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[Karen West](#) · 17 minutes ago

Hi, I am taking this class as a curiosity, since I've spent my entire career and education as a software engineer, and I'm currently home reviewing and expanding my skill set with my young kids, while job searching. Additionally, my husband is British, so I often try to understand the world from which he comes compared to the one I grew up in here in the USA, in terms of laws and economies, as a side interest outside my techie world. The last reason I started to get curious about learning more in this area was with the recent exposure of the eavesdropping, along with other shocking similar type discoveries in recent years. If these things were ever considered violations of human rights type laws in any way rather than providing protection and security, I've often wondered what those were, and also, how they go about doing it technically, which I'm sure is quite complicated, and not covered in this particular class. So basically, when I tell people in my technical world I take an online class such as this, I tell them it is one of my humanitarian type interests outside my high tech world in which I've been educated and have worked in for 18 years of my life, such as the courses I took in my engineering school called "the humanity course requirements". It is not required in any way for what I've done in any job I've ever had, but rather a recent curiosity in life, that I'm sure many of us should take more time to learn about, so that we can sign petitions for those who represent us out there, etc, and be more informed about how our system works.

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