Course Description:
The effect of computer science and engineering on the home and workplace, with emphasis on the role of the computer professional in modern society. This course will consist of a combination of critical thinking and synthesis of ideas and concepts into articulate and coherent arguments. While there may be few absolutely right or wrong answers in this course, you will be required to discern more defensible arguments from less defensible and create your own persuasive stances on the issues covered.

Required Textbook:

Expected Course Outcomes:
Course Outcomes are measurable achievements to be accomplished by the completion of the course. These outcomes are evaluated as part of our ABET accreditation process.

1. Develop an awareness of the social responsibilities of computer science and engineering.
2. Understand the need for computer science and engineering ethics.
3. Generate an effective written communication incorporating a topic related to social and ethical issues and principles in computer science and engineering.
4. Deliver an oral presentation about a topic related to a particular social or ethical issue related to computer science and engineering.

Attendance Policy:
Students are encouraged to attend every lecture and take notes. While I will be posting my slides after class, they will not contain all of the content discussed during class. Additionally, at the beginning of each class there will be a short reading comprehension quiz and no make-up quizzes will be offered. If you are not able to attend class, please email me as soon as possible.

Submission Policy:
All work is expected to be:
- Submitted on time
- In Microsoft Word .doc or PDF format
  - If you do not own a copy of Word, both computer labs in Discovery Park and the UNT library offer access on any of their computers.
- Free of spelling and major grammar errors
  - If English is not your first language or you want assistance with your work, the UNT Writing Lab: http://writinglab.unt.edu/ is available free of charge to assist you with your work.
- Submitted through Blackboard Learn’s Turnitin system
  - This system automatically checks for plagiarism and proper citation

Make-up Work Policy:
There will be no make-ups for quizzes, discussion posts and responses, or the course project. However, in the event of an unavoidable absence during the exams, we will work out how to proceed on an individual basis. Note that while a severe illness, trip to the emergency room, or a death in the family are considered acceptable reasons for being absent please see me or email me as soon as possible so we can work out a solution.
Late Work Submission Policy:
Late work will not be accepted for discussion board posts and replies. You will be given a week for each set of post and replies and it is up to you to budget your time accordingly. Your final project will be accepted a maximum of three days late with a 25 point deduction per day late.

Academic Integrity and Collaboration:
UNT policy 18.1.16 defines the following breaches of academic integrity:

A. **Cheating.** The use of unauthorized assistance in an academic exercise, including but not limited to:
   a. use of any unauthorized assistance to take exams, tests, quizzes or other assessments;
   b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems or carrying out other assignments;
   c. acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic materials belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;
   d. dual submission of a paper or project, or re-submission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor;
   e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage on an academic assignment.

B. **Plagiarism.** Use of another’s thoughts or words without proper attribution in any academic exercise, regardless of the student’s intent, including but not limited to:
   a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement or citation.
   b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in selling term papers or other academic materials.

C. **Forgery.** Altering a score, grade or official academic university record or forging the signature of an instructor or other student.

D. **Fabrication.** Falsifying or inventing any information, data or research as part of an academic exercise.

E. **Facilitating Academic Dishonesty.** Helping or assisting another in the commission of academic dishonesty.

F. **Sabotage.** Acting to prevent others from completing their work or willfully disrupting the academic work of others.

Cheating of any sort will not be tolerated in this course. All submissions must be your own original work or have requisite citations to the author. Taking information from the internet is considered cheating, unless properly cited. Failure to adhere to these strict standards will be cause for disciplinary action that could be as severe as expulsion from the university.

If a student is caught cheating, the following, escalating series of actions will be taken:

- **First instance:** The student will receive a warning and receive no credit for portions of the assignment that were affected.

- **Second instance:** The student will receive a 0 for the assignment and an academic integrity report will be filed with the Office of Academic Integrity.

- **Third instance:** The student will lose a full letter grade from their final course grade and an academic integrity report will be filed with the Office of Academic Integrity.

- **Fourth instance:** The student will be issued a failing grade for the course and an academic integrity report will be filed with the Office of Academic Integrity.
The nature of this class requires collaboration and discussion among the students. This is permissible and encouraged; however, all written work must be your own, original work. If you have any questions, discuss them with myself or refer to the UNT Student Rights and Responsibilities web page.

**Student Evaluations:**
Student course evaluations are 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 an opportunity to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work continually to improve my teaching. I consider course evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

**ODA:**
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at [http://www.unt.edu/oda](http://www.unt.edu/oda). You may also contact them by phone at **940.565.4323**.

**Final Project:**
The final project for this class will consist of both a 10 page paper as well as a 20 minute video presentation. This will be a group project with each group consisting of four students. Each group will select or be assigned a topic, pending instructor approval, and two members of the group will have to argue in support of the topic while the other two members argue against the topic. Each member of the group is expected to turn in an individual and original paper.

The video presentation will be a 20 minute video with each side having 10 minutes to briefly introduce the topic and then provide their strongest arguments for why their side is the best. Students can use music, footage, images, slides, interviews (provided the source has some direct connection to the event or is an expert in that field), or basic rhetorical methods to convince the viewers during their 10 minutes. While a touch of humor can keep your audience interested, the main point of this video is to inform and persuade. Please keep your videos professional and check your audio levels before you submit. Once submitted, the videos will appear on the discussion board, and the other students in your discussion group will evaluate the strength, accuracy, and persuasiveness of the arguments you presented and ultimately choose a side to support. The side, pro or con, that garners the most support will receive 5 additional points for their project grade.

**Paper:**
- Format: 12 point font, 1 inch margins, double spaced, APA citation. References and title page don’t count towards page length.
- Introduction
  - Introduce the event/issue
  - Point out whether you are for or against it
  - Introduce which ethical frameworks you’ll be using
  - Provide your hook
- Background
  - Discuss the history of the event
  - Discuss events leading up to this
• Ethical Framework
  o Information about the framework
  o Why is this appropriate for this situation
  o How is this situation viewed through the framework
• Your position
  o Where do you stand on the issue
  o Evidence to back up your stance
  o A persuasive argument for why others should agree with you
• Rebuttal
  o Defense of your position from potential strong opposing arguments (at least three)
• Conclusion
  o Summary of your arguments, evidence, and position
  o Closing remark (use this to really sell your side of the argument)

Grading:
Below is a list of the assignments and exams you will be expected to complete during the course. At the end of the semester the lowest discussion board grade and the lowest quiz grade will be dropped. None of the graded assignments during the semester will receive curves.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments &amp; Examinations</th>
<th>Percentage of Overall Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Posts &amp; Replies</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Project</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Course Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Project Pieces Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>25-Aug</td>
<td>Introduction (Chpt 1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1-Sep</td>
<td>General Ethics (Chpt 2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>8-Sep</td>
<td>General Ethics (Chpt 2)</td>
<td>Topic abstract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>15-Sep</td>
<td>Research Practices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>22-Sep</td>
<td>Ethics in IT (Chpt 3)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>29-Sep</td>
<td>Ethics in IT (Chpt 3)</td>
<td>Introduction/Background section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>6-Oct</td>
<td>Privacy &amp; Surveillance (Chpt 4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>13-Oct</td>
<td>Privacy &amp; Surveillance (Chpt 4)</td>
<td>Ethical Framework &amp; pro/con arguments</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>20-Oct</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>27-Oct</td>
<td>Intellectual property (Chpt 5)</td>
<td>First draft</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>3-Nov</td>
<td>Intellectual property (Chpt 5)</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>10-Nov</td>
<td>Digital Order (Chpt 6)</td>
<td>Videos Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>17-Nov</td>
<td>Digital Order (Chpt 6)</td>
<td>Paper Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>24-Nov</td>
<td>Professional Ethics (Chpt 7)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>1-Dec</td>
<td>Professional Ethics (Chpt 7)</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Finals Week</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td></td>
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Acknowledgement: I would like to thank Dr. Patrick Burke for letting me borrow sections of his syllabus.