

CSC 3200 Ethics in Computing, Spring 2021

Instructor: Dr. Kisung Lee (klee76@lsu.edu)
Office Hours: Tuesday 3-4PM or by appointment via Zoom
TA: TBA (@lsu.edu)
Office Hours: TBA
Class Hours: Monday 9:30am - 10:20am
Class Location: Zoom (use the link on Moodle)

Course Description This course will introduce you to basic concepts in ethics and ethical issues in computing. Topics of interest include, but not limited to, the following.

- Basic ethical theories
- Regulating and governing cyberspace
- Free speech and censorship
- Intellectual property
- Privacy
- Cybersecurity
- Case studies

Textbooks

- Richard A. Spinello. 2021. Cyberethics: Morality and Law in Cyberspace (7th ed.). Jones & Bartlett Learning. (required)
- Sara Baase and Timothy M. Henry. 2018. Gift of Fire, A: Social, Legal, and Ethical Issues for Computing Technology (5th ed.). Pearson. (recommended)

Exams There will be two exams (one of which is the final). The final exam will be held on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 12:30PM - 2:30PM remotely and cumulative. The other exam date will be announced at least one week in advance.

Assignments and Quizzes There will be several written assignments (typically in essay format and 1-3 pages in length), and their due date will be announced at least one week in advance. No late assignments will be accepted, and a grade of zero will be recorded unless prior arrangements are made (only allowed in extraordinary circumstances). In addition, if necessary, there will be quizzes that can occur during lectures.

Class Participation The class meets for a total of 1 hour per week, which constitutes an 1-hour credit course. While notes and reference materials may be posted on Moodle, students are expected to attend class via Zoom. Absences should be rare and exceptional. Students are expected to properly participate in the class discussion and think critically about the concepts addressed.

Grading

- Components
 - Exams: 60% (midterm: 25%, final: 35%)
 - * If you miss any exam, you will get F as your final course grade.

- * The final exam is cumulative.
- Assignments and Quizzes: 40%
 - * For *each* missed assignment, your final grade can be lowered by one grade (e.g., from A- to B+) in addition to the zero point for the assignment.
 - * If you miss all assignments, you will get F as your final course grade regardless of your exam grades.
 - * A plagiarism detection tool called **iThenticate** will be utilized to check the originality of your assignments.
- Final grade calculation based on your total aggregated point (rounded off to the nearest whole number)
 - A+ (100, 99, and 98), A (97, 96, 95, and 94), and A- (93, 92, and 91)
 - B+ (90, 89, and 88), B (87, 86, 85, and 84), and B- (83, 82, and 81)
 - C+ (80, 79, and 78), C (77, 76, 75, and 74), and C- (73, 72, and 71)
 - D+ (70, 69, and 68), D (67, 66, 65, and 64), and D- (63, 62, and 61)
 - F (less than 61)
 - If necessary, grading on a curve may be used for final grades in which aggregated raw scores will be used for curved grading (i.e., no curved grading for each graded item).

Cheating No cheating will be tolerated. LSU Honor Code governs all work in this course. A plagiarism detection tool called **iThenticate** will be utilized to check the originality of your assignments. If your submission includes **any full sentence** (or slightly modified one e.g., using a different subject or verb) copied from other sources, you will get F as your final course grade regardless of your other grades. Violations of this policy will be also reported to the Office of the Dean of Students.

Email Questions about lectures, assignments, and course organization may be sent to the professor or TA using your *official* school email. We cannot guarantee an immediate response, but will address the issue through direct response, general announcement, or a suggestion to have a Zoom meeting. Last minute questions (i.e., sent the night before an assignment is due) may not be answered before the deadline, so tackling problems early is encouraged.

Regrading If you believe we have made an error in grading your exam, quiz, or assignment, you may submit the graded work along with a written request for reconsideration within **seven** days from the posting of grading. You must explain in writing clearly and succinctly the reasons your grade should be changed. In fairness to other students, we cannot vary the grading criteria on an individual basis, though suggestions may be taken into consideration for future classes.

Disability If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact on your ability to carry out assigned course work, you need to contact University Disability Services (DS), 115 Johnston Hall (225-578-5919, <https://www.lsu.edu/disability/>). Please bring a letter (or email its photocopy) to the instructor from the DS indicating your need for academic accommodations within the first week of class. The syllabus and other class materials can be made available in alternative format upon request.

Syllabus Changes This syllabus is provided for informational purposes regarding the anticipated course contents. It is based upon the most recent information available on the date of issuance, and is as accurate and complete as possible. The instructor reserves the right to make any changes deemed necessary and/or appropriate. The instructor will make his best effort to communicate any changes in the syllabus in a timely manner, and post the updated document on Moodle. This syllabus is adapted from Dr. Whaley's syllabus for CSC 3501.