

## CS3162.052 Course Syllabus

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### Course Information

CS3162 Professional Responsibility in Computer Science and  
Software engineering

Spring 2025

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### Professor Contact Information

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<b>Office Hours</b>	See Web site: <a href="https://personal.utdallas.edu/~John.Cole/#Office">https://personal.utdallas.edu/~John.Cole/#Office</a>

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### Course Modality and Expectations

<b>Instructional Mode</b>	1. In-person. You will be expected to be in class. <b>Attendance is mandatory</b> and will be taken. If you are more than 15 minutes late or forget to be counted, you will be counted absent. Classes will not be presented online unless the University requires it and will not be recorded unless the University requires it.
<b>Meeting Time and Place</b>	Section 052: Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 to 8:50 AM Section 051: Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 to 9:50 AM FN 2.102
<b>Course Platform</b>	Traditional classroom.
<b>Expectations</b>	You will attend every class on time, participate when appropriate, and silence your phone and put it somewhere off the desk and out of reach.
<b>Asynchronous Learning Guidelines</b>	None. Unless the University requires it, this class will not be offered asynchronously.

### General Course Information

<b>Prerequisites/ Corequisites</b>	<b>CS 3345 and CS 3354</b> with a grade of C or better.
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<b>Course Description</b>	Professional and ethical responsibilities of computer scientists and software engineers as influenced by growth in computer use and networks. Costs and benefits of computer technology. Risks and liabilities of safety-critical systems. Social implications of the Internet. Interaction between human values and technical decisions involving computing. Intellectual Property. Global impact of computing. Dangers of AI and Robots. The Singularity. Topics will vary by class and level of participation.
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ability to understand professional issues and responsibilities</li> <li>2. Ability to understand ethical issues and responsibilities</li> <li>3. Ability to understand legal issues and responsibilities</li> <li>4. Ability to understand security issues and responsibilities</li> <li>5. Ability to understand social issues and responsibilities</li> <li>6. Ability to analyze the local impact of computing</li> <li>7. Ability to analyze the global impact of computing</li> </ol>
<b>Required Text</b>	<i>A Gift of Fire, Social, Legal, and Ethical Issues for Computing Technology</i> , 5th Edition by Sara Baase & Timothy M. Henry Pearson Publishing ISBN 13:978-0-13-461527-1

## Course Policies

<b>Grading Criteria</b>	Homework: 70% Final test: 25% Attendance: 5%	A=93-100 A-=90-92 B+=87-89 B=83-86 B-=80-82 C+=77-79 C=73-76 C-=70-72 F=below 70
<b>Make-up Exams</b>	N/A	
<b>Extra-Credit Work</b>	None given. Please do not ask.	
<b>Late Work</b>	Reduction of 25 percent per day or partial day for any late submissions unless otherwise stated in the assignment. That is, if the assignment is worth 100 points, you will lose 25 points per day, in addition to points lost because of the quality of work. Work more than 2 days late will not be accepted.	
<b>Grade Information</b>	I do not curve individual assignments, but I may curve the entire course a little. Do not count on this. Do your best work. Grades will be posted in eLearning and you can use the weights above to see where you stand. Grading will be lenient, but do your own work. I'm more interested in how you think about a	

	topic than what you think. Be prepared to argue your point of view.
<b>Who Grades What</b>	The graders and I will grade all homework. I will grade the final exam
<b>Grade Disputes</b>	If you have an issue with your grade on a test or homework, talk to me. You have <b>one week</b> after a grade is posted to do so. Do not come in at the end of the semester looking for a better grade on the first assignment.

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## Class Attendance

The University's attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Computer Science Department policy is that if you miss three consecutive classes your grade will drop one letter grade. Missing four in a row is failing.

Regular and punctual class attendance is expected regardless of modality. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. In some courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes. These attendance requirements will not be used as part of grading (see Class Participation below for grading information).

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## Class Participation

Regular class participation is expected regardless of course modality. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. Participation includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures (and/or labs). Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

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## Class Recordings

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

***NOTE: if the instructor records any part of the course, then the instructor will need to use the following syllabus statement:***

The instructor may record meetings of this course. Any recordings will be available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. If the instructor or a UTD school/department/office plans any other uses for the recordings, consent of the students identifiable in the recordings is required prior to such use unless an exception is allowed by law. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

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### **Class Materials**

The instructor may provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course, however, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

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Tentative schedule of topics. This is subject to change, and updates can be found on the class Web site.

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments
1	Jan 21	Course Introduction -- Chapter1: The Rapid Pace of Change	
	Jan 23	Bill Joy & Chapter 2: Privacy	Homework 1
2	Jan 28	Chapter 9 -- Scenarios	
	Jan 30	What is Human? Video and paper.	Homework 2
3	Feb 4	Chapter 3 -- Freedom of Speech	
	Feb 6	Chapter 4 -- Intellectual Property	Homework 3
4	Feb 11	Chapter 5 -- Crime and Security	
	Feb 13	Chapter 6 -- Work	Homework 4
5	Feb 18	Chapter 7 -- Evaluating and Controlling Technology	
	Feb 20	Chapter 8 -- Errors, Failures, and Risk	Homework 5
6	Feb 25	Transhumanism -- Paper by Nick Bostrom	
	Feb 27	Chapter 9 -- Professional Ethics and Responsibilities - Again	Homework 6
7	Mar 4	ACM & IEEE Codes of Ethics Test review	
	Mar 6	<b>Final Exam in the classroom</b>	

[https://pluto.tv/en/on-demand/series/5ef0d81d146bc5001ae9f7d0/season/1/episode/61c2286baf81f001a1f3fa1?utm\\_medium=textsearch&utm\\_source=google](https://pluto.tv/en/on-demand/series/5ef0d81d146bc5001ae9f7d0/season/1/episode/61c2286baf81f001a1f3fa1?utm_medium=textsearch&utm_source=google)

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### Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities

*Not Applicable.*

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### Comet Creed

*This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:*

*“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”*

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## **Academic Support Resources**

The information contained in the following link lists the University's academic support resources for all students.

Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources>.

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## **UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures**

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus.

Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

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*The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.*