

**Dublin City University
School of Computing**

CA640 Professional and Research Practice

Ethics Essay

Overall Module Mark Breakdown

50% Continual Assessment

50% Final Examination

This essay forms 17% of the total mark for the module.

Deadline and Submission

Submission Deadline: Friday 15th November, before 10pm (Week 8). Please note that a penalty will be applied for late submission.

Essays should be submitted electronically via the link on Loop.

1 The Assignment

You should write an essay on some matter related to Ethics in Computing. You can find some pointers to possible interesting topics at websites such as computingcase.org or look in the media.

There are relevant articles being reported almost every day in the national and international press. Once you have found a computing case which involves a consideration of ethics which you wish to study, please send me the details for approval. For your essay you should apply Liffick's analysis as introduced in lectures. Your essay should include the following sections:

An introduction to the case.

A review of the literature on the subject.

Liffick's analysis of the case (i.e. an analysis of the ethical challenges encountered), including:

Main Participants and Actions,

Reduced List,

Legal Considerations,

Possible Options for Participants,

Possible Justifications for Actions,
Key Statements,
Questions raised,
Analogies employed,
Codes of Ethics utilised.

Three alternative proposals that could provide ethical solutions in this domain: one pessimistic, one optimistic and one compromise.

The ethical theory that had most influence over your conclusions.

Conclusions.

Some of the things I will take into account when marking your essay include:

Summary and relevance - accuracy and insight? Addressed the case study?

Analysis - logical arguments, awareness of causal complexity?

Critical thinking - originality, independent creative thinking?

Objectivity - awareness of subjectivity.

Style - written with flair and fluidity, number of errors?

Sources - quality of use, range, quality of referencing, full and accurate bibliography etc.

2 The Essay

Your essay should include the following information at the top of the first page: essay title, your name, student ID number, email addresses, programme, module code, date of submission and word count.

It should then include the following disclaimer:

An essay submitted to Dublin City University, School of Computing for module CA640 Professional and Research Practice, 2019/2020.

I understand that the University regards breaches of academic integrity and plagiarism as grave and serious. I have read and understood the DCU Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy. I accept the penalties that may be imposed should I engage in practice or practices that breach this policy.

I have identified and included the source of all facts, ideas, opinions, viewpoints of others in the assignment references. Direct quotations, paraphrasing, discussion of ideas from books, journal articles, internet sources, module text, or any other source whatsoever are

acknowledged and the sources cited are identified in the assignment references.

I declare that this material, which I now submit for assessment, is entirely my own work and has not been taken from the work of others save and to the extent that such work has been cited and acknowledged within the text of my work.

By signing this form or by submitting this material online I confirm that this assignment, or any part of it, has not been previously submitted by me or any other person for assessment

on this or any other course of study. By signing this form or by submitting material for assessment online I confirm that I have read and understood the DCU Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy (available at:

<https://www.dcu.ie/policies/policies.shtml>)

Name:

Date:

Your essay should be no longer than 2500 words.