

Sul Ross State University

Spring 2017

CSST 1170 Ethics of Computer/Network Resources

Instructor: Thea Glenn
M.S. Management Information Systems

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Office Hours: 9am – 1pm

Class: MAB 204

Class Time: M 4 – 4:50

Textbook: Spinello and Tavani (eds.) *Cyberethics: Morality and Law in Cyberspace, 6th ed.*, Jones and Barttlet.

Recommended:

- *_Technopoly: The Surrender of Culture to Technology*, Postman
- *_Borders in Cyberspace*, Kahin and Nesson (eds.)
- *_The Fourth Revolution: How the Infosphere is Reshaping Human Reality* Floridi
- *_The Philosophy of Information* Floridi
- *_A Brief History of the Future*, Naughton
- *_Information, Freedom and Property: The Philosophy of Law Meets the Philosophy of Technology* Hildebrandt and van den Berg
- *_Being Digital*, Negroponte
- *_Information Rules: A Strategic Guide to the Network Economy*, Varian
- *_Inventing the Internet*, Abbate
- *_The Unwanted Gaze*, Rosen
- *_The Ethics of Information Technology and Business*, De George
- *_Computer Ethics, 4th ed.*, Johnson
- *_Internet Ethics*, Langford, (ed.)
- *_The Internet Galaxy*, Castells
- *_Netpolicy.com*, Simon
- *_Code and Other Laws of Cyberspace*, Lessig
- *_The Future of Ideas*, Lessig
- *_A Philosophy of Intellectual Property*, Drahos
- *_Information Feudalism*, Drahos
- *_Hackers*, Levy
- *_CRYPTO*, Levy
- *_Intellectual Property Rights in a Networked World*, Spinello and Tavani, (eds)
- *_Copyrights and Copywrongs: The Rise of Intellectual Property and How it Threatens Creativity*, Vaidhyanathan
- *_Intellectual Property and Information Control*, Moore
- *_Configuring the Networked Self*, Cohen
- *_Second Treatise on Government [esp. Ch. 5]*, Locke
- *_Regulating Cyberspace: The Policies and Technologies of Control*, Spinello
- *_Defending Intellectual Property Rights*, Spinello and Bottis
- *_World War 3.0*, Auletta
- *_Microsoft, Antitrust and the New Economy*, Evans
- *_Trust on Trial: How the Microsoft Case is Reframing the Rules of Competition*, McKenzie

Course Objectives

The emergence of the global network -- the Internet and its constituent networks -- and the associated digital revolution present an array of new threats and opportunities for business in the 21st century. No other technical innovation has reached critical mass so rapidly or sustained such exponential growth. The goal of this course is to provide students with the conceptual tools to understand the technological, geopolitical, and legal environment affecting telecommunications and information processing. Specific topic coverage includes the following (time permitting):

- Historical Perspective
- Ethical Commerce
- Jurisdiction and Governance Issues in Cyberspace
- ICANN
- Fair Completion in Cyberspace
- Free Speech on the Global Network
- International Censorship and Terrorism
- Intellectual Property (IP) Issues
- Future of Copyright
- Regulating Privacy

Attendance

Attendance is different for an independent study. We will meet every so often so that I will make sure you understand the material and answer any questions you have. Please email me your questions. That way I will answer your question as clearly as possible.

Need for Assistance

Qualified students with disabilities needing academic or other accommodations to ensure full participation in the programs, services and activities at Sul Ross State University should contact the Disabilities Services Coordinator, in Counseling and Prevention Services, Ferguson Hall 112, Box C-117, Alpine, Texas 79832. Please notify me before the third day of classes.

Course Policies

Quizzes and assignments must be submitted on time. I have set up rules in Blackboard so that assignments cannot be submitted after the due date.

Academic Dishonesty

Honesty in completing assignments is essential to the mission of the university and to the development of the personal integrity of the student. **Cheating, plagiarism** (also means taking information off line and using it as your own content), or other kinds of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in appropriate sanctions that may include failing an assignment, failing the class, or being suspended or expelled. Suspected cases in this course may be reported to Student Life. Please note that information online is not free even though there is public access to the information. When using online resources you must properly cite your reference in the paper as well as on the reference page.

Posting of Grades

Grades are on display in blackboard. Submitting assignments and test are done in

blackboard. **Do not** email assignments or test to me everything is to be put into blackboard.

Grading

Letter grades will be determined using a standard percentage point evaluation as outlined below. Please note that this is a tentative schedule and can change. Any changes that happen will be updated in Blackboard. Due Dates for assignments will also be posted in Blackboard.

Your final grade will be determined by calculating points based on the following weights:

- A 900 - 1000 points
- B 800 - 890 points
- C 700 – 790 points
- D 600 – 690 points
- F below 600 points

The table below is a tentative schedule of the planned assignments.

Part I: The Information Infrastructure: Managing the Digital Superhighway

"The Internet is. . . a unique and wholly new medium of human communication." *ACLU v. Reno*

Session 1

Introduction: Course Overview and Key Themes

Historical Perspective on the Net's Evolution

Lecture: Overview of Internet Technology and Protocols

Recommended: Rus Shuler, "How Does the Internet Work," and PBS's Packet Switching Demo [See course web site]

"Inside the Internet" [video]

Reading: *Cyberethics*, Chs. 1 & 2.

Session 2

The Digital Superhighway and the Global Marketplace

Case Study: Global Friction Among Information Infrastructures (Handout)

Johnson, "Is the Global Information Infrastructure a Democratic Technology?" (*Readings in Cyberethics*, Ch. 1)

Lecture: The State of Electronic Commerce

Class discussion: The Net Neutrality Debate (see *Cyberethics*, Ch. 2)

Session 3

Jurisdiction and Governance Issues in Cyberspace

Review *Cyberethics*, Chs. 1 & 2.

Case Study: L'Affair Yahoo, *Cyberethics*, Ch. 2

Lecture: What's Up with ICANN?

*The History of ICANN (recommended -- see web ICANN site)

Case Study: American or Australian Libel law (*Cyberethics*, Ch.2)

Part II: Competition in the New Economy

"The software industry is about the politics of standardization." --Ted Nelson

Session 4

The Great Convergence

Lecture: Converging Worlds of Telecommunications, Computing, and Entertainment

"Making Connections: Understanding the Convergence of Phones, TV, Cable, and Computers" [video]

Fair Competition in Cyberspace

Case Study (i) Google: The New Monopolist (*Cyberethics*, Ch.2)

Case Study (ii): The New Browser Wars (see course web site)

Part III: Social and Ethical Issues in Cyberspace

Session 5

Policy and Ethical Frameworks

Reading: Lessig, "The Laws of Cyberspace," (*Readings in Cyberethics*, ch.2)

Reading: Moor, "Just Consequentialism and Computing" (*Readings in Cyberethics*, Ch. 1)

Reading: Moor, "Reason, Relativity and Responsibility in Computer Ethics" (*Readings in Cyberethics*, Ch. 1)

Lecture: Summary of Ethical Frameworks (Also, review Ch. 1 of *Cyberethics*).

Session 6

Free Speech on the Global Network (cont'd)

-The Great Filtering Controversy:

Reading: ACLU, "Fahrenheit 451.2: Is Cyberspace Burning?" (*Readings in CyberEthics*, Ch. 2)

Reading: Rosenberg, "Filtering the Internet in the United States: Free Speech Denied," (*Readings in CyberEthics*, Ch. 2)

Case Study: The Librarian's Dilemma (Handout)

Session 7

International Censorship and Terrorism

Review material in Ch. 3 of *Cyberethics* on this topic.

Case Study (i): Twitter, Free Speech, and Terrorism (*Cyberethics*, Ch. 3).

Lecture: Technologies of Online Censorship

Case Study (ii): Cisco in China (Handout)

Session 8

Intellectual Property (IP) Issues

"The patent system. . . added the fuel of *interest* to the *fire* of genius, in the discovery and production of new and useful things. --Abraham Lincoln

-Patents and Cyberpatents

Case Study: Patent War on the Web: Amazon vs. Barnes and Noble

Lecture: Introduction to IP Normative Frameworks

Reading: *Cyberethics*, Chapter 4.

-The Future of Copyright

Reading: Boyle, "A Politics of Intellectual Property: Environmentalism for the Net," *Readings in CyberEthics*, Ch. 3)

Lecture: The Remixing Controversy

Case Study: Reader's Right, Remixing, and Mashups (*Cyberethics*, Ch.4)

Session 9

-The Future of Copyright (cont'd)

Case Study: The Movie Industry Takes on Grokster (*Cyberethics*, Ch.4)

Reading: Warwick, "Is Copyright Ethical?" (*Readings in CyberEthics*, Ch. 3)

Stop the Music: Napster [video]

Session 10

-IP and Internet Service Provider Liability

Reading: Digital Millennium Copyright Act (*Readings in CyberEthics*, Ch. 3)

Case Study: Note on the DeCSS Case (see course website)

Case Study: *RIAA v. Verizon* [Handout]

Reading: Spinello, "Internet Service Providers and Defamation: New Standards of Liability," (*Readings in Cyberethics*, Ch. 2)

Regulating Privacy

"The distinctive discourse of modernity is one prediction and control." A. Borgmann

Session 11

-The Debate on Online Privacy

Reading: Moor, "Towards a Theory of Privacy for the Information Age" (*Readings in CyberEthics*, Ch. 4)

Reading: Elgesem, "The Structure of Rights in Directive 95/46/EC. . ." (*Readings in*

CyberEthics, Ch. 4)

-Privacy Across Borders

Case Study: Privacy and the Right to be Forgotten (*Cyberethics*, Ch.5)

Lecture: The Challenges of Protecting Privacy across Borders in the Global Internet Environment.

Session 12

-Privacy and Social Media

-Case Study: Facebook's "Unfriendly" Privacy Policies (*Cyberethics*, Ch. 5)

Lecture: Social Media and Personal Privacy

-Workplace Privacy

Case Study: The Monitoring of Social Media by Employers (*Cyberethics*, Ch. 5)

Reading: Inrona, "Workplace Surveillance, Privacy, and Distributive Justice"

(Readings in *Cyberethics*, Ch. 4)

Securing the Electronic Frontier

-Cybercrime and Cyberterrorism

Reading *Cyberethics*, Ch. 6

Reading: Tavani, "Defining the Boundaries of Computer Crime: Piracy, Break-ins, and Sabotage in Cyberspace" (Readings in *Cyberethics*, Ch. 5)

Reading: Denning, "Cyberterrorism" (Readings in *Cyberethics*, Ch. 5)

Session 13

-Security and Encryption

Case Study: The New Crypto Wars: The Dispute over Apple's iPhone (*Cyberethics*, Ch.6)

Lecture: What is Encryption and How Does it Work?

-Hacktivism

Reading: Manion and Goodrum, "Terrorism or Civil Disobedience: Toward a Hacktivist Ethic" (Readings in *Cyberethics*, Ch. 5)

Case Study: The Lulz Sec Hackers (*Cyberethics*, Ch. 6)

Part IV: Summary: The Big Picture

Session 14

Wrap Up Lecture

Lecture: Course Summary and Synthesis-- Tying It All Together

Final Assignment

Cohen, "Between Truth and Power," in Hildebrandt and Van den Berg (eds.)

Information, Freedom, and Property (2016) [On course reserve]