

University of North Texas at Dallas
Spring 2016
SYLLABUS

CSCE 4010.030: Social Issues in Computing		3Hrs
Department of	Mathematics & Information Sciences	School of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Instructor Name:	<i>Dr. Gerard Rambally</i>	
Office Location:	DAL2-229	
Office Phone:	972-780-3093	
Email Address:	gerard.rambally@untdallas.edu	
Office Hours:	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays or by appointment.	
Virtual Office Hours:	9:00 AM – 10:00 AM on Tuesdays and Thursdays or communicate with me by e-mail 7 days each week.	
Classroom Location:	Online	
Class Meeting Days & Times:	This is a fully online course.	
Course Catalog Description:	The effect of computer science and engineering on the home and workplace, with emphasis on the role of computer professional in modern society.	
Prerequisites:	Junior Standing	
Co-requisites:		
Required Text:	Tavani, Herman. <i>Ethics and Technology: Controversies, Questions, and Strategies for Ethical Computing</i> , 4th Edition. John Wiley & Sons. ISBN for print: 1-118-28172-1. ISBN for eText: 1118549228.	
Recommended Text and References:		
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 338-1616; web: http://www.untdallas.edu/our-campus/library UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fhcg.follett.com	
Course Goals or Overview:	This course introduces students to issues and controversies that comprise the relatively new field of cyberethics. This course examines a wide range of cyberethics issues--from specific issues of moral responsibility to broader social and ethical concerns that affect each of us in our day-to-day lives.	
Student Learning Outcomes:	Upon successful completion of this course, the student will	
1	Demonstrate knowledge of the social and ethical impacts and implications of information technology.	
2	Demonstrate knowledge about major issues and theories in computer ethics.	
3	Communicate effectively about a range of topics related to social and ethical issues in computing.	
4	Demonstrate skills in clarifying and ethically analyzing realistic cases in cyberethics.	

Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in BlackBoard.

TOPICS	TIMELINE
1. Introduction to Cyberethics: Concepts, Perspectives, and Methodological Frameworks	Weeks of 1/18/16 and 1/25/16
2. Ethical Concepts and Ethical Theories	Week of 2/1/16
3. Critical Reasoning Skills for Evaluating Disputes in Cyberethics	Week of 2/8/16
4. Professional Ethics, Codes of Conduct, and Moral Responsibility	Week of 2/15/16
5. Privacy and Cyberspace	Week of 2/22/16 and first half of Week of 2/29/2016
6. Security in Cyberspace	Second half of Week of 2/29/16 and Week of 3/7/16
SPRING BREAK	Week of 3/14/16
7. Cybercrime and Cyber-related crimes	Week of 3/21/16
8. Intellectual Property Disputes in Cyberspace	Week of 3/28/16 and first half of Week of 4/4/16
9. Regulating Commerce and Speech in Cyberspace	Second half of Week of 4/4/2016 and Week of 4/11/16
10. The Digital Divide, Democracy, and Work	Week of 4/18/16
11. Online Communities, Cyber Identities, and Social Networks	Week of 4/25/16 and first half of Week of 5/2/16

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)	Total
Assignments	One assignment will be given on each topic. There will be a total of 11 assignments, each counting for 10% of your final grade. Your lowest grade on the 11 assignments will be dropped. These assignments will involve short answer questions and short position papers on issues in cyberethics.	100%
Total:		100%

Grade Determination:

- A = 90% or better
- B = 80 – 89 %
- C = 70 – 79 %
- D = 60 – 69 %
- F = less than 60%

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from this office. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me as early in the semester as possible. Grades assigned before an accommodation is requested will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. Disability Services is located in the Student Life Office in DAL2, Suite 200 and is open 8:30a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number is (972) 338-1775.

Blackboard Learn Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. Blackboard Learn course management system's accessibility statement is also provided: <http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility.aspx>

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The students' evaluation of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

All assignments must be submitted in Blackboard by the due dates and times stated on the assignments. No late assignments will be accepted. All assignments are to be done individually unless stated otherwise on the assignment.

Exam Policy:

Exams must be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at <http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf> for complete provisions of this code.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some online or hybrid courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Classroom Policies and Procedures

Online Attendance and Participation:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance in the Blackboard classroom and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience, and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in the discussion board. Online presence and participation in all class discussions is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency.

Attendance for this online or hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Blackboard, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to <http://www.untDallas.edu/registrar> for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course.

Successfully completing this class is a function of many factors. Two such factors are class attendance and assignment completion.

Inclement Weather and Online Classes:

Online classes may or may not be affected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Online Netiquette:

In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks).

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Student Rights Responsibilities and Conduct at <http://www.untDallas.edu/osa/policies>. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

Diversity/Tolerance:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate.

Technology Requirements:

In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements.

Blackboard Learn 9.1 is the platform software for this course. Blackboard Learn supports major web browsers such as Windows Internet Explorer, Apple Safari, Mozilla Firefox, and Google Chrome. However, since the latter two are updated continually, some recent versions may not be compatible. If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Internet Explorer. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- <http://www.untDallas.edu/dlit/ecampus/requirements>
- https://help.blackboard.com/en-us/Learn/9.1_SP_12_and_SP_13/Student/040_Browser_Support_for_SP_13
- https://learn.unt.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/BrowserCheck/check_full.html