Class Lecture: Monday–Wednesday, 2:00–2:50, BH 317
Instructor: Prof. Robert H. Sloan, 1132 SEO. Phone: 6-2369.
Email: Prof’s last name at host uic.edu.
Professor’s office hours: Mon. 1:30–2:30, and by appointment.
(Excepton: First day of classes, office hours are 12:45–1:45.)
TA: Shun Liang Email: sliang2@uic.edu.

This course has a web site at URL http://www.cs.uic.edu/~sloan/CLASSES/335-course-info.
All the information in this handout, and more, is there.
This course also has a UIC Blackboard page, although right now it contains only
a link to this information. We will definitely use it for its grade book, and probably
that is where I will post additional reading assignments, etc, later in the course. You
can reach Blackboard directly at http://blackboard.uic.edu or get to Blackboard
from a quick link from the university home page.

1 Assignments for second and third meetings of
our class

For Wednesday, August 25, read:

1. Chapter 1 of the text.

2. “A very Short History of Computer Ethics”, by Terrell Ward Bynum, originally
published in the Summer 2000 issue of the American Philosophical Association’s
Do you agree with the Gorniak Hypothesis?

Bill Joy, co-founder and Chief Scientist of Sun Microsystems, was cochair of the
presidential commission on the future of IT research (which resulted in several
hundred million dollars in additional federal research funding, some of which found its way to UIC teams, including those of Profs. Cruz and DeFanti, and some of which Prof. Sloan gave out when he was a National Science Foundation Program Officer), and is coauthor of The Java Language Specification.

Please come prepared to discuss whether we need to be worried about extinction.

Recall that short quiz on assigned reading on the day it is due (or a class or two later) is fair game in CS 335.

For Monday August 30 (due in class)

1. Please do Exercise 1.8 from the textbook, page 30 (short essay).
   Be sure to follow the course writing guidelines!
   (Please put a word count for your short essay at the end of the page or on a separate cover page.)

2. Please read textbook Chapter 2.1–2.4. (Depending on how the first week goes, we may not get to this until Wednesday, but I’d still like it read for Monday, and its fair game for a Monday quiz.)

2 Course Topics, Textbook Readings

— Tentative! Subject to change without notice —


2. Privacy: introduction, threats, issues, Chapter 2.1–2.4. Aug. 30-Sept. 1

   First student presentations. (Subject to change?)

4. Communications issues and cryptography. Chapter 3. Sept. 13–15. (Prof. Sloan will be giving a computer security research paper at the ESORICS conference; guest professor this week.)


Book reports due Wed., Oct. 6


Free software, free-speech issues. (Chapter 6.)

10. Oct.18–27, including at least one guest speaker, maybe two. (i.e., this topic, plus speakers, is likely to eat up two weeks.)

11. Computer crime: hacking, online scams, fraud, civil liberties online, security, viruses. (Chapter 7.) Nov. 1–3.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 2. U.S. Citizens are expected to vote!


Term papers due Monday November 8; comments on another student’s term paper due Wednesday November 10.

13. Societal issues: community, access to computing (have’s vs. have-nots), gender and race issues. Bad technologies. (Chapter 9.) November 15–17.

Final copy of term papers due Mon., November 15.

14. Ethical issues for computer professionals; professional code of practice. Chapter 10.1–10.2, and Appendix A.1 or A.2. (I’ll announce which code we’ll examine closely when we get close.) November 22–24. (Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 25.)


16. No final exam!

Notes: there will also be additional reading assignments from outside the book. Two due for the first Wednesday of the course are listed in this document! I plan at several outside speakers (e.g., librarians, computer law/intellectual property lawyers, physicians expert in carpal tunnel issues), so the schedule will definitely be modified as we go to accommodate them.
3 Textbook


Note the book’s web site.
Other regular reading will also be assigned, mostly web-based.

4 Grading

This policy is subject to change at any time for any reason.

Pop quizzes 13%

Class participation 10%

2 shorter writing assignments 12%

Term paper 45%

Debate or Leading discussion 20%

Leading Discussion or Debate

If the class has the size I expect, then students will be assigned by alphabetical order into two-to-three person groups, each of which will be assigned (by me) one of the general course topics. For your assigned topic area your group must then select a specific topic to use for your discussion or debate. I will provide a list of suggestions for you.

For your chosen topic you will then either lead the class in a discussion, or have a debate. By the middle of the second week of class you must email me your specific topic for my approval, as well as indicating whether you will be moderating the class discussion or having a debate. Your prepared portion of your discussion or debate should last at most 25 minutes.

For discussions, students should share responsibility for preparation and presentation. The focus here is to engage the class, to get them interested, and to get them talking along the specific lines of your topic.

For debates, students should again share the time evenly, presenting views and rebuttals of opponents positions. On the day of your debate I will choose at random who will argue which side, so you must understand the issues and be prepared either way. You should be impassioned in your argumentation, attempting to persuade the listeners to your views by facts, analogy, and logical arguments. You must leave the last 5 minutes of your debate for the class to interact with you. Part of your debate grade will be your ability to answer questions/challenges given by the class in response to your comments.
Quizzes

There will be roughly 8–12 pop quizzes during the semester, each of which will occur at the start of class. The subject will be assigned readings and lecture content since the previous quiz. The assigned readings from the textbook will be the most heavily quizzed over the course of the semester. Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class. Those who arrive late will have less time to finish the quiz, which will last less than 10 minutes. No makeup quizzes will be given, but the lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Quiz questions concerning the book will be drawn almost exclusively from the “Review exercises” questions at the end of the chapter and the sample quiz questions on the book’s web site.

There is reading due for the second meeting of this class on Wednesday!

Reading for all later weeks must be completed by Monday of the week.

Class participation

Discussion is a critically important component of this class. Class participation means being actively involved in discussions and asking questions, demonstrating you have read the material and thought about it ahead of time. After I have assigned readings, I will choose members from the class to comment. I will ask you to read your classmate’s position papers (I’ll tell you which ones) and will ask random students for their thoughts. I will keep track of who is prepared and who isn’t. You have to be present to comment, so class participation includes (but is not limited to) attendance; we will be taking attendance.

Writing assignments

This semester, there will be 3 writing assignments: a very short assignment due Monday of second week, a book report, and a term paper.

These assignments will be graded primarily on content, but I will also grade the mechanics of the writing. For the term paper, each of you will review a draft of another student’s paper, and a few of the points for the term paper will be based on that review.

The very short essay is assigned in the section of this document called “assignments for the first two weeks.” More information about the book report and term paper is on the course’s home page.

Mechanics (grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc.) will count some of the grade for all writing assignments.

For (free!) help with your writing, I encourage you to use the UIC Writing Center. Note that since this course is only a 2-credit hour course, there is neither final exam nor midterm. The term paper will count very heavily in determining your grade! Basically, if the course had a final, I would give 20–25 percent each to the term paper
and to the final, but since the course has no final, I’ve given all that weight to the term paper.

**Bonus**

I will give 1.5 bonus points each towards the semester grade for choosing by specified deadlines, discussion/debate topics, book for book report, and term paper topic.

## 5 Rules and regulations

### Incompletes

The *UIC Undergraduate catalog* states that in addition to needing excellent justification for an incomplete, a student must also have been “making satisfactory progress in the course.”

Therefore, no matter how good your excuse, I will not grant you an incomplete if you have less than a C average at the time you ask for an incomplete.

### Academic Integrity

Any writing you do must cite any sources you used for ideas, and must indicate specifically any exact quotation, and must have a specific citation immediately following or preceding any non-exact quotation that is a restatement of another source. Any failure to do these things is plagiarism.

In general, I expect this course to be rather generous in its grading for a computer science major course. However, the minimum penalty for any cheating will be an E for the course (not just the assignment in question!), and the maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

“You can do absolutely anything here, except for murder and plagiarism. And even in that case, they’re often willing to punish first-time offenders lightly—if it’s only murder.”

—Direct quote of speaker at Prof. Sloan’s freshman orientation in fall of 19-mumble-mumble.