iii. Online and In-Class Discussion
 - B. Midterm
The midterm exam will be one full session exam (1 hour). A portion of the exam will be based on your responses to the readings and questions posed in your readings guide. There is no in-class final exam for this course.
 - C. Individual Research Project

To be discussed in class

D. Discussion and Contribution

Discussion will be based on readings from the text and other sources (online sources). Each student is required to participate in class discussion and provide meaningful contributions and raise appropriate questions. The format of this class is that of a graduate seminar. Since it is heavily based on classroom discussions you may expect a major part of your grade to come from those discussions.

VIII. **Administrative:**

A. Technology

Cell phones, PDAs, MP3 players including iPods, and so forth should be turned to the “OFF” position during class. They are disruptive to the professor and other students. Take your calls outside. Also, please do not browse the Internet or check your e-mail while in class. IF you bring your laptop to class, do not engage in chat, browsing, checking sports scores, playing games, and so forth.

B. Attendance

Your attendance and participation is vital to your success in the course. Students should notify me of any planned absences. I follow the university standard for absences: you are allowed three during the semester. On your second absence, I will notify you that after one more you will be removed from the class.

C. Plagiarism

Plagiarism is passing off someone else’s ideas or works as your own. Credit the ideas of others when you use someone else’s ideas, writings, etc. Cheating consists of sharing homework assignments with others and/or turning in a homework assignment that someone else completed for you. Other forms of cheating are outlined in the Student Handbook.

The consequence for plagiarism and cheating is a zero for the assignment and a referral to the Dean of the School of Business and the VPAA. Cheating and plagiarism are unethical and against good moral character. Furthermore, professional practice in information systems requires ethical, moral decision-making and ethical behavior.