

## Assignment 05 – Privacy and Ethics in Online Social Networks

Privacy and ethics are issues everywhere online, although Facebook seems to be more in the news than many other sites. The Cambridge Analytic story was big news worldwide. But not as many people know the story of Facebook's mood manipulation experiment.

Assignment:

PART I:

Read the document: FB\_Secret\_Mood\_Manipulation.pdf which is posted on the Canvas site.

Tasks:

1. Write a 200-word summary of the events outlined in the article, **in your own words**.

Be sure you understand plagiarism and reference citation. Anything that is not in your own words must be enclosed in quotes and a reference citation must be provided. Quoted material will not be counted toward word count requirements.

2. Write a 300-word essay on ethics in online social networks, **in your own words**. Use these questions as a guide: Do you think the Facebook mood experiment was ethical? Are any types of experiments or studies that are done without the subjects' knowledge or consent ethical? What types of studies or experiments might you find reasonable or useful, if any? This happened in 2012; do you think it could happen again today? Why or why not?

PART II

Read the article: Is\_It\_Time\_to\_Delete\_TikTok.pdf, which is posted on the Canvas site. In it, the author answers 7 questions about the safety and advisability of using TikTok. Several of these questions could also be of concern to users of any online social network.

Tasks:

1. For each of the 7 questions:

- copy the question.
- summarize the author's answer in a sentence or two **in your own words**.
- write a few sentences giving your thoughts on that issue.

2. Write a short (100 word minimum) paragraph describing your feelings on the Tik Tok privacy/security concerns and how the issues compare to other social networks.

**Written Assignments:** *All assignments are Individual. Collaboration is considered cheating and will receive a zero grade.* Written work should be submitted in **.pdf or Word** format, in a document **labeled with your last name**, eg: Dugas\_HW3.pdf. All text must be typed and diagrams must be electronically produced. (PowerPoint is a good tool for that, although there are others). **No handwritten work of any kind will be accepted.** Diagrams must be included in the text along with the problem they refer to. *Do not submit them in a separate document.*