CS 105 Computer Ethics and Society

Fall 2017, 1 Credit - George Mason University
This is a **10-week course** and the final exam will be in class on the 11th week.

Section	Day	Time	Location	Class Dates	Final Exam
009	F	4:30-5:45 pm	Innovation Hall 137	9/1 – 11/10	11/10
010	F	5:55-7:10 pm	Innovation Hall 137	9/1 – 11/10	11/10

Instructor: Professor Michael Maddox

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Office hours: Before and after class or by appointment

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Office Hours available by appointment

Contact
If you are experiencing difficulty with the course, please contact the instructor or UTA for assistance. We are here to help you learn. Blackboard is the primary resource, but office hours and email are also available. When communicating by email, please be specific in the subject line about the course, section number and topic to avoid being flagged as spam. E.g. Subject: CS 105 Section 009 / Question about Kantianism

Materials

- **Textbook: Quinn, Michael J., "Ethics for the Information Age" 7th Ed., Addison-Wesley, 2016.** *The textbook is required and students are expected to keep up with readings. A copy of the textbook is held on reserve at the Gateway Library which is located in the Johnson Center.*
- **Web: Blackboard at mymasonportal.gmu.edu.** Additional materials (readings, slides, announcements) will be available through the CS 105 BB site. Use this for syllabus, schedule, submitting assignments, posting discussions, and Q&A. User ID and password are same as GMU email login.

Course Description
Legal, social, and ethical issues surrounding use of computers and the internet. The course will stress ethical decision-making as well as legal and social responsibility in connection with technology-related concerns. Issues such as security, crime, privacy and intellectual property will be examined in the context of computer use. Students may be requested to conduct research on the internet in any of these areas and/or learn to use practical technological tools related to privacy and security.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will understand many of the key ethical, legal and social issues related to information technology and how to interpret and comply with ethical principles, laws, regulations and institutional policies.
2. Students will understand the essential issues related to information security, how to take precautions and use techniques and tools to defend against computer crime.

Prerequisites: None

Information Technology: This course has been approved to satisfy the GMU Information Techmology requirement for one credit of IT Ethics.

Special Accommodations: Students with disabilities who need academic accommodations must work through the Office of Disability Services at (703) 993-2474.

Course Work

This is a discussion-based course. You are expected to attend all course meetings and participate in conversations about course material as well as in-class activities relevant to the course. To facilitate this, assigned readings are to be done before class.

There are two major writing assignments to be done outside of class, which comprise a substantial portion of the overall grade. Additional work such as outside research, group presentations, or contributing to discussion board topics may be assigned.

It is important that you attend class on a regular basis. You may attend an alternate lecture session presented by the same instructor if you miss your own. However, unless you obtain advance approval from your instructor, you may not receive credit for class participation when attending a section by a different instructor.

Grading and Evaluation

Grading will be based on two major assignments, in-class quizzes, class participation (incl. Blackboard postings), and the final exam. These are weighted as follows:

2 Out-of-class assignments		30%
In-class quizzes (usually not announced)		20%
Final Exam		30%
Class Participation (incl. attendance, preparation and homework)		20%

Policies

Unless otherwise specified, all papers and other written assignments are to be *individual* efforts. Certain portions of group assignments may require individual efforts as well. Be careful to follow instructions regarding acceptable group efforts. Plagiarism is governed by the GMU Honor Code and will not be tolerated. Instances of cheating and/or plagiarism will be referred to the Honor Committee.

Absences and Participation Credit – Any absences from class for health or emergency reasons are excusable only if reasonable notice is provided, in advance if possible.

Late Work - Unless an extension is given, late assignments will carry a daily penalty (typically 10%) for every day late (up to 50%). Pay attention to deadlines!

Schedule

The approximate schedule of topics and due dates is listed here. Check the web schedule for the most up-to-date version. Readings from "Quinn" refer to the required course text and give the section numbers to read. Sections marked "Skim" can be briefly scanned. Sections marked "Interview" refer to end of chapter interviews to read.

Schedule

Week	Dates	Topic	Reading	Homework Due
Week 1	9/1	Introduction: Ethics & Computers		
Week 2	9/8	Philosophical Ethics	Quinn 1.1, 1.5, Skim 1.2-4, Quinn 2 All, Ch 2 Interview: David Moor	
Week 3	9/15	Philosophical and Professional Ethics	Quinn 9 All, Appendix A, Statement On Academic Integrity by Peter J. Denning, CS Honor Code Policies	
Week 4	9/22	Professional Ethics/ Plagiarism/ Accountability	Quinn 8.1-8.5. Focus on 8.5	
Week 5	9/29	Accountability/ Computer Crime	Quinn Ch. 7 All, On-line readings (TBA), Optional: Cybersecurity as a Profession	HW1 Ethical HW1: Theories, Due: Sat. 9/23 by 11:59 p.m.
Week 6	10/6	Computer Security	Quinn, 3.8, 3.9 (including 3.8.2, 3.8.3, 3.8.7, and 3.9.1 in 7th edition), Ch 7 Interview: Matt Bishop, Facebook hacked (medium), Matt Honan hacked (long)	

Week	Dates	Topic	Reading	Homework Due
			GMU Password Policy (short)	
			Traditional method of picking hard passwords (short)	
			Picking password that's easy to remember and hard to crack (awesome)	
			Avoiding Phishing (medium)	
Week 7	10/13	Information Privacy and Social Networking	Quinn 5 All (including 5.3.7. and 5.4.5 in 7th edition)	
Week 8	10/20	Privacy and the Government	Quinn 6 All (including 6.3.6, 6.6.5, and 6.8.5 in 7th edition)	
Week 9	10/27	Intellectual Property	Quinn 4.1-4.4 (including 4.3.5, 4.4.5, and 4.4.6 in 7th edition) , 4.8	HW2: Security/ Privacy, Due: Sat. 10/21 by 11:59 p.m.
Week 10	11/3	Workplace Issues/ Wrap-up and Review	Quinn 10 All (including 10.3.3 and 10.5.6 in 7th edition), especially 10.5.6 (Net neutrality)	
Week 11	11/10	Final Exam, normal class time and location	Comprehensive: All previous material is fair game.	

IMPORTANT NOTICE: None of the information presented in this course should be considered specific legal advice. Each situation is unique and requires individual attention. Students with individual legal concerns should not rely on information obtained in this course in making any legal decisions. Should you have a problem or concern requiring legal attention, you should seek specific advice from an attorney of your choosing.