CS 4873 Computers, Society, and Professionalism

Spring 2021

**Section Discussion Guide**

Week 11

Topic: Network Neutrality

I. Network Neutrality

* Do you think network neutrality is important?
* What do you think about the “package menu” for internet service in Portugal?
* What are the benefits of net neutrality?
  + Who benefits?
    - Small businesses?
    - Individuals?
* Is net neutrality a politically radical idea?
  + Why or why not?
  + How does it fit in a capitalist world view?
  + Are different levels of access to internet data and services just like having seats on a plane in first class and coach? Or is it different?

II. Politics of Artifacts

* Recall the article Do Artifacts have Politics piece
  + Designed In: Political choices built into the technology
  + Inherent In: Political choices are inherent in the technology (nuclear power)
* Network Neutrality
  + Do the different positions in the Network Neutrality debate reflect
    - Belief that the Internet is Inherently political (the network as a human right, the network as a public good)
    - Belief that the Internet is designed with politics in mind, arguments about investment in infrastructure, innovation

III. Introduce the readings for next class