

Professional Issues in IT [CS-449]

Course Outline

Instructor: Usman Ashraf

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Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00 to 11:00, Thursday 14:00 to 15:00

Course Credit Hours: 3

Pre-Requisites

CS 303 – Software Engineering

Objective of the Course

This course will help students to be capable in their professional area, operating effectively at work and in community situations and to be aware of their environments for exponential growth and successes in their career.

Text Books:

Professional Issues in Information Technology

Frank Bott et al

Reference Books:

1. David Bainbridge, Introduction to Computer Law, 5th Edition
2. Joseph Migga Kizza, Ethical and Social Issues in the Information Age, 3rd Edition
3. Ernest A Kallman, John P. Grillo, Ethical Decision Making and IT, 2nd Edition
4. Robert N Barger, Computer Ethics: A Case-Based Approach, 1st Edition
5. Case studies, lecture slides during semester execution.

Course Contents

The computing profession, professional ethics, ethical decision making, approaches to ethical decision making, legal aspects, intellectual property rights, data protection, privacy and freedom of information, computer contracts, organizational aspects, ethical leadership and tips for personal growth.

Tentative course outline and lecture plan

Week #	Contents / Topics	Activity / Evaluation
1-2	<p>The Computing Profession</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Characteristics of a Profession• Professional Requirements• Pillars of Professionalism• Commitment, Integrity, Responsibility, and Accountability <p>Professional Work Behaviors and Attitudes</p>	

3-5	Professional Ethics & Ethical Decision Making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview, Emergence of Ethical Problems in Computing, Computer / IT Ethics, Customer Ethics, Employer / Management Ethics • Professional Codes of Conduct • Objectives & Overview of Existing Codes of Conduct (ACM, BCS, ACM SE, IEEE-CS, ACS etc.) • Impact onto the work and behavior of IT Professionals • Making & Applying Codes of Conduct • Ethical Models / Theories • Consequentialism, Deontology, Hedonism, Relativism, Utilitarianism etc. • Ethics and Ethical Decision Making • Cases Studies • Professionalism and Ethical Responsibilities • Professional Bodies • Overview, Importance, Roles and Characteristics, Moving Status 	
6	Legal Aspects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law • Overview, The Need / Importance, Law vs. Ethics, Binding vs. Non-Binding, Social and Cultural Impacts • Legal System / System of Courts 	Mid-I
7-8	Intellectual Property Rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copyright, Trade Marks, Patents, Confidential Information, Layout Designs and Trade Secrets, Industrial Design Rights • IP Laws – International & National, Pakistan's Obligations 	
9	Data Protection, Privacy and Freedom of Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public concern and Individual privacy • Computers & Crime • Internet Issues 	
10-12	Computer Contracts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreement vs. Contract, Terms of the Contract • Computer Contracts • General Terms & Conditions, Fixed price / 	Mid-II

	Bespoke contracts, Consultancy and Cost-Plus contracts, Outsourcing Contracts, License Agreements etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sample cases and contracts 	
13-15	Organizational Aspects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of Organizations & Organizational Structures • Legal Status & Financial Aspects of an Organization • Management vs. Leadership • Groups vs. Teams • Interpersonal Communication • Conflicts and Conflict Management • Negotiation and Negotiating Process • Organizational Values • Change Management 	Assignment 1
16	Ethical Leadership & Tips for Personal Growth	Assignment 2

Evaluation

Assignments	05
Class Participation	05
Mid I	20
Mid II	20
Final	50
Total:	100 points
Grading:	A, B, C, D, and F