**CSC 208 Final Personal Ethics Paper**

Total 125 points

**Project Objectives**

1. Demonstrate competency regarding the application of the frameworks

2. Examine and reflect on your own decision making process

3. Examine and reflect on your use of computing technology

**You must**

* work alone
* use the provided template
* use Microsoft Word
* meet ALL specifications, including:
  1. be personal and truthful; do not make anything up
  2. have 6 distinct—regard different issues—principles addressing your use of computing technology
  3. use the template
* correctly apply each of the 5 foundational frameworks (see supplementary reading handout and example below) ONCE
* apply your own framework ONCE
* Cite Birsch, or the handout, for frameworks (I did this for you)
* be well organized
* be edited for grammar/spelling errors
* be formally written

Note: The final project is NOT substantial in terms of length; note that IEEE's code of ethics is only one page. You will be graded on substance, not quantity.

**Part I**

**Worth 25 points**

For this part, explore the process you use to make ethical decisions. Are you religious? Logical? Intuitive? Other?

1. Write at least one paragraph where you explore/reflect on your decision making process (your framework).
2. Write a methodology that others can use to apply your framework. Your framework should resemble the ones in my handout, including numbered steps.

**Part II**

**Worth 100 points**

Write your own **personal** code of ethics annotated with justifications that provide a **full-fledged rationale** for your choice of principles. You need 6 **distinct** principals that **address your relationship with/use of computing technology**. In the entire final, you must use each of the frameworks we covered in class once and your own framework:

1. Kant’s 1st and 2nd formulations of the categorical imperative (considered one framework)
2. act utilitarian
3. rule utilitarian
4. social contract theory
5. virtue Ethics
6. your own framework

You need to write a preamble that will provide additional information regarding your principals. For example, if your principles address your employment, your preamble should include an explanation of your work related responsibilities.

**Use the Example Format below for all your principles.**

For example, using Kant’s categorical imperative (taken from the text; you **may not use** this one).

**Principle 1: I will not make promises in extreme situations with the intent of breaking them.**

According to Kant’s first formulation of his categorical imperative (Birsch, 2012), (1) the maxim would be it is OK to make false promises in extreme situations. (2) If everyone made false promises in extreme circumstances, (3) then promises would be meaningless; promises would cease to exist. However, I want to make promises and will not be able to if promises are meaningless. As a result, this rule is self-defeating when it is made into a universal law. (4) Therefore, it is not ethical to make promises with the intent of breaking them.

According to Kant’s second formulation of his categorical imperative (Birsch, 2012), (1) when you lie to someone you are using them as a means to an end. You are manipulating them to behave in a manner that benefits you. (2) As a result, according to the second formulation, this act would be unethical.

Kant’s 1st and 2nd formulation found the act to be unethical. As a result, making promising in extreme situations with the intent of breaking them is unethical.

\*\*You need not address the problems applying the frameworks. At this point in time, you should be able to select the most appropriate framework for the issue at hand.