



Module 5: Principles of Data Ethics

Module 5 Tutorial: Importance of Digital Well Being and Ethics Awareness

In this tutorial activity, students will learn the importance of behaviors on digital platforms, upholding ethics while handling personal information and whistleblowing for unethical/illegal acts.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Number	Description
ILO-1	Digital Wellbeing & Ethics: Understand and uphold ethical principles in using, applying, and developing digital and online tools.
ILO-2	Digital Wellbeing & Ethics: Practice responsible use of online platforms and appropriate online behaviour.
ILO-3	Digital Wellbeing & Ethics: Recognize common online threats and apply appropriate methods to protect oneself online and be able to identify and respond appropriately to cybersecurity threats.

Lesson Overview

In this week module 5 activities, the students will learn the importance of appropriate behaviors on digital platforms, upholding ethics while handling personal information and whistleblowing for unethical/illegal acts. Upon completion of the lesson, students will be able to understand the importance digital wellbeing and ethics awareness.

Activity 1: Importance of appropriate behaviours on digital platforms to avoid cyberbullying.

Instructions:

Each group to select any one scenario from the given lists ([Social-Media-and-Tech-Misuse-Scenarios.pdf](https://www.cyberbullying.org/Social-Media-and-Tech-Misuse-Scenarios.pdf) ([cyberbullying.org](https://www.cyberbullying.org))) and discuss on the following questions.

- What do you think the victims of cyberbullying in the scenario you have selected can do to help themselves?
- What do you think others can do to help the victims of cyberbullying in these scenarios?

Activity 2: Importance of upholding ethics while handling personal information (Informational Privacy).

Instructions:

Read this article about an incident when student leaders at NUS violated the Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA) by circulating the personal details of first-year students participating in an orientation camp: Discuss on the questions asked.



Ng Huiwen, "143 NUS student volunteers' data breached; school directed to provide mandatory training," *Straits Times* (28 April 2017):

<https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/143-nus-student-volunteers-data-breached-school-directed-to-provide-mandatory-training>

- What was the big deal? Was it so bad that students' matriculation numbers, dietary preferences, and other personal data were circulated without authorization?
- It was a necessary part of the student leaders' work as orientation organizers to handle people's personal details. Is there anything the student leaders overlooked that might have helped them realize that they were *mishandling* private information?
- How could the NUS student leaders have handled the first years' personal data without violating their informational privacy?

Activity 3: Importance of whistleblowing for unethical/illegal acts.

Instructions:

- Each group to select any one case study from the given lists and discuss on the questions asked.

<https://protect-advice.org.uk/key-whistleblowing-cases-of-2023/#1703156490293-cdc44f79-3f98>

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/facebook-whistleblower-frances-haugen-misinformation-public-60-minutes-2021-10-03/>

- Explain the case study selected?
- In your selected case, do you think the way the whistleblower blew the whistle was morally permissible?
- Do you think it's morally obligatory for the person involved in your selected case study to blow the whistle? (another way to express this question: Do you think it would have been morally wrong for the person involved in your selected case study not to blow the whistle?).

Activity 4: Presentation

Presentations by instructor selected groups to show their work on this tutorial.

Each group need to write your answers to all the activities (in case if your tutor selects your group to present 😊) in a word document or power point slides named as "TutorialNumber_GroupNumber_WeekNumber" and upload it in Discussion page of your tutorial site.

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