CSE 301 Computing Ethics

Catalog Description:

An overview of ethics for computing majors includes: history of computing, intellectual property, privacy, ethical frameworks, professional ethical responsibilities, and risks of computer-based systems.   Prerequisite: CSE 240 or CSE 220.

Textbook:

Ethics for the Information Age (6th Edition) by Michael J. Quinn, Addison-Wesley, 2015. ISBN-10: 0133741621 • ISBN-13: 9780133741629

Note: This book is available in paperback or digital form through Amazon (www.amazon.com), Pearson (http://home.pearsonhighered.com/) and other sources.

Contacts:

- See the Contacts section on Blackboard for all contact information.
- All grading questions should be directed to the Teaching Assistant.

Course learning outcomes:

Students who complete this course
1. understand the contributions made by pioneers in mathematics and computer science.
2. can demonstrate awareness of intellectual property rights, including: copyrights and patents.
3. understand issues associated with privacy.
4. are aware of methods and tools of analysis (ethical frameworks).
5. can identify and evaluate ethical choices.
6. understand professional and ethical responsibilities, including those defined in the ACM/IEEE Professional Code of Ethics.
7. understand the emerging issues related to ethics in cyberspace.

Course Organization/Work:

The course is organized into weekly modules. You are expected to spend at least 3 hours per week on this class.

Each module consists of a short assignment and an assessment. The assessment may be an online quiz or a short paper. All assessments are worth 20 points.

You will have one week to complete the work. See the semester schedule for all deadlines. Do not wait to the last moment to complete the assignments as there may be a Blackboard issue. You can complete work up to 3 days late for a penalty of 20% of the points possible.

Note on papers:

You are expected to complete work in a professional manner and demonstrate adequate effort in completing the assignment. Imagine that your future employers could review and comment upon your papers. Grammar, spelling, punctuation and format errors distract from the message of the paper and will result in a grade reduction. A rubric will be posted for all written assignments.

Regarding the quizzes:

- There are ten questions on each quiz.
- Questions are true/false, multiple choice, matching and fill in the blank.
- Quizzes may be taken twice. Questions are randomly assigned so the second quiz may not have the same questions.
- Quizzes have a maximum of 30 minutes to be completed from the time you start. It is not expected that you will need that length of time.
- Be sure to save your work frequently. This is very important on the text based answers.
- You must **complete** the quiz by the deadline. Starting on time does not count. If you start the quiz before the deadline but finish in the late time, the quiz is considered late.
- Answers to the quizzes are released after the late deadline.

Grade Breakdown

The following is used to assign semester grades.

High	Low	Grade
300	294	A+
293	276	A
275	270	A-
269	264	B+
263	246	B
245	240	B-
239	234	C+
233	210	C
209	180	D
179	0	E

Excessive Collaboration ("Cheating")

This is a course on ethics. We expect you to act in an ethical manner. Copying from others or any source without giving credit is plagiarism and is not ethical. You are encouraged to learn from each other but copying is not acceptable. Violators of this policy are given one full grade demotion and are reported to the Dean for academic integrity violations which may result in a failing grade in the class or removal from the program.