CSE 3030 Legal, Ethical, and Social Issues in Computing (3 credits)

Primary instructor: Keith Gallagher
Supporting instructor: Cem Kaner

Textbooks and references:

M. J. Quinn, Ethics for the Information Age. Pearson, 6th edition, 2014 (T)

Course information:

2014–2015 Catalog description: CSE 3030 Legal, Ethical, and Social Issues in Computing (3 credits). Overviews legal, ethical and moral considerations for the computing professions. Includes the impact of legal concepts on society, the need for ethical considerations in software systems development, and the potential need for professional certification. Prerequisites: COM 2012, COM 2223 or COM 2224, CSE 1002 or CSE 1502 or CSE 1503 or ECE 2551.

Prerequisites by topic: Technical communication skills; research skills; understanding of fundamentals of computer science and software engineering

Place in program: Required.

Course outcomes & related student outcomes: The student will be able to

1. Recognize, understand and analyze the moral, ethical, and legal dimensions of an individual’s actions. (5: Awareness of professional issues and responsibilities)

2. Demonstrate ethical reasoning through oral and written communication. (7: Communicate effectively)

3. Explain the impact of computing on society. (6: Analyze computing’s impact)

4. Recognize the potential for continual impact of computing on society. (9: Continually learn)

5. Describe historical and current ethical issues in computing. (10: Knowledge of history and present issues)

Topics covered:

1. Analytical and philosophical framework for the topics in the course (2 hours)

2. Limitation on technology impacting ethical decisions (3 hours)

3. Issues on the impact and control of computers (4 hours)

4. Intellectual property (4 hours)

5. Computers and the workplace (3 hours)

6. Federal and state constitutional policies impacting computers (4 hours)
7. Computer crime (4 hours)

8. Digital Millennium Copyright Act (3 hours)

9. Organizational regulation of professionals (3 hours)

Approved By: Keith Gallagher, Associate Professor, Director of Software Engineering Programs & Cem Kaner, Professor

Signature: [Signature] Date: 2/28/15

Signature: [Signature] Date: 2/2/15