

A3: Ethics and Professional Conduct in Software Engineering

Learn to listen, listen to learn

1 Introduction

In this part of the assignment, you will share the arguments you built in your opinion essay and listen to other students' arguments. When doing so, consider that the goal of this activity is to *develop your discussion skills with a focus on strengthening your listening skills*.



Professional conduct and academic integrity policies apply to all the activities in this course. Check the [CS414 website](#) for more information.

2 The brief

In your opinion essay, you have answered the following question(s):

*Does someone in Bill's position [Sourour'16] have an ethical obligation to act differently?
If so, how should he have responded to the customer's requirements?*

Now you are to share your opinion and listen to others' opinions, first within small groups and then with the whole class.

2.1 Small group discussions

1. Use your team's CW channel in Microsoft Teams.
2. Assign the following roles in your team:
 - a. **Facilitator:** Student who keeps track of time and lead the discussion.
 - b. **Summarizer:** Student who keep notes of the discussion and reports out to the class. These notes are to be uploaded to Canvas (see Section 3).
3. Take turns to share your opinions on the question above. The facilitator should make sure that:
 - a. The speaker does not take more than five minutes.
 - b. The speaker is not interrupted.
 - c. The speaker shares their opinion on the question above, instead of responding to a point someone else has made.
4. Once everybody has shared their opinion, start with the open discussion. This phase may take up to 20 minutes. Next are some points that can help in guiding the conversation:
 - a. What new ideas did you learn from hearing your teammates' responses?
 - b. What questions do you want to ask the other members of your team to find out more about their views on this topic?
 - c. After hearing the responses from the other members of your team, is there anything you want to add to your response?

- d. Besides the ACM Code of Ethics, did your teammates refer to other codes of ethics (e.g. the Code of Ethics by the IEEE-CS/ACM Joint Task Force on Software Engineering Ethics and Professional Practices [IEEE-CS/ACM'99])?
 - e. In general, what is your take in these codes of ethics for computing professionals?
5. Revise the report kept by the summarizer and make sure it contains the main points of the discussion.

2.2 Whole class discussion

1. When the instructor indicates it, join again the Lectures channel in Microsoft Teams.
2. Each team summarizer will present the key ideas of the team discussion to the class.

3 Deliverable

Complete the exit card for this activity in Canvas (A3: Exit card). If you served in the summarizer role, upload your team's notes in the corresponding question. At the top of the file, **write down the team name and the full names of the students who worked on the activity.**

4 Rubric

Item	Points
Title	/1
Introduction	/1
Thesis	/1
Arguments	/4
Conclusion	/1
Post-discussion*	/2
<i>Total</i>	<i>/10</i>

*During the due date lecture, we will develop an activity complementary to the essay. You must attend the lecture to participate in the activity and be eligible for the corresponding points.

5 References

- [ACM-CE'18] ACM. 2018. ACM Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct. Available: <https://www.acm.org/code-of-ethics>
- [Sourour'16] Sourour, Bill. 2016. "The code I'm still ashamed of". In freeCodeCamp news. Available: <https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/the-code-im-still-ashamed-of-e4c021dff55e>
- [IEEE-CS/ACM'99] IEEE-CS/ACM Joint Task Force on Software Engineering Ethics and Professional Practices. 1999. Software Engineering Code of Ethics and Professional Practice. Available: <https://ethics.acm.org/code-of-ethics/software-engineering-code/>