



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
ST. AUGUSTINE

EXAMINATIONS OF APRIL/MAY 2017

Code and Name of Course: INFO3425: Professional Ethics and Law

Paper:

Date and Time: *Thursday 11th May 2017 1pm*

Duration: 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES: This paper has 5 pages and 7 questions

Answer all questions.



1. Ethics affects how people make decisions and lead their lives. Ethics is concerned with what is good for individuals and society and is also described as moral philosophy.

(a) What is law? [1]

(b) Explain the relationship between ethics and law. [2]

(c) Give an example of an act that is *legal* but *not ethical*. [1]

(d) Give an example of an act that is *ethical* but *not legal*. [1]

2. By applying the four (4) *fair use guidelines*, explain how and why the following activity should be classified as fair use. [4]

Google made digital copies of tens of millions of books submitted to it by libraries, scanned them and made them available to search through its Google Books service, so that users could – for free – identify relevant words, terms, or snippets from the scanned text. Google also allowed participating libraries to retain the copies they submitted.

3. Apple is now using iTunes Match audio fingerprint for Apple Music, a more accurate matching method than the metadata matching that was previously employed. Apple Music matching now also offers up (Digital Rights Management) DRM-free music files, just like iTunes Match.

Many believe that not having DRM on your personal tracks is a gigantic win for users.

(a) List four (4) shortcomings of DRM stating an example of each. [4]

(b) Explain how *digital fingerprinting* works. [4]



4. Acme Corporation licenses a sophisticated software package to many government agencies in Trinidad and Tobago. Government agencies have the choice of three levels of service: the bronze level provides online support only; the silver level adds phone support; and the gold level includes training classes taught on the customer's site. The gold level of support costs \$20,000 a year more than the silver level.

Jean is one of the Acme employees who works in the support organization. Mostly, Jean provides phone support, but from time to time he teaches an on-site class. In fact, Jean created many of the instructional materials used in these classes. Due to the recession, quite a few corporations have dropped from the gold level of support to the silver level, and some members of Jean's training group have lost their jobs. Jean has a family to support, and he is wondering if his position will soon be eliminated as well.

The Finance and the Economy Division in Tobago is one of the many customers that no longer pays Acme Corporation for on-site training. One day Jean gets a call from Maria, who works for the division using the software package. Maria offers to pay Jean \$5,000 plus expenses to run a five-day training class that covers the same material as the official course taught by Acme.

Jean accepts the offer, but he does not inform anyone at Acme Corporation of his decision. Working at home on evenings and weekends, he develops his own set of instructional materials. He takes a week of paid vacation from work, travels to Tobago, and teaches the class.

- (a) Using the alternative list of fundamental principles for an information technology-related profession, list the principles that are relevant to the moral problem described above. [5]
- (b) Using these fundamental principles, determine whether the action taken is ethical. [5]



5. You are the chief financial officer (CFO) of Acme Corporation. You hired a new Chief Information Officer (CIO) to help improve your computer security and develop an IT security policy. As you watch her outline what needs to be done to improve the firm's computer security, you are impressed with her energy, enthusiasm, and presentation skills. However, your jaw drops when she states that the total cost of the computer security improvements will be \$300,000. This seems like a lot of money for security, given that your firm has had no major incident. Several other items in the budget will either have to be dropped or trimmed back to accommodate this project. In addition, the \$300,000 is above your spending authorization and will require approval by the CEO. This will force you to defend the expenditure, and you are not sure how to do this. You wonder if this much spending on security is really required.

(a) What steps can you take to determine what really needs to be done without appearing to be micromanaging or discouraging the new CIO? [8]

(b) What is a security policy? [1]

(c) What is the purpose of a security policy? [6]

(d) The CIO had advised that a: "Security policy should be: clear, direct, high level with a well-defined scope and of total length no more than a few pages."

Such a policy will not contain much detail to assist in implementing or maintaining security. To what extent is this advice practical? [5]



6. Ann is an accountant at Acme Corporation, a medium-sized firm with 50 employees. All of the employees work in the same building, and Ann knows all of them on a first name basis. In fact, Ann distributes paychecks to Acme's employees at the end of every month.

Ann's 10-year-old daughter is a Girl Scout. During the annual Girl Scout cookie sale, Ann sent an email to all of the other Acme employees, inviting them to stop by her desk during a break and place orders. (There is no company rule prohibiting the use of the email system for personal emails.) Nine of the recipients were happy to get Ann's email, and they ordered an average of four boxes of cookies, but the other 40 recipients did not appreciate having to take the time to read and delete an unwanted message; half of them complained to a coworker about Ann's action.

Ethically evaluate Ann's actions using either *Act Utilitarianism* or a *Kantianism* approach. [7]

7. Identify *two* issues in Global Cyber business and discuss their possible effects. [6]

Total Marks: 60

END OF EXAM