CIS 280 Computer Ethics
Fall Semester 2010

Course Description: Computer Ethics explores a broad range of topics regarding the ethical implications of widespread use of computer technology. Discussion and analysis includes such topics as privacy, reliability, security, intellectual property, and social networking.

Course Objectives:

⇒ To introduce students to the concept of ethics as they relate to technology
⇒ Students will examine ethics as applied to the use and distribution of digital information
⇒ Students will use critical thinking to analyze issues such as privacy, government surveillance, cybercrime, social networking, and other areas affected by the growth of technology

Instructor: Colette Schimetz
Office: Thatcher Hall 207
Office Hours: MWF 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
   TuTh 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM
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Lecture/Lab Schedule: TuTh 8:00 AM to 9:15 AM
   Thatcher Hall 214

Textbook(s): *Computer Ethics;* Deborah G. Johnson, Prentice Hall, ISBN: 978-0-13-111241-4

Course Requirements: Students are required to complete all class activities. Attendance is required. Each student should have a USB drive to save files for the class. Quizzes and test may not be made up unless arrangements are made with the instructor prior to class time. Emergencies and excused absences will be handled on an individual bases. Bring your textbook, USB, and writing tools to class each day.

Grading and Evaluation Criteria: Grades will be based upon total points earned and weighted as follows:

- 70 % of the grade is based on tests. Test may be in varied format such as multiple choice, fill in the blank, true and false, matching and short answer. Bonus questions may also be included. Bonus points do not increase total points possible but will increase total points earned.
- 20 % of the grade is based on completing the end of chapter case project assignments as assigned.
- 10 % of the grade is based on quizzes. Quizzes are unannounced and may vary from 3 to 5 questions that may be in any format.

A = 90 and above
B = 89 – 80
C = 79 – 70
D = 69 – 60
F = 59 and below

Tentative Course Outline:

⇒ Introduction to Sociotechnical Computer Ethics.
⇒ Ethics and Information Technology
⇒ Ethics in IT Configured Societies
⇒ Information Flow, Privacy, and Surveillance
⇒ Digital Intellectual Property
⇒ Digital Order
⇒ Professional Ethics in Computing

Relationship to Campus Theme: At first, nature and technology may seem to be opposites, but people by nature, are curious. This curiosity and quest for knowledge has led to the development of all technology. In turn this technology can be used to care for the Earth and therefore, improve the quality of life for all people.

Classroom Policies: Class participation is required and this means that students will be working on assigned projects during class not browsing the internet or chatting or playing games. Anyone caught doing this may be asked to leave. Arriving late, leaving early, talking and texting are distracting to the instructor and other students. Texting and cell phone use during class is not permitted. If you receive a phone call that you must take, quietly leave the room to take the call and return when you are finished.

Academic Integrity: Students are responsible for submitting their own work. Students who cooperate on oral or written examinations or work without authorization share the responsibility for violation of academic principles and the students are subject to disciplinary action even when one of the students is not enrolled in the course where the violation occurred. (Student handbook p.19) Students will receive no credit for work that fails to meet standards of academic integrity. **The work you hand in must be your own. Handing in someone else's work can result in an F and/or removal from class.**

Disabilities and Special Needs: If you have a disability for which you need accommodation, contact me within the first week of the semester. Learning Center disability support services are available also: phone 701-228-5477 or toll-free 1-888-918-5623.