Fall 2010 **CS 335 – Computer Ethics** Call#: 10648

Instructor:	Pat Troy	(312) 996-8521	troy AT uic . edu

Office Hours:	11:00 – 12:00 or by appointment	Tuesday & Thursday	919 SEO

Class Times:	1:00 – 1:50	Monday & Wednesday	120 SH

Texts: <u>Blown to Bits, Your Life, Liberty and Happiness after the Digital Explosion</u>, by Abelson, Ledeen and Lewis, Addison-Wesley Publishing, ISBN-13: 978-0-13-713559-2

<u>The Future of the Internet and how to stop it</u>, by Jonathan Zittrain, Yale University Press, ISBN-13: 978-0-300-15124-4

Web Page: http://www.cs.uic.edu/~i335

Catalog Description: Ethical, societal and environmental issues for computer professionals. Professional ethics, software ownership, unreliability, responsibility, privacy, computer crime, veracity, expert systems, workplace and health issues.

Prerequisites: Data Structures II (CS 202)

Course Work:

Presentation	20%
Pop Quizzes	25%
Position Papers	20%
Class Participation & Generative Content	35%

Grading:

100% - 90.0%	Grade A
89.9% - 80.0%	Grade B
79.9% - 70.0%	Grade C
69.9% - 60.0%	Grade D
59.9% - 0%	Grade E

Presentation, Leading Discussion or Debate

Students will be required to pair up and lead the class in a presentation, discussion or debate. For your topic area I suggest you look at each section's links on the course schedule, as well as a previous text book's associated web site (A Gift of Fire, by Sara Baase).

Your prepared portion of your discussion or debate should last 20 - 25 minutes, *including* at least 5 minutes at the end for questions / interaction with the class. Part of your discussion/debate grade will be the extent to which your presentation stimulates thought or questions, and your ability to answer questions/challenges given by the class in response to your comments.

- *Grading for Presentation, Discussion or Debate*

Students should share responsibility for preparation and presentation. For Leading Discussions, everyone in the group will receive the same grade. For Debates, you will be graded individually. You will be graded on a scale of 0 to 4 for each of the following 5 areas:

1   Interesting. Engages the class and stimulates discussion. Well thought-out questions for the class.

2   Communicates verbally effectively. (Argues convincingly for debates)

3   Use of visual aids (overheads, board, web, handouts, etc.)

4   Understands the issues; Knows the facts, main points, uses supporting cases/scenarios/questions.

5   Well-prepared; Knows exactly who is doing what in the group; Uses appropriate amount of time, including 5 minutes at the end for interaction with class.

This gives a possible total of 20 points. For each area, a grade of 3 is considered normal, for a "normal" total score of 15. Only truly outstanding performance will get a score higher than a 3 (out of 4) for any of the above 5 areas.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class. Those who arrive late will have less time or will entirely miss the quiz, which will last around 5 minutes. Quizzes will be based on previous lectures or assigned readings. No makeup quizzes will be given, but the lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Position Papers

Position Papers will be graded on a scale of 0 to 3. A grade of 2 is considered average, and a 3 will only be given for work that shows unusual insight or extra thought. Note that you will be graded on the final result, not on how much work you put into it. As a guideline, each paper should be 1 - 2 pages long if it were typed double-spaced. You papers need to show evidence that you have done the reading. They must have your *own* thoughts and reactions to the readings along with your logically supported thoughts.

Position papers must be turned in to the Blackboard discussion forum that corresponds to that paper. Make sure it is a file format (e.g. text, html, or MS Word,) that students can easily access from ACCC lab or home machines. You will also be asked to read your classmate's papers, adding your response to that paper as a reply to that post in Blackboard. No late papers will be accepted, but the lowest position paper grade will be dropped.

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 or position papers 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 I will take roll regularly by asking questions using the class list.

Many of the course web pages are in a format that you can edit. Your adding to these pages is what is meant by "Generative Content."