# CTT010 Professional ethics





## Content

- Opening example
- Social contract
- Code of ethics
- Professional ethics
- Discussion
- ☐ Fair use



- Why must we learn professional ethics?
- What will happen without professional ethics?
- How to determine if an action is right / wrong?





# **Opening example**

- Litter
  - Suppose that society achieves a "no litter" contract.
  - □ If a person is littering, he/she is breaking the contract.
  - Thus, only 1 person breaks the contract, the society is unstable
    - This contract is built by many people, it has been based on social consensus



## Social contract

- Social contract
  - Collaboration is necessary and can only happen when people agree to follow certain rules.
- Therefore, a code of ethics are established and agreed upon by everyone in society



## Code of ethics

- Establishing a code of ethics to govern rules among citizens.
- The government must ensure that these rules are enforced.
- Code
  - Standard set



## **A** situation

- Vietnam joined the 1886 Bern Convention on industrial property protection.
- Intellectual property law passed by the National Assembly of Vietnam in 2005 regulates intellectual property rights, copyright, industrial property rights ....
- However, why is the situation of noncopyright software disk and operating system sales still rampant?



## **Professional ethics**

Some people in a career field set some ethical standards.

They are also called Professional Ethics or Professional Working Ethics.



## **Professional ethics**

- Three basic standards related to IT
  - (1) Copy / Cheating
  - (2) Plagiarism
  - □ (3) Compliance with licenses

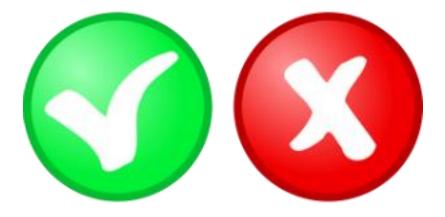


# **Professional ethics**

- Three basic standards related to IT
  - (1) Copy / Cheating
    - Source code
    - Copy each other's source code.
  - (2) Plagiarism
    - Report
  - □ (3) Compliance with licenses
    - Open sources
    - Do not allow commercial or redistributed



☐ The main goal of moral doctrines is to answer the question "is an action right / wrong?"





## Act utilitarianism

Remarking benefits / harms

An action is right if it benefits people and is wrong if it harms people.

An action is right / wrong if it increases / decreases the benefit of the affected party.



# **Example**

- Lining up in the elevator
- Is this action right?
  - What is the benefit of this action?
  - □ Is this action harmful?



# **Example**

- Lining up in the elevator
- Is this action right?
  - What is the benefit of this action?
    - No mess, easy access, fairness
  - Is this action harmful?
    - Long lines, people who are in a hurry will be late
    - →Some people's interests will be affected



# Act utilitarianism

- Put all the benefits and damages on the scale.
- If the scale is skewed to benefits, it means the action is right, even if it affects others.
  - □ The great benefit that it brings can help to ignore the damage





An action that is wrong for some people but is true for more people is considered morally right.

Indicate situations in which an action that benefits many people and disadvantages the minority may be considered right/ wrong in IT?



Online games bring works and profits but also harm young people's morality

- Websites share source codes to help programmers but also make programmers lazy to copy the code
  - Students copy source code and submit it to the teacher



- You must release the product tomorrow but there is still a big and rare bug.
- □ This bug takes 1 week to fix.
- ☐ Two solutions:
  - Silent and release
  - □ Delay → You will be deducted from wages
- Which solution do you choose? Why?



#### Fair use

- ☐ (1) Purpose
- ☐ (2) Quantity
- (3) Current business affect
- (4) Nature of work



#### Fair use

- (1) Purpose
  - Personal & educational
- (2) Quantity
  - 30% photocopy, restrict access (using password, ...)
- ☐ (3) Current business affect
  - Using older editions
- ☐ (4) Nature of work
  - Non-fiction: mathematics, science, general knowledge



- Are the following actions fair use?
  - Teachers provide ebooks and hard copies for students
  - Teachers provide Visual Studio software with crack for students



# **Thinking**

- Why must we follow professional ethics?
- Why must we change ourselves to do the right thing while the world is still unchanged?



#### Last words

"Whatever you don't like, don't do it to others"



## References

■ Mike Quinn, Ethics for the Information Age, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition

