CS-130 Professional Issues Introduction: Understanding what "Professional Issues" Are
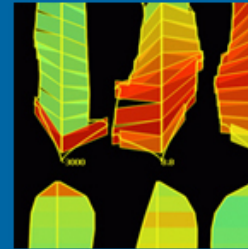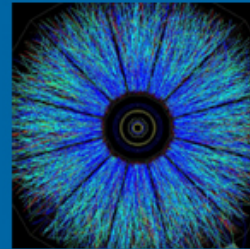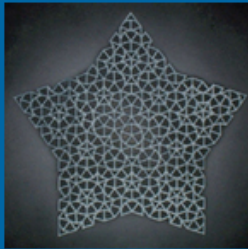
Module Learning Goals

What are the consequences of my decisions as a computer scientist going to be?

- What sorts of real ethical or professional issues may I face in my professional life as a computer scientist?

- How has disruptive technology shaped the society I live in?

- How can I think about and analyse the effects of my decisions?

Lecture Learning Goals

- Why should you think carefully about the societal impact of new technology?

- What are examples of modern and historical technology having unpredicted effects?

- How will the module be taught and assessed?

At the core of this module is the idea that computer scientists can have a profound effect on the world we live in, for better or worse….

Decisions we take have consequences…

…but with new technology they aren't always obvious

Historical examples of unpredicted side-effects

Television and society
Television produced a seismic upheaval in the social order. People now had access to previously hidden information or a *hidden world*.
-   Children access to the adult world, poor had access to the wealthy world etc.

Television and Revolution, 1991 Russian Coup against Gorbachev
Coup failed. Boris Yeltsin was able to rally support easily and overthrow the plotters. End of the Soviet Union

FBI AGENT SUSPECTED IN HILLARY EMAIL LEAKS FOUND DEAD IN APPARENT MURDER-SUICIDE

DG STAFF

SHARE ON:

Photo by Ada Be (CC BY 4.0)

Walkerville, MD – An FBI agent believed to be responsible for the latest email leaks "pertinent to the investigation" into Hillary Clinton's private email server while she was Secretary of State, was found dead in an apparent murder-suicide early Saturday morning, according to police.

Working in groups

What is this about and how does it relate to computer science?

Politics

CRIME

Seth Rich, slain DNC staffer, had contact with WikiLeaks, say multiple sources

By **Malia Zimmerman** • Published May 16, 2017 • Fox News

Trending in Politics

1 Slain DNC staffer had contact with WikiLeaks, investigator says

2 Israel demands explanation from White House after spat over Trump trip

3 Push for Convention of the States to rein in government gains steam

4 Trump to follow Pence in releasing 2016 financial records

5 Press laser-focused on Comey fallout, but the country not as engaged

The Democratic National Committee staffer who was gunned down on July 10 on a Washington, D.C., street last July just steps from his home had leaked thousands of internal emails to WikiLeaks, law enforcement sources told Fox News.

A federal investigator who reviewed an FBI forensic report detailing the contents of DNC staffer Seth Rich's computer generated within 96 hours

Trump Warns Removing Confederate Statues Could Be Slippery Slope To Eliminating Racism Entirely

Modern examples of unpredicted side-effects – Facebook AI Moderation

Social Media and Filter Bubbles

The initial vision for social media and the Internet was that it would allow everyone to access to all of societies knowledge

- Social media was an extension of this, everyone was going to be able to talk to to everyone, but it turns out that's not what people want!

Fake News in the 2016 American Election

The phenomenon arose when it did because of issues with Facebook's automated filtering system

How Teens In The Balkans Are Duping Trump Supporters With Fake News

BuzzFeed News identified more than 100 pro-Trump websites being run from a single town in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Posted on November 3, 2016, at 11:02 p.m.

Craig Silverman
BuzzFeed Founding Editor, Canada

Lawrence Alexander
BuzzFeed Contributor

Assessment Structure

Examination
- One and a half hour exam (50% of your module mark)

Coursework
1. Video Presentation due on 6th November (10%)
2. Careers Workbooks due on 27th November(10%)
3. Final report due on 4th December (30%)

Group Allocation

Alphabetical allocation by last name, make sure your surname on the Intranet is what you expect it to be:

Group A: Abajingin to Debiciki

Group B: Debreczeny to Jones

Group C: Kankol to Mosphilis

Group D: Mounter to Sailes

Group E: Salamanca to Zakarian

Timetable

Lectures (every week)

- Monday 13:00-14:00, Grove Lecture Theatre
- Wednesday 12:00-13:00, Grove Lecture Theatre
- Thursday 10:00-11:00, Grove Lecture Theatre

Careers sessions sorted by group in weeks of 16th, 23rd and 30th October:

- Group A and B: Tuesdays, 15:00-17:00, Talbot PC Lab 043
- Group C: Tuesdays, 15:00-17:00, Faraday Tower Rm 01
- Group D and E: Thursday 16:00-18:00, Talbot PC Lab 043

Seminars

Seminars teach the skills needed for coursework and run in weeks beginning 16th October, 6th November, and 13th November:

- Group A: Tuesday, 09:00-10:00, Glyndwr Rm F
- Group B: Tuesday, 10:00-11:00, Glyndwr F
- Group C: Tuesday, 11:00-12:00, Glyndwr E
- Group D: Tuesday, 12:00-13:00, Wallace 113
- Group E: Thursday, 09:00-10:00, Wallace Lecture Theatre

Recommended Reading

Pandora's Box:
Social and Professional Issues of
The Information Age

Copies available in the library,
bookshops or Amazon/Kindle
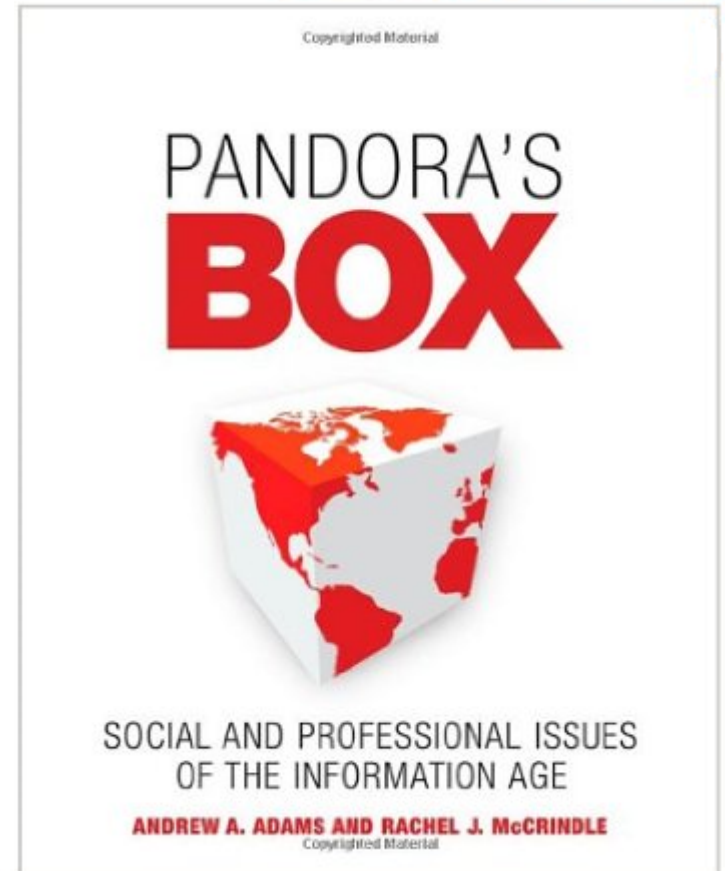
Blackboard

The module has a blackboard page where all updates and emails will be archived

Also holds:
- Coursework
- Lecture notes
- Video capture for revision
- Supporting material (BCS code of conduct, Data Protection hand-outs, hints for coursework)

Me - Stephen Lindsay

Office: Room 951, Talbot Building

Office hours: Wednesday mornings 10.00 till 12.00

Email: s.c.lindsay@swansea.ac.uk

Lecture Learning Goals

- Why should you think carefully about the societal impact of new technology?

- What are examples of modern and historical technology having unpredicted effects?

- How will the module be taught and assessed?

College of Science
Coleg Gwyddoniaeth

www.swansea.ac.uk/science

Lecture Learning Goals

- Why should you think carefully about the societal impact of new technology?

  Technology can have serious, far reaching consequences that   are extremely hard to predict

- What are examples of modern and historical technology having unpredicted effects?

  Historical: TV and the 1991 Russian Coup

  Modern: Fake news and the US election of 2016

- How will the module be taught and assessed?

  Taught through: Lectures, Seminars, and Practicals,

  Assessed though: Exam, Video and written report, and Workbook