



SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND IT

**MODULE: SEMINAL IN LEGAL AND ETHICS WITH
ISSUES COMPUTING**

LECTURER : TURATSINZE JUNIOR

ASSIGNMENT ONE

GROUP E

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Qn1. What does ethics in computing mean to you?

Ethics in computing: refers to the moral principles that guide how technology is developed, used, and regulated. It concerns all computing practice fair, safe, and do not harm anyone or society. Here are some key aspects include:

Privacy: Ensuring that user data is collected, stored, and used privately or secretly.

Security: Protecting data from unauthorized access, cyberattacks, and breaches.

Fairness & Bias: Ensuring that AI (Artificial intelligence) do not discriminate against people based on race, gender, or other factors.

Intellectual Property: Respecting copyrights, patents, and software licenses.

Digital Responsibility: Avoiding unethical hacking, and spreading misinformation by using platforms.

Qn2. How does IT law affect your everyday life?

IT laws regulate how technology is used, protecting users from harm as they are running their work. Some ways IT laws impact daily life include the following:

Online Privacy: Laws like GDPR (in Europe) and similar regulations in other countries ensure that organizations must ask for permission before collecting personal data.

Cybercrime Protection: IT laws criminalize hacking, identity theft, and online scams, making the internet safer which may lead to cybercrime.

Intellectual Property Protection: Copyright laws prevent illegal downloads and piracy, ensuring that innovators are fairly compensated.

Qn3. A company is secretly collecting user data without informing its customers. Is this ethical? Why or why not?

This is unethical for several reasons:

1. **Violation of Privacy:** Users should have control over their personal information. Collecting data without permission is a breach of privacy rights.
2. **Lack of Transparency:** Ethical organizations disclose how they use customer data and obtain permission.
3. **Potential for Harm:** Data collected secretly could be misused for targeted advertising, manipulation, or even identity theft and hackers.
4. **Legal Consequences:** Many countries have data protection laws (e.g., GDPR) that require companies to inform users about data collection to avoid crime, for example, Facebook, when it was discovered that it shares the user's data with third parties without clear permission. This led to lawsuits and loss of public trust.

Qn4. Find a recent news story about cybercrime or AI ethics and be ready to discuss it.

A recent news story highlights regards AI-generated deep fake revenge porn. According to a report, cheap AI applications allow users to turn innocent images into explicit content without permission.

Ethical Issues: This raises serious ethical concerns, including privacy violations, harassment, and psychological harm to victims.

Legal Response: Governments are introducing laws to avoid AI misuse, such as banning non-consensual deep fakes and increasing penalties for offenders.

Industry Responsibility: Experts are calling for tech companies to create safeguards to prevent AI from being used maliciously, for example, social media platforms are improving AI detection tools to block deep fake content before it spreads.