# Assignment: Case Analysis

## Weight: 10%

**Deadline: 11:49 p.m., August 2, 2021**

## Purpose:

A case analysis incorporates the elements of logic and formal argument as discussed in

Module 1. Such an analysis is a structured way to understand all the factors in a complex situation more objectively, in order to make better decisions and/or predictions. It is an essential critical-thinking skill.

In addition, if you are asked to give your opinion on a situation or issue, you will need to be able to see that issue or situation from all perspectives in order to give a solid opinion. A good decision is based on a well-rounded understanding of all the factors, and you will need to be able to justify your position. These are important skills to have as a professional, as you will undoubtedly be asked to provide advice at certain points in your career.

**Format:**

Essay format.

Spacing: 1.5; Font: Arial or Times Roman; minimum 11 pt .

Maximum length: six pages.

**Instructions:**

This is a group assignment. You will work in the five-person groups set up in class. (See Class Groups List under the Student Resources tab in D2L) Each group will jointly submit one assignment. All members of the group will receive the same mark.

You are required to submit your assignment through D2L so that it can be checked by plagiarism-checking software. **You are ALSO required to submit a hard copy to the instructor in class on the deadline date.**

Each of the individuals listed below has made headlines for either the choices they have made, or the situation in which they have found themselves. Choose one person from the following list and provide a case analysis of the issues surrounding his situation.

Ethics of Hacking as Civil Disobedience

* Aaron Swartz – PACER hack
* Aaron Swartz – JSTOR incident
* Dmitriy Guzner – DDoS on Church of Scientology

Ethics of Whistleblowing

* Edward Snowden
* Dr. John O’Connor
* Evan Vokes

You may find it helpful to review the examples of ethical analyses provided in Chapter 2 of the Quinn textbook. Chapter 7, pp. 324-335 also provides some good pointers onf how to work through a case study.

In providing your analysis of the issue, please follow the approach outlined below:

1. Begin by providing a summary of the *relevant* facts in each situation.
2. Identify the participants in the scenario and the role that each plays.
3. Identify the perspective of each participant and any assumptions implicit in that
   1. perspective.
4. Identify the principal ethical concerns in the scenario.
5. State the ethical theory you are applying in your analysis.
6. Clearly state the perspective from which you will analyze the incident,
   1. and any assumptions that are implicit in that standpoint.
7. Discuss the morality of the participants in the scenario based on the application of your chosen ethical theory.
8. Provide justification or evidence for all claims that you make.
9. Construct clearly stated, strong arguments.
10. Be succinct.
11. Provide a conclusion.

Refer to the APA Guide when using or citing sources.