**MGT 3608 Technology Law and Ethics**

**COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT**

**GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

**SPRING 2012**

**Room 102, 1:35 - 2:55 T/R**

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College of Management 417

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Office Hours: T/R 3-4 or by appointment

**Course Description**

Virtually every aspect of business and management decision-making is touched by computing, information technology, and digital media. These influences are pervasive in private and public communication, transactions, and social interactions and often serve as the infrastructure for organizations including commercial, banking and financial organizations, federal, state and local government and politics, utilities, national defense, educational organizations, and entertainment. This class will examine some of the ethical and legal issues associated with computers, information systems, and public and private networks including the Internet as they relate to management decision-making in a wide variety of areas.  Some of the areas to be covered include intellectual property protection, business-related crime, viruses, privacy, security, reliability, work environments, liability, and artificial intelligence. Balancing of the needs and desires of individuals or groups against those of other individuals or groups (including business, economic, professional, individual, governmental and social interests) within a business context will be a focus of the class.

**Prerequisites**

MGT 2106 or its equivalent with a passing grade and Junior/Senior Status

**Course Objectives**

1. Students will gain an understanding of why the ethics and law of technology is important in the business environment.

2. A heightened awareness of the ethical and social implications of modern technology, on both an individual and organizational level.

3. Students will develop critical thinking skills in evaluating and analyzing ethical dilemmas and legal issues using a structured decision-making approach.

4. Students will be able to identify and apply a number of established ethical approaches/philosophies (e.g., utilitarianism, moral rights, virtue ethics) for logically evaluating the morality of a given situation involving technology.

**Course Materials**

Herman T. Tavani, Ethics & Technology, Third Edition (2011)

Additional outside readings may be assigned.

**Grading**

Course grades are based solely upon examination performance and are not based on effort, the need to maintain scholarship or athletic eligibility, interest, work or academic schedules or other factors.

Test I 25%

Test II 25%

Final Exam 30%

Class Participation/Attendance 20%

The following scale will be used in assigning grades in this course.

100 - 90 - A

89 - 80 - B

79 - 70 - C

69 - 60 - D

59 and below - F

Course grades and examination scores are generally not subject to a curve.

Examination scores will be posted on T-Square. Students wishing to review their examination performance must schedule an appointment with the instructor as examinations will not be returned to the class.

**Policies and Procedures**

Examinations will cover material imparted in class, class lectures and discussions and all assigned readings. Examinations will not be cumulative.

Students will have the entire class period to complete examinations. No additional time will be granted, including for students who arrive late.

Examinations will consist of essays and/or multiple choice questions and will be closed book. Use of any materials during examinations is prohibited.

Students are not permitted to remove examination materials from the classroom during the examination or after its completion. Upon completion of the examination, students must turn in their answer sheets and examination questions.

Examinations must be taken on the dates administered in order to receive credit toward the final grade. Students who must miss an examination due to personal illness or injury, death or illness in the family, jury duty or religious holidays must contact the instructor prior to the examination, or as soon as reasonably possible (but no later than one week after the examination), to make alternate arrangements. Student athletes are urged to contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss their ability to sit for examinations on the days set forth in the syllabus. Students will not be permitted to sit for examinations after the scheduled dates set forth in the syllabus without the instructor’s prior approval. Such approval is within the sole discretion of the instructor.

Any student failing to abide by these policies will receive a zero for the examination in question.

**Extra Credit**

Extra or additional credit assignments will not be accepted for grading in this course.

**Class Participation and Attendance**

All benefit when students actively participate in classroom work and discussions. The participation grade reflects three things: 1) students’ performance in the classroom: providing insights and interpretations to issues raised and participation in class discussions, 2) weekly posting a relevant and insightful news article or story **(by Noon each Monday)** relating to the week’s topic, and 3) students’ attendance in the course.

Student participation and attendance are key elements to the successful completion of this course. A significant portion of this course will be devoted to the discussion of issues and events relating to the course materials. Students must be prepared to discuss course materials at all times. In order to be fully prepared to participate, all assignments described in the syllabus must be read prior to the class in which they will be discussed.

Student attendance is also crucial as the instructor will not post class notes or other review materials on T-Square.

Student athletes are urged to contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss their ability to attend the class on a regular basis and successfully complete the requisite coursework.

**Student Honor Code**

Students are expected to be aware of and abide by the Georgia Institute of Technology’s Academic Honor Code with respect to all aspects of their participation in the course, including Article II, Section 3 establishing student responsibilities with respect to academic integrity. Compliance with the Academic Honor Code also includes all aspects of the Honor Agreement signed by students as a condition of their enrollment in the College of Management. Any student suspected of engaging in behavior in violation of the Academic Honor Code or the Honor Agreement shall be referred to the Office of Student Integrity and the Office of the Dean of Students for appropriate action.

**Disability Accommodation**

The Georgia Institute of Technology has established policies with respect to disability accommodation through Access Disabled Assistance Program for Tech Students (ADAPTS). These policies may be accessed at the ADAPTS website located at http://www.adapts.gatech.edu. Students seeking disability accommodation are specifically referred to the student guide and documentation pages on this website. Students failing to comply with the requirements set forth in ADAPTS will not receive accommodation.

**Legal Disclaimer**

Any and all opinions or statements as to legal matters made by the instructor are for classroom purposes only and are not intended and should not be construed as dispensing legal advice. This disclaimer includes conversations with students during and outside of class.

**General Policies**

Students are expected to arrive on time for class. Once in class, students should remain until the class is completed.

In order to facilitate discussion and assist the instructor with getting to know individual class members, students are requested to display name cards in class.

There will be no exceptions to the policies set forth in this syllabus. Students are encouraged to contact the instructor if they are having difficulties with the course or require additional assistance.

**TENTATIVE Daily Class Schedule and Reading Assignments**

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| **Week** | **Topic** | **Textbook Chapter** |
| 1 | Introduction to Cyberethics from a Managerial Perspective | 1 |
| 2 | Ethical Concepts and Ethical Theories Utilized by Management | 2 |
| 3 | Ethical Concepts and Ethical Theories Utilized by Management | 2 |
| 4 | Privacy and Cyberspace in the Corporate Context | 5 |
| 5 | Privacy and Cyberspace in the Corporate Context | 5 |
| 6 | Security and Cyberspace in the Corporate Context | 6 |
| 7 | Security and Cyberspace in the Corporate Context | 6 |
| 8 | Cybercrime and Cyberrelated Crimes in the Business World | 7 |
| 9 | Cybercrime and Cyberrelated Crimes in the Business World | 7 |
| 10 | Intellectual Property Disputes in Cyberspace | 8 |
| 11 | Intellectual Property Disputes in Cyberspace | 8 |
| 12 | Regulating Business Commerce and Speech in Cyberspace | 9 |
| 13 | Regulating Business Commerce and Speech in Cyberspace | 9 |
| 14 | The Digital Divide, and the Transformation of the Work Environment | 10 |
| 15 | The Digital Divide, and the Transformation of the Work Environment | 10 |
|  | **FINAL EXAM: Period 5 Tuesday, May 1 @ 2:50 – 5:40** |  |