CSCI 415-01W GLB/Ethics, Law, and Cybersecurity
Course SYLLABUS: Spring 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Gregory Newman, Adjunct Professor, ETAMU
Office Location: By appointment
Office Hours: Virtual office hours Sunday 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM CST US
Office Phone: 903-886-5409
Office Fax: None
University Email Address: Gregory.Newman@etamu.edu
Preferred Form of Communication: Email and schedule appointment(s)
Communication Response Time 24 hours or sooner

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required.
> Ethics For The Information AGE: Controversies, Questions, and Strategies for Ethics
> In the information age, Ninth Edition, by Michael J. Quinn, Publisher: Pearson, 2024.
> **ISBN-10: 0-13-823853-7, ISBN-13: 978-013823853-7**

Course Description

This course introduces students to various technical and administrative aspects of cybersecurity. We will cover topics related to laws, computing, and ethics. Throughout the course, we will define ethics, morality, and moral systems. Additionally, we will recognize the distinction between ethical theory and professional ethics. Prerequisites: Junior Standing.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Describe and distinguish the nine different theories of ethical decision-making and weigh the pros and cons of each one.
2. Illustrate the various issues related to introducing information technology into society.
3. Summarize the increase in spam, political activism over social media, government censorship, identity theft, sexting, revenge porn, and internet addiction.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

4. Discuss and explain the creation and exchange of intellectual property in the digital age.
5. Summarize what privacy is and whether there is a natural right to privacy.
6. Explain privacy and the U.S. Government's approach to privacy.
7. State the vulnerabilities that will impact enterprise networks, applications, and computers.
8. Describe notable software system failures that have impacted society.
9. Understanding professional code of ethics related to software engineering.
10. Explain how automation, the rise of computerized systems relying on artificial intelligence, will impact our economy and globalization.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Junior/Senior class standing.

Instructional Methods

This is a web-based course so you will need a PC and access to the Internet. You can also access this course in any computer lab on campus.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Instructor Availability:

Please use the email address in this syllabus to communicate with me regarding this course. Remember to include the course number/name at the beginning of the subject field for each email message (**refer to the top of the first page of this syllabus for more details**). Emails not including this information may be automatically redirected to a folder that I rarely check or possibly deleted. Generally, you can expect a response to your emails within a day during the week, although sometimes it may take longer. Please note that I do not usually log in on weekends until Sunday Evening. If you send me a question on Friday afternoon, I may not read the email until Sunday Evening or Monday morning. If you prefer to contact me via email, call my office.

Unless otherwise specified, all assignments are individual assignments and thus must be completely the original work of the student submitting them.

Sharing Your Work
The instructor may share all student work 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 his own writing and research.

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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 D2L Online. **Please do not email the assignments, as there is a chance they could be routed to a SPAM file or accidentally deleted**. Please follow the rules for naming and posting assignments.*

<u>Chapter Quizzes</u>: Beginning with week one, there will be a chapter quiz (short essay format) after each chapter in your textbook. Please give special attention to the course schedule's instructions and due dates for each quiz. A grading rubric will also be included. Quizzes collectively will be worth a total of 25% of your total grade.

<u>Final Quiz:</u> The last quiz will have three questions and will deal with your (1) understanding of professional, ethical, legal, security, and social issues and responsibilities, (2) your ability to analyze the local and global impact of computing on individuals, organizations, and society, and (3) recognition of the need for and an ability to engage in continuing professional development. **Quizzes will be 5% of your total grade**.

For each chapter quiz and final quiz, you must find and include at least one reference and reference citation to a current event **<u>less than 4 years old</u>** (a reference with no date (n.d.) is not acceptable) in answer to at least one question. This requires a reference citation in the text of your answer and a reference at the end of the question to which the reference applies. You must include some information obtained from the reference in your answer. The references must be found online, and a URL must be included to verify the reference. References for the final quiz and term paper have the same requirement. All chapter quiz essays must be no less than 500 words, double-spaced, in APA Format, and Times New Roman 12 Font.

<u>Exams</u>: You will have two exams during this course. The midterm exam will cover chapters 1 – 5 and any assigned reading materials **worth 25% of your grade**. The final exam will cover chapters 6 – 10 and any assigned reading materials worth **25% of your grade**. Exams will be online. You will find **availability times and due dates** on the Course Schedule. These exams are not team assignments, and there will be **no make-up exams**. It is the student's responsibility to arrange for an **<u>excused absence before</u>** the exam. A grade of zero will be assigned for all exams missed without an excused absence. If an emergency arises the week of the midterm exam, contact the instructor immediately.

<u>Term Paper</u>: 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 dates** is on the Left-Hand Menu (under Term Paper). You must notify the instructor of your topic choices (via your instructor's myLeo email – using the correct email protocol) by 11:59 PM CST US**, Monday, 3/2/25**. This term paper will represent 20% of your total grade. The term paper must be no less than 3000 words, double-spaced, in APA Format, and Times New Roman 12 Font.

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Students must comply with East Texas A&M Policies on AI Technology to meet this requirement.

1. **Understand the Policies: Familiarize yourself with your university's guidelines for using AI tools. These policies often outline acceptable and unacceptable uses of AI in academic work.**
2. **Originality and Integrity: Ensure that your work remains original. Using AI to generate content should not compromise the authenticity and originality of your term paper. Properly cite any AI-generated content if allowed.**
3. **Ethical Use: Use AI tools ethically. This means not using AI to complete assignments in a way that misrepresents your own understanding or effort. AI can be used as a supplementary tool for research or grammar checks but not for generating entire sections of your term paper.**
4. **Review the Turnitin Reports: This course will use Turnitin; review the similarity reports carefully. Address any flagged content by ensuring proper citations and making necessary revisions. There will be no acceptance of any AI-generated content within your term paper that Turnitin detects.**
5. **Academic Honesty: Uphold the principles of academic honesty. Avoid any form of academic dishonesty, including unauthorized collaboration or using unapproved resources.**

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, Grammarly, ChatBots, or other software that have the capacity to generate text or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course. Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes academic dishonesty (plagiarism). Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors 'guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed. In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty
13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

By following these guidelines, you can ensure that your use of AI technology aligns with university policies and maintains the integrity of your academic work. If you have any questions about specific policies, it's always a good idea to consult your instructor or academic advisor.

Late Work:
All assignments are due at the time specified. Please keep in mind that no late work will be accepted without penalty. If an assignment is turned in after the due date, 15% of the grade will be forfeited. **<u>No assignment(only quizzies) will be graded if submitted 7 or more days after it is due</u>. If you want it graded, an assignment must be submitted within 6 days of the due date**. **<u>There will be NO late submittal for the final quiz in week 15.</u>** If you have a problem submitting an assignment on time, contact me before the due date. **It may be possible for some weeks to work ahead and submit the assignment before it is due**.

Cheating on Exams

Students who share information about answers on the exams or receive assistance from external sources during the exam will receive a zero grade for the exam.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:
A = 90%-100%
B = 80%-89%
C = 70%-79%
D = 60%-69%
F = 59% or Below

Assessments

Your Final Grade Distribution is as follows:

Assessment	Percent of Final Grade
Chapter Quizzes	25% (short essay format)
Final Quiz	5% (short essay format)
Term Paper	20%
Midterm Exam	25% (chapters 1-5)
Final Exam	25% (chapters 6-10)
Total	**100%**

Outcome Assessment:

Chapter quizzes, exams, and term papers will be used to assess learning objectives (LO) and the related level of learning. State-wide and in most professional industries, college students are mandated to be more proficient in 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.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements. LMS Requirements: https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-

LMS Browser Support:
https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_suppo rt.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements: https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-SystemRequirements

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all coursework promptly and satisfactorily. Each student needs a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include having a backup PC at home or work, temporarily using a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are struggling with the course material, please contact your instructor.

Technical Support

If you have technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

See Above

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies
See Above

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may require the instructor to modify it during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.
http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette

ETAMU Attendance
For more information about the attendance policy, please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.
http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf

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Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty, see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf)

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf 13.99.99.R0.03

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf)

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf

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Individual instructors may disallow the use of such software entirely for individual assignments or the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided, the student should assume that such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

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https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesprocedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty
https://inside.tamuc.edu/aboutus/policiesproceduresstandardsstatements/rulesprocedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10.pdf

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. This legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
East Texas A&M University
Gee Library- Room 162 Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu
Website: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServ ices

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom and in online courses with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url: http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903- 886-5868 or 9-1-1.

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Due Dates assignments submitted late will be penalized. **No assignment (quizzes only) will be graded if submitted 7 or more days after it is due. <u>An assignment (quizzes only) must be submitted within 6 days after the due date if you want it graded</u>. There will be NO late submittal for the final quiz in week 15.**

Quizzes and Journals correspond to the Chapters in the Textbook.

Week 1/Quiz 1: - 1/12/26 Due at the end of the first week of class
Week 2/Quiz 2: - 1/18/26
Week 3/Quiz 3: - 1/25/26
Week 4/Quiz 4: - 2/2/26
Week 5/ Online Lecture Session will be scheduled for 2/5/26.
Week 6/Quiz 5: - 2/8/26
Week 7/Quiz 6**:** - 2/15/26
Term Paper Topic Selection Due: Sunday, 2/15/26
Week 8 Midterm covering chapters 1-5 starts 2/9/26– ends 2/21/26
Week 8/Quiz 7: - 2/22/26
Week 9/: Quiz 8: 3/1/26
Week 10/Quiz 9: -3/8/26
Week 11 Online Lecture Session is scheduled for 3/26/26.
Week 12/Quiz 10 - 3/22/26
Week 13/Quiz 11 - 3/29/26
First DRAFT of SEMESTER TERM PAPER DUE: 3/26/26.Week 14/ Quiz 12 -4/5/26
Week 15/ Final Quiz -4/12/26
Week 15/ Online Lecture Session is scheduled for 4/16/26.
Week 15/ FINAL DRAFT of SEMESTER TERM PAPER: 4/21/25
Week 16/ Finals - Final Exam covering chapters 6 - 10: Start 5/3/26 – End 5/7/26

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