**THE TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR COMPUTER ETHICS**

from the Computer Ethics Institute <http://www.fau.edu/netiquette/net/ten.htm>

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1. Thou shalt not use a computer to **harm** other people.

2. Thou shalt not **interfere** with other people's computer work.

3. Thou shalt not **snoop** around in other people's files.

4. Thou shalt not use a computer to **steal**.

5. Thou shalt not use a computer to bear **false witness**.

6. Thou shalt not **use** or **copy software** for which you have not paid.

7. Thou shalt not **use other people's computer resources** without authorization.

8. Thou shalt not **appropriate other people's intellectual output**.

9. Thou shalt **think about the social consequences** of the program you write.

10. Thou shalt use a computer in ways that **show consideration and respect**.

**Why do we care about ethics in computing?**

1. Ownership of information (like code you create!)
2. Bad things can happen if we don’t do our job right
3. Many of our choices on how we use or create technology have legal implications
4. Our decisions about technology can have a huge impact on people’s lives, because technology has become so *ubiquitous*

**How to Analyze Ethics**

1. *Kantianism*

*Definition 1:* Act only from moral rules that you can at the same time will to be universal moral laws.

*Definition 2:* Act so that you always treat both yourself and other people as

*Example:* “Carla is a single mother who is working hard to complete her college education while taking care of her daughter. Carla has a full-time job and is taking 2 evening courses per semester. If she can pass both courses this semester, she will graduate. She knows her child will benefit if she can spend more time at home.

One of her required classes in modern European history. In addition to the midterm and the final, the professor assigns 4 lengthy reports, which is far more than the usual amount of work. Students must submit all 4 reports to pass the course.

Carla earns an ‘A’ on each of the first 3 reports. At the end of the term, she is required to put in a lot of overtime where she works. She does not have time to do the final report, so she uses an online company that sells term papers. She purchases a paper and submits it as her own work.”

According to Kantianism, was this action morally justifiable?

*2. Rule Utilitarianism*

*Definition:* Choose the moral rules which, if followed by everyone, will lead to the greatest increase in total happiness.

*Put another way:*

*Example:* “Kate is a journalism major who maintains a popular blog focusing on campus life. Kate attends a private birthday party in someone’s apartment for her friend Jerry, a college student active in the Whig Party on campus. Someone gives Jerry a Tory Party T-shirt as a gag gift and Jerry puts it on. Kate uses her cell phone to get a picture of Jerry wearing the t-shirt when he is looking the other way. She posts the photo on her blog without asking him permission. In the blog she identifies Jerry and explains the context in which the photo was taken.

The story is read by many people both on and off campus. The next day, Jerry confronts Kate, yells at her for posting the photo, and demands that she remove it from her website. Kate complies with jerry’s request by removing the photo, and the two of them remain friends. As a result of the incident, Jerry becomes more popular on campus, and the number of people who read Kate’s blog increases.”

According to Rule Utilitarianism, was it wrong for Kate to post the picture of Jerry on her blog without first getting his permission?

According to Kantianism, was it wrong?

**Social Computing Issues**

1. Digital Divide <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fCIB_vXUptY>

In what ways has computing changed our lives, our workplace, our communication patterns?

What is the digital divide?

Why is the digital divide a problem?

2. Net Neutrality <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cWt0XUocViE>

<http://www.motherjones.com/kevin-drum/2014/04/net-neutrality-finally-dies-ripe-old-age-of-45>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0NloyxJhOk>

What is Net neutrality?

Why is net neutrality important?

**Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Code of Ethics**:

For more info see: <http://www.acm.org/constitution/code.html>

**GENERAL MORAL IMPERATIVES**

As an ACM member I will ...  
1.1 Contribute to society and human well-being.   
1.2 Avoid harm to others.   
1.3 Be honest and trustworthy.   
1.4 Be fair and take action not to discriminate.   
1.5 Honor property rights including copyrights and patents.   
1.6 Give proper credit for intellectual property.   
1.7 Respect the privacy of others.   
1.8 Honor confidentiality.

**ACM** is the premier professional organization for persons in the computing profession. Loyola has an ACM student chapter.

**MORE SPECIFIC PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

As an ACM computing professional I will ...  
2.1 Strive to achieve the highest quality, effectiveness and dignity in both the process and products of professional work.   
2.2 Acquire and maintain professional competence.   
2.3 Know and respect existing laws pertaining to professional work.   
2.4 Accept and provide appropriate professional review

2.5 Give comprehensive and thorough evaluations of computer systems and their impacts including analysis of possible risks.

2.6 Honor contracts, agreements, and assigned responsibilities.

2.7 Improve public understanding of computing and its consequences.

2.8 Access computing and Communication resources only when authorized to do so.

**ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP IMPERATIVES**

As an ACM member and an organizational leader, I will ...  
3.1 Articulate social responsibilities of members of an organizational unit and encourage full acceptance of those responsibilities.  
3.2 Manage personnel and resources to design and build information systems that enhance the quality of working life.  
3.3 Acknowledge and support proper and authorized uses of an organization's computing and communications resources.  
3.4 Ensure that users and those who will be affected by a system have their needs clearly articulated during the assessment and design of requirements; later the system must be validated to meet requirements.  
3.5 Articulate and support policies that protect the dignity of users and others affected by a computing system.  
3.6 Create opportunities for members of the organization to learn the principles and limitations of computer systems.