

**Instructor: Dr. R. Daniel Creider**

**Course: CSCI 251: Introduction to Information Security, Law, and Ethics**

**Fall 2014**

**Office: Journalism 216**

**Phone: 903-886-5407**

**Hours: MW 9:00am – 11:00am; 2:00pm – 4:00pm**

Other times by appointment (not in office on Thursday)

**Email Addresses: [Daniel.Creider@tamuc.edu](mailto:Daniel.Creider@tamuc.edu)**

**(TO INSURE A RESPONSE, USE THIS EMAIL ADDRESS ONLY, with CSCI 251W as the prefix of your subject line)**

**Method: eCollege will be the method of presentation for the entire course**

**Course Prerequisites:** CSCI 151 or permission of instructor

**Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills:** The successful student may have completed freshman and sophomore level courses in computer science and University Studies

### **Required Text**

*Ethics and Technology: Controversies, Questions, and Strategies for Ethical Computing*, Third Edition, by Herman T. Tavani, Publisher: John Wiley and Son, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-470-50950-0

### **Course Goals, Objectives, and Learning Outcomes:**

This course provides an introduction to the various technical and administrative aspects of Information Security and Assurance as it relates to computing, ethics, and major national laws. Philosophical foundations of ethical issues will be discussed that include the history and social context of computing, methods and tools of analysis, social and professional responsibility, intellectual properties, privacy, computer crime, and civil liberties. Current legal issues in information technology are also addressed. Students successfully completing the course should satisfactorily accomplish the following learning outcomes (LO).

- 1 Define ethics, morality, and moral system and recognize the distinction between ethical theory and professional ethics
- 2 Summarize the basic concepts of relativism, utilitarianism, and deontological theories.
- 3 Use methods and tools of analysis to analyze an argument to identify premises and conclusion and illustrate the use of example, analogy, and counter-analogy in an ethical argument.
- 4 Identify the strengths and weaknesses of relevant professional codes as expressions of professionalism and guides to decision-making.
- 5 Summarize the legal bases for the right to privacy and freedom of expression in one's own nation and how those concepts vary from country to country.
- 6 Identify the professional's role in security and the tradeoffs involved.
- 7 Outline the technical basis of viruses and denial-of-service attacks and enumerate techniques to combat the same.
- 8 Distinguish among patent, copyright, and trade secret protection and explain how patent and copyright laws may vary internationally.
- 9 Explain the various U.S. legislation and regulations that impact technology and the disadvantages and advantages of free expression in cyberspace.
- 10 Explain why computing/network access is restricted in some countries.
- 11 Define a computer use policy with enforcement measures.
- 12 Demonstrate knowledge of the interconnectedness of global dynamics (issues, processes, trends, and systems). The Term Paper will be used to evaluate this learning outcome.

### **Outcome Assessment:**

There will be chapter quizzes, exams and term paper. These methods will be used to assess learning objectives (LO) and related level of learning. State-wide and in most professional industries, there has been a mandate that college students be more proficient in their writing. While this is not a writing class, all writing assignments will be graded for grammar, syntax and typographical correctness to help address this mandate.

## Course Assignments

**Chapter Quizzes:** Beginning with week two, there will be a chapter quiz (short essay format) **after** each chapter in your textbook. Please give special attention to instructions and **due dates** provided for each quiz. A grading rubric will also be included. *Quizzes collectively will be worth a total of 30% of your total grade.*

**Exams:** You will have two exams during this course. The midterm exam will cover chapters 1 – 6 and any assigned reading materials and will be worth 20% of your total grade. The final exam will cover chapters 7 – 12 and any assigned reading materials and will be worth 30% of your total grade. Exams will be online. You will find **availability times and due dates** on the Course Schedule. *These exams are not a team assignment and there will be no make-up exams. It is the student's responsibility to arrange for an excused absence before the exam. A grade of zero will be assigned for all exams missed without an excused absence. If an emergency arises on the day of the midterm exam, and the instructor deems that the absence is excused, then the weight of the final exam may be increased to replace the midterm.*

**Term Paper:** You are to write an ethics term paper on a selected topic approved by your instructor. The list of ethics topics with instructions and **due date** is located on the Left Hand Menu (under Term Paper). You are to notify the instructor of your topic choice (**via eCollege myLeo email – using correct email protocol**) by **Monday, September 9, 2014**. *This term paper will represent 20% of your total grade.*

## Grading

Your Final Grade Distribution is as follows:

| Assessment      | Percent of Final Grade   |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Chapter Quizzes | 30% (short essay format) |
| Term Paper      | 20%                      |
| Midterm Exam    | 20% (chapters 1-6)       |
| Final Exam      | 30% (chapters 7-12)      |
| Total           | 100%                     |

## Grade Evaluation:

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| A | 90% -100%    |
| B | 89% -80%     |
| C | 79% -70%     |
| D | 69% -60%     |
| F | 59% or below |

## Evaluation criteria explained:

**Unless otherwise specified**, all assignments are individual assignments, and thus must be completely the original work of the student submitting them and include proper citations to the published work of others. Please give special attention to grading rubrics provided for **all** assignments.

## Sharing Your Work

All work produced by students may be shared by the instructor with the class for purposes of example and training. Such work will be as anonymous as possible. Finally, the instructor may share your work anonymously with future classes or in her own writing and research.

### Submitting Assignments:

Unless special instructions are provided, assignments are *NOT* to be posted on any discussion board. Your completed work must be placed in the appropriate *Dropbox* in eCollege. **DO NOT EMAIL ME ANY ASSIGNMENTS AS THEY WILL BE DELETED.** Please follow the rules for naming and posting assignments, as outlined in the Grading Rubric document.

### Late Work

All assignments are due at the time specified. **Please keep in mind that no late work will be accepted without penalty.** You should refer to the **Grading Rubric** document (or rubric provided with assignment) for specific information on late penalties. **No assignment will be graded if submitted 7 or more days after it is due.**

### Due Dates:

All assignments are due at the time and date specified in the instructions (see below). Once you upload an assignment into the *Dropbox*, it is placed in your “outbox”, **indicating that I have received it.** You will be able to see that your assignment is uploaded. **\*\*REMEMBER: I NEVER ACCEPT ASSIGNMENTS THROUGH EMAIL.**

### Plagiarism

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, **cheating, plagiarizing**, fabricating of information or citations, facilitating acts of academic 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. If you are caught in an academic dishonesty situation on **any** course work, you will be given a grade of **F** for the course and referred to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action.

Note: Plagiarism may be defined as stealing or using someone else's published ideas or information and presenting them as your own, without giving proper credit. It is fine to use ideas, words, and short passages from the writings of others in your essays and postings, as long as you acknowledge the source. A good source to assist you with properly citing your work can be found at <http://citationmachine.net/>. Failure to acknowledge the contribution of others is considered plagiarism, a serious academic offense. It is also a good idea, though not obligatory, to acknowledge advice you receive from others that you use in revising your drafts or in copy-editing. **Also, the Communications Center located on the first floor of the Hall of Languages building is available to assist with writing assignments as needed. Please take advantage of this opportunity! (<http://www.tamuc.edu/litlang/CSC/located.htm>)**

### Disabilities:

If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact: **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Gee Library, Room 132**  
**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**  
**Fax (903) 468-8148**  
[StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

### Withdrawal/Drop Policy:

Students must contact the Registrar's office for the correct procedures required to officially drop or withdraw from a class. **Ceasing to access the class via eCollege, written or oral notice thereof DOES NOT constitute official withdrawal from the course.** Students who simply stop logging into classes without officially withdrawing usually are assigned failing grades. Students wishing to withdraw after the scheduled change period (add/drop) must obtain and complete a withdrawal form from the Academic Services Department in the Registrar's Office.

### **Instructor Availability:**

To communicate with me about this course you are to use the email address on this syllabus. Please include the course number/name in the beginning of the subject field for every email message (**see the top of the first page of this syllabus for more information**). **Email messages that are missing this information are likely to be automatically redirected to a folder the instructor will seldom check, or will possibly be deleted.** During the week, you can generally expect a response to your emails within a day, though sometimes it may take longer. I do not normally log on over the weekends. If you email me a question late on Friday afternoon, I may not read that email until Monday morning. You can also call me at my office or stop by my office during office hours.

### **Miscellaneous Information:**

Each student must have Internet access and an email account. Those students without Internet access at home or whose computers are too dated to handle eCollege are welcome to use one of the many online computer centers on the Commerce campus, including the Computer Science labs in the Journalism building. Email is available free to students with a current student ID (call 903.886.5415 for details). (You will note that you already have an email account that is accessible through this course web site.)

Check out TAMU-Commerce's Instructional Technology and Distance Education web site for general information about online courses and distance education. The URL is:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/onlineCourses/default.aspx>

The Instructional Technology and Distance Education web site also has a useful Frequently Asked Questions page:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/onlineCourses/faqs.aspx>

For assistance with writing assignments (term papers, thesis, reports, etc.) visit the Communication Skills (Writing) Center

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/humanitiesSocialSciencesArts/departments/literatureLanguages/writingCenter/default.aspx>

Use <http://citationmachine.net/> to assist you with citing your work (term papers, research papers, essays, etc.) in **APA**, **MLA** and other formats. Newer versions of MS Word also have features to support with citations.

### **Final Thoughts**

Life is unpredictable--at least it appears so. I do recognize that at times your outside life may interfere with your classroom life. It is up to you to set your priorities and to realize that "doing it all" is not always possible or even desirable. If you are feeling overly stressed about all you have to accomplish, you need to communicate your concerns to me. If I am made aware of what is going on, I can more easily help you achieve your goals.

## *Note*

CSCI 251 Due Dates (all quizzes are due by 11:59pm of the due date)

Assignments submitted late will be penalized.

**No assignment will be graded if submitted 7 or more days after it is due.**

Quiz 1: Sunday , September 7, 2014

Term Paper Topic Selection: Monday September 9, 2014

Quiz 2: Sunday , September 14, 2014

Quiz 3: Sunday , September 21, 2014

Quiz 4: Sunday , September 28, 2014

Quiz 5: Sunday , October 5, 2014

Quiz 6: Sunday , October 12, 2014

Midterm Monday October 13 – October 17, 2014

Quiz 7: Sunday , October 19, 2014,

Quiz 8: Sunday , October 26, 2014

Quiz 9: Sunday , November 2, 2014

Quiz 10: Sunday , November 9, 2013

Quiz 11: Sunday , November 16, 2014

Quiz 12: Sunday , November 23, 2014

TERM PAPER: Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Final Exam: Sunday – Wednesday December 7 – December 10, 2014

**Course Schedule (Tentative and is subject to change at Instructors discretion)**

| <b>Week</b> | <b>*Topic</b>  | <b>Reading Assignment, Preparation</b>   | <b>Assignments, Case Study, Quizzes, Pre-Post-tests, Exams</b>                                       |
|-------------|--|--|--|
| 1           | Chapter 1 Intro to Cyberethics   | Chapter 1  |  |
| 2           | Intro to Cyberethics   | Chapter 1  | C1 quiz  |
| 3           | Chapter 2 Ethical Concepts and Ethical Theories  | Chapter 2  | C2 quiz  |
| 4           | Chapter 3 Critical Thinking Skills and Logical Arguments: Tools for Evaluating Cyberethics Issues  | Chapter 3  | C3 quiz  |
| 5           | Chapter 4 Professional Ethics, Codes Of Conduct, and Moral Responsibility  | Chapter 4  | C4 quiz  |
| 6           | Chapters 5 Privacy and Cyberspace  | Chapter 5  | C5 quiz  |
| 7           | Chapter 6 Security in Cyberspace   | Chapter 6  | C6 quiz  |
| 8           | <b>Midterm Exam Chapters 1 – 6<br/>8am Monday October 13 to Friday October 17, 2014</b><br>Chapter 7 Cybercrime and Cyber-related Crimes | Chapter 7<br><b>Midterm Exam Chapters 1 – 6<br/>8am Monday October 13 to Friday October 17, 2014</b> | C7 quiz<br><b>Midterm Exam Chapters 1 – 6<br/>8am Monday October 14 to Friday October 18, 2014</b>   |
| 9           | Chapter 8 Intellectual Property Disputes in Cyberspace Term Paper  | Chapter 8<br>Term Paper  | C8 quiz <i>Check appropriate assignment sheets for Term Paper Due Date</i>                           |
| 10          | Chapter 9  | Chapter 9  | C9 quiz  |
|             | Regulating Commerce and Speech in Cyberspace Term Paper  | Term Paper   | <i>Check appropriate assignment sheets for Term Paper Due Dates</i>                                  |
| 11          | Chapter 10 Social Inclusion, The Digital Divide, and the Transformation of Work Term Paper   | Chapter 10<br>Term Paper   | C10 quiz <i>Check Term Paper Assignment Sheet for Due Date</i>                                       |
| 12          | Chapter 11 Community and Identity in Cyberspace Term Paper   | Chapter 11<br>Term Paper   | C11 quiz <i>Check Term Paper Assignment Sheet for Due Date</i>                                       |
| 13          | Chapter 12 Ethical Aspects of Emerging and Converging Technologies Term Paper  | Chapter 12<br>Term Paper   | C12 quiz<br><i>Check Term Paper Assignment Sheet for Due Date</i>                                    |
| 14          | Term Paper   | Term Paper   | <i>Check Term Paper Assignment Sheet for Due Date</i>  |
| 15          | Term Paper   | Term Paper   |  |
| 16          | <b>Chapters 7 – 12<br/>Online Final Exam<br/>8am Sunday December 7 – Wednesday December 10, 2014</b>                                     | <b>Chapters 7 – 12<br/>Online Final Exam<br/>8am Sunday December 7 – Wednesday December 10, 2014</b> | <b>Chapters 7 – 12<br/>Online Final Exam<br/>8am Sunday December 7 – Wednesday December 10, 2014</b> |