2024 / 25

School of Science and Computing
+353 (0)51 302037
Eleanor.Reade@setu.ie
www.wit.ie/schools/science_computing

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Oirdheiscirt

South East Technological University

Module Descriptor

Ethics and e-Privacy (Computing and Mathematics)

Ethics and e-Privacy (A13662)

Short Title: Ethics and e-Privacy
Department: Computing and Mathematics
Credits: 10 **Level:** Postgraduate

Description of Module / Aims

This module aims to provide students with a solid grounding in applied ethics and critical thinking skills for dealing with the plethora of intractable ethical issues that surround and pervade modern information systems and the information society.

Programmes

		stage/semester/status
ETHS-0001	MSc in Computing (Information Systems Processes) (WD_KISYP_R)	1 / 0 / E

Indicative Content

- Introduction to Ethics: Theoretical Ethics; Professional Ethics; Cyber-ethics
- Privacy: The Concept of Privacy; e-Privacy
- Computers in the Workplace
- Computer Crime, Cybercrime and Cybersecurity
- Censorship and Freedom of Speech
- Intellectual Property
- Computer Safety and Dependence
- Ethical Information Systems Development

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, a student will be able to:

1. Critique ethical issues that pervade computing technologies, information systems and the information society.
2. Contrast ethical theory and guidelines, and how they could be applied to help solve ethical dilemmas.
3. Evaluate, research and debate a range of contemporary ethical issues.
4. Decide on ethical action in professional praxis when faced with ethical dilemmas.

Learning and Teaching Methods

- Interactive lectures for delivery of theoretical content.
- Peer learning: Weekly online debate sessions on different ethical topics (case studies).
- Independent learning: Research for the weekly debate sessions and assigned research paper/presentation.

Learning Modes

Learning Type	F/T Hours	P/T Hours
Lecture	24	24
Practical	24	24
Independent Learning	222	222

Assessment Methods

	Weighting	Outcomes Assessed
Continuous Assessment	50%	
Presentation	15%	2,3
Case Studies	35%	1,3
Final Written Examination	50%	1,2,4

Assessment Criteria

<40%: Unable to demonstrate an understanding of basic ethical theory or the ability to cogently analyse typical ethical issues.

40%–59%: Demonstrate an understanding of ethical theory, and the ability to cogently analyse typical ethical issues.

60%–69%: Demonstrate an understanding of ethical theory, and the ability to cogently analyse and debate complex ethical issues.

70%–100%: Demonstrate an excellent understanding of ethical theory, and the ability to critically analyse, research, debate and choose appropriate professional action for complex ethical issues.

Essential Material(s)

- Baase, S. *A Gift of Fire: Social, Legal, and Ethical Issues for Computing and the Internet.* 4th ed. NJ: Prentice Hall, 2012.

Supplementary Material(s)

- Tavani, H.T. *Ethics and Technology: Controversies, Questions, and Strategies for Ethical Computing.* NJ: Wiley, 2013.

Requested Resources

- Computer Lab: BYOD Lab