

# CSCI 4000: Ethical and Professional Issues in Computer Science Spring 2018

Class Meeting	Wednesday, 12:00pm – 12:50pm Austin Building, Room 302
Instructor	Dr. Mark Hills
Office	Science & Technology Building, C-110
Office Hours	Tuesday 1:00pm – 3:00pm Wednesday 10:00am – 11:00am Thursday 10:00am – 12:00pm Or by appointment
Phone	252-328-9692
Email	<a href="mailto:hillsma@ecu.edu">hillsma@ecu.edu</a> (response within 24 hours during the week, possibly longer on weekends)
Course web page	<a href="https://blackboard.ecu.edu">https://blackboard.ecu.edu</a>

## Course Summary

*To be taken by CSCI seniors in final semester. Departmental assessment and professional, ethical, legal, security, and social issues and responsibilities related to the practice of computer science.*

This course focuses on ethical and professional issues in a number of areas, including areas focused on computing itself (e.g., security, privacy, reliability) and on broader aspects of computing (e.g., impacts on health and education). The ETS Major Field Exam and undergraduate student exit surveys are also required components of this course.

## Prerequisites

As mentioned in the course description, you should be a senior in your final semester (the exception: you are completing all degree requirements in Summer 2018, meaning this is your last regular semester). If not, please talk to me right away, you should not be in the course this term.

## Learning Outcomes

After taking this course, you should be able to:

- explain the impact on individuals, organizations, and society of the application of ethical principles and quality leadership to technical problems from a computational perspective;
- describe the local and global impact of computing on organizations and society.

## Textbook

Computer Ethics: A Global Perspective. Giannis Stamatellos, Jones and Bartlett Publishers, Sudbury, MA, 2007. The textbook is required.

Other helpful material, including references to books, blogs, and conference or journal articles, will be posted as the course progresses.

## Exams

There will be two midterm exams. The first is on Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, and covers ethical issues (Chapters 1 through 5). The second is on Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, and covers social impact (Chapters 6 through 11). Both exams are in class.

There is no final exam for this course. However, all students are required to take the ETS Major Field Exam to pass this course. This will either be given on the last day of class (if possible, based on student schedules) or on Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, from 11am to 1:30pm (the assigned final exam time for the course). Students are also required to take an undergraduate student exit survey to pass the course – more details will be forthcoming.

## Topic Schedule (tentative, except exam dates)

Date	Topic
1/10	Course Introduction
1/17	Chapter 1: Introduction to Computer Ethics
1/24	Chapter 2: Computer Crime and Security
1/31	Chapter 3: Privacy and Anonymity
2/7	Chapter 4: Intellectual Property
2/14	Chapter 5: Computer Reliability
2/21	Chapters 6 and 7: Intelligent Machines/Business
2/28	First Midterm
3/7	Spring Break
3/14	Chapter 8 and 9: Health/Education
3/21	Chapter 11: Politics; Appendix A: ACM Code of Ethics
3/28	Student Presentations
4/4	Student Presentations
4/11	Second Midterm
4/18	ETS Major Field Test (may be moved to final exam slot)

## Grading

Students will be evaluated based on a combination of assignments and the two midterm exams. The ETS Major Field Exam and undergraduate exit survey are not included in the grade, but are required to pass the course. The following grade cut-offs, using a 100 point scale, will be used. **To get credit for the course, you must get at least a C.**

Grading	
A	≥ 94
A-	≥ 90
B+	≥ 87
B	≥ 83
B-	≥ 80
C+	≥ 77
C	≥ 73
C-	≥ 70
D+	≥ 67

D	≥ 63
D-	≥ 60
F	< 60

This grade is based on the following relative weights of the various activities:

Weighting	
Class Participation/Discussion	10%
Assignments/Presentations	30%
First Midterm	30%
Second Midterm	30%

## Late Work

No late assignments will be accepted without an official excused absence. Assignments are due at the start of class unless otherwise noted. See here for the definition of a university-excused absence and the procedure for health-related absences: [https://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentaffairs/dos/excused\\_absences.cfm](https://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentaffairs/dos/excused_absences.cfm).

## Class Attendance

**Class attendance is mandatory and will be checked.** Each unexcused absence will adversely affect your class participation grade. If you are more than 5 minutes late and do not have an excused reason for this you will be counted as absent. See above, under "Late Work", for the definition of an excused absence.

## Starfish

This course uses the Starfish system to provide you with information on your performance within the course. For more information, please see <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-acad/advising/upload/Starfish-Student-Getting-Started.pdf>.

## Student conduct

Smoking is not permitted in classrooms. Please turn off telephones while in class. Laptops and tablets can be used for taking notes, but should not be used for other work (or recreational browsing, playing games, etc).

Students are expected to abide by the university's Student Honor Code. The work that you do is a critical part of your education. Each student is expected to do his or her own work, except where teamwork is explicitly allowed or required. That does not mean you are not allowed to discuss your ideas with other students. Working in groups can be beneficial, and I encourage you to talk through ideas with other students. But outright copying is plagiarism and is unacceptable. Students who copy other students' work, or who allow their work to be copied, or who copy their work from other sources, such as the internet, are violating the ECU academic integrity policy.

Other potential academic integrity violations are cheating, falsification, multiple submissions of the same work in different classes, and attempts at any of these violations. Please see [http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/policyhub/academic\\_integrity.cfm](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/policyhub/academic_integrity.cfm) for more details.

Academic integrity violations can result in a grade penalty up to and including an F for the course.

## Weather emergencies

In the event of a weather emergency, information about ECU can be obtained through the following sources:

**ECU emergency notices** <http://www.ecu.edu/alert>

**ECU emergency information hotline** 252-328-0062

## Students with disabilities

East Carolina University seeks to comply fully with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students requesting accommodations based on a disability must be registered with the Department for Disability Support Services located in Slay 138 ((252) 737-1016 (Voice/TTY)).

For more information, please see <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-studentlife/dss/>.

## Retention Requirements

Academic requirements for retention have changed. Please be aware of the following new GPA requirements. Please discuss the retention requirements, entrance to major requirements, and your goals with your academic advisor.

GPA Hours at ECU (identified in Transcript in Banner Self Service) <b>plus</b> transferred credit hours	"Old" Retention Requirement All courses taken at ECU	New Retention Requirements Effective with Fall 2011 grades All courses taken at ECU
1-29 semester hours	1.6 GPA	1.8
30-59 semester hours	1.8 GPA	1.9
60-74 semester hours	1.9 GPA	2.0
75 or more semester hours	2.0 GPA	2.0

## Caveats

Occasionally, it may be necessary to revise this syllabus due to extenuating circumstances. I reserve the right to revise this syllabus if the need arises. If I do so, I will describe the changes on Blackboard and post an updated copy.