DESALES UNIVERSITY

Contact Information

Instructor:

Email: Office Location: Online as Needed

Phone: Office Hours: Online as Needed

Course Information

No. of Credits: 3   Meeting   Location: Online

Start Date: Meeting   Days   &   Time: Online

End Date: Prerequisites:

Required Text (s)

Reynolds, George W., "Ethics In Information Technology 5E", 2015, Boston, Cengage Learning

ISBN: 978-1-285-19715-9

Mittleman, Druckenmiller, "Technologies, Social Media, and Society, 23/e", 2019, McGraw-Hill

ISBN 9781260180282

Technology Requirements

Hardware and Software Requirements (if any):

NOTE: For basic hardware/software requirements, please visit www.desales.edu/techrequirements

Additional Course Material (if any)

Course Description /Outcomes:

An investigation of ideas and philosophies regarding ethics in the field of technology. Students explore topics such as intellectual property, copy and protection of software, technological use for human development, computer hacking, viruses, data sharing and confidentiality. Students will be challenged on an individual level to develop a set of standards for a career in the technology center.

Student Learning Outcomes:

For the **General Education Core Curriculum**, at the successful completion of this course the student will demonstrate the following Student Learning Outcomes with the exception of the item (s) in parentheses:

1. Critical thinking and problem solving skills.
2. Competence in research, information literacy, technology, and written and oral communication.
3. Knowledge of Christian humanism in the Salesian tradition – with its distinction between wisdom and knowledge, truth and opinion – as this impacts both the student's academic discipline and personal wellbeing.
4. The ability to function effectively in local, national, and global communities, respecting personal dignity and the common good according to Catholic social tradition.

Upon successful completion of this course the student will also demonstrate the following Student Learning Outcomes:

*   A knowledge of ethical, moral and social uses of technology
*   Determine boundaries for use of technology used in human development
*   Define intellectual property and its limitations of use
*   Establish guidelines for copying and distribution of software and data
*   Analyze the reasoning for virus creation and computer hacking
*   Emphasize the effects and consequences of irresponsible actions
*   Identify proper citation and use of shared information
*   Fashion an atmosphere of accountability for sharing information
*   Examine censorship and security restrictions
*   Compare legal to ethical issues

Method of Instruction:

This is a compressed, 100% online course, eliminating any formal in-class session. In a traditional course, students meet one or more times per week in a classroom setting over eight or sixteen weeks. With a short three-week window to achieve the student learning objectives, it is imperative that each student plan to dedicate the appropriate amount of time necessary to complete all of the scheduled coursework. Like a regular ACCESS session, there is a higher level of responsibility on the student to maintain adequate progress throughout the course.

The course material is broken down into four "modules," with each module covering two chapters of the textbook. Please review the scheduled start dates for each module. Module 1 is scheduled for six days to account for Christmas Day. The remaining three modules are each scheduled for five days for a total class schedule over twenty-one days.

Each weekly unit contains assigned reading, a set of asynchronous discussion questions, and a written assignment. All discussion and written work will cover both chapters assigned for that module.

Successful completion of this course requires a commitment to active participation in the online classroom. Students should expect to log in and participate with the online components at least three out of every five days for each module. This allows discussions to develop, and gives each

student an opportunity to actively participate. The questions and content allow for initial reactions without necessarily reading all of the week's material.

Initial discussion posts should be made no later than Day 3 of each module, allowing for other students to respond and participate. Given the shortened course schedule, each Module will remain open for three additional days after the start of the next module.

Unlike other computer science courses that focus on technical terminology, concepts, and theory, this course addresses one of the main people and process areas. As such, there is a heavier focus on professional, academic writing and clear, defensible communication. Students should be prepared to produce well-written answers to their assignments, with clean grammar (no spelling, punctuation errors) and arguments with supporting evidence (and proper citations). Failure in these areas will result in increasing grade penalties. If a student chooses to ignore graded comments to improve writing mechanics, future papers may NOT be accepted and will result in a zero for that assignment. Remedial writing assistance is available through the University if needed.

Zoom sessions will take place during each module. Please refer to the course calendar and classroom Zoom link for more information. Announcements will be made at least 24 hours prior to each session. All sessions will be recorded for later viewing.

Online learning brings a flexibility benefit in eliminating physical classroom sessions and travel, but at the same time, it requires a heavier commitment of self-study and self-discipline. Students should expect, at a minimum, to spend 12-15 hours per week completing online coursework (discussions, assignments, supplemental readings) in addition to their normal study time.

The full class schedule is described below. Any changes to the schedule will be posted immediately in Blackboard and will also be communicated at the next classroom session (if applicable). All student assignments, quizzes, research case study, and final exam will be submitted/completed in Blackboard via the assignment submission bin.

Communication Methods:
   Students are responsible to check the online classroom via Blackboard at least every other day. The instructor will post updates and any announcements through that forum. In addition, email wil be used as a primary vehicle for instructor-student conversation. Follow-up phone conversations are available as needed. Please email any questions to the instructor as soon as an issue arises. The instructor will respond generally within 24 hours, but no later than 48. For time sensitive issues, a phone call is also appropriate.

Administrative Policies

Attendance Policy:

In ACCESS, course attendance/participation is required. Students who do not attend or participate risk being dropped, withdrawn, or receiving a failing grade in the course. Students who have been withdrawn from the course will be refunded in accordance with the course withdrawal policy.

Online Participation Policy:

Blackboard provides a framework for online learning, but it is the students and instructors that leverage this framework to enable learning.

Discussions

Each module contains three discussion questions, drawing on concepts and topics from the assigned reading. These questions are designed to stimulate thought and allow for constructive discourse. Each student is expected to provide their own initial response to the question, along with at least two responses to other students' postings. The initial response should be posted NO LATER THAN then Day 3 of the module's scheduled start date. The week's readings do not necessarily need to be fully completed in order to participate. The initial post requirement ensures that other students have an opportunity to respond. As stated above in the Evaluation section, the three minimum posts must contain supporting evidence. Posts such as "I agree," or "good idea" will not earn credit. As the discussion develops, multiple threads may grow out of the original question. Students may choose to follow one or more of those threads, so long as the minimum post requirements are met. Additional contributions beyond the minimum are welcome and encouraged and may result in extra credit at the instructor's discretion.

Online Attendance
Due to compressed nature of this course, it is imperative that each student checks the online classroom on a regular frequency for updates, and to complete coursework or participate in discussions. Students should expect to check the online classroom at least five days a week over the course of the session. For assignments and discussions, the instructor will provide comments where appropriate, and help to drive the conversation towards the intended goal, or highlight an interesting point for further consideration. Views expressed by the instructor will carry factual evidence (unless deliberately posting a vague statement to generate further discussion). Disagreement with the instructor's position is acceptable and welcome so long as the counter-argument provides factual evidence to support the student's position.

Ethical Analysis Research Project
The final project for this courses brings in popular culture to the technology ethics discussion through the selection and viewing of specific feature films. Each student will select a film from a pre-defined list to view. They will then analyze the film and develop a formal paper which analyzes the ethical "problem" or "issue" in the film, followed by a for and against discussion. Full details of the project and the film selection lists will be available in the online classroom no later than December 26.   A Late project will not be accepted under any circumstances. The project is an individual effort.

 Academic Integrity
The following passage is an excerpt from the DeSales University *Undergraduate Catalog:*

"Plagiarism is the act of copying the ideas, and/or speculations, and/or language of any other person or persons, without acknowledgement, and presenting this material as your own original work to satisfy any academic requirement or complete any academic project. Plagiarism takes place even in the event that you make use of or paraphrase another person's unique and distinctive terminology, whether it be a single word or phrase or extended passage, without acknowledgement. Such use is considered plagiarism regardless of your intent to deceive."

Please refer to the *Undergraduate Catalog,* "Academic Honesty Policy" for a more complete discussion of plagiarism, cheating, and other inappropriate behaviors.

Succeeding as an ACCESS Student

Our Distance Education and Instructional Technology Department (DEIT) provides resources including:

· A readiness inventory (go to http://www.desales.edu/onlinereadiness).

· An orientation course in Blackboard (Click on the Courses menu, and in "Course Search" enter the keywords: "student orientation"). Click on the course ID to join the course.

Special Needs and Assistance

Students with a documented disability who wish to request course accommodations should contact the Coordinator of Learning and Disability Services (Dooling Hall, room 26, 610-282-1100 ext. 1453).

Class Recording Policy

By registering for or attending DeSales University courses, individuals consent to the recording of classes within the scope of the DeSales University Class Recording Policy, available at www.desales.edu/policies.

Course Evaluation
The student is expected to complete the CoursEval online when the questionnaire is sent to his/her DeSales email address.

Evaluation and Assessment

Grading Policy:

Evaluation		
Grade Distribution		**Overview**
Topical Response Assignments	30%	Assignments will be posted in Blackboard based on that week's reading. There will be a total of 4 assignments. The top 3 scores will count for this grade component. Each assignment should be completed and submitted in Blackboard before the next classroom session. All standards of academic writing apply.
Participation – Online	30%	Active participation in all required discussion topics. This means at least one substantive post (your position and supporting evidence), and at least two replies to other students' postings (your rebuttal and supporting evidence). Feel free to make additional postings (it is encouraged) or continue interesting discussions to share ideas.
Ethical Analysis Research Project	20%	Project will be posted in Blackboard during second week of class and will take into account material learned throughout the course.
Final Exam	20%	The final exam will be available beginning January 6. It is to be completed in Blackboard.

Examination Policy:

The final exam will consist of short essay-style questions similar to those encountered during the earlier weekly assignments. Students should take their time in completing the final exam thoroughly, responding to each question with clear, defensible language. Details on the final's content will be provided prior to January 5.

Missed Assignment Policy:

Assignments not submitted on the required due date may be submitted up to one (1) week late. Assignments submitted after the due date will receive the following point deductions:
- Within 24 hours – ½ Point
- Within 48 hours – 1 Point
- Within 72 hours – 2 Point
- Within 1 Week – Half-credit Maximum

Grading

GRADE	PERCENT	DESCRIPTION
A	93.00 - 100%	Click here to enter text.
A-	90.00 – 92.99%	Click here to enter text.
B+	87.00 – 89.99%	Click here to enter text.
B	83.00 – 86.99%	Click here to enter text.
B-	80.00 – 82.99%	Click here to enter text.
C+	77.00 – 79.99%	Click here to enter text.
C	73.00 – 76.99%	Click here to enter text.
C-	70.00 – 72.99%	Click here to enter text.
D+	67.00 – 69.99%	Click here to enter text.
D	60.00 – 66.99%	Click here to enter text.
F	Below 60.99%	Click here to enter text.

Assignments (Subject to Change with Notice)

Name/Description or Type	Weight/Percentage of Final Grade
Online Participation (Discussions/Zoom)	30%
Topical Response #1	Top 5 Assignments – 30%
Topical Response #2	Top 5 Assignments – 30%
Topical Response #3	Top 5 Assignments – 30%
Topical Response #4	Top 5 Assignments – 30%
Final Exam	20%
Research Project	20%

Course Schedule

WEEK	DATE	SUBJECT AREAS/ASSIGNMENTS
1		Reynolds - Chapter 1/Appendix A Reynolds – Chapter 8 Mittleman - Unit 1 & 4 (supplemental) Discussions 1 & 2 Assignment 1
2		Reynolds – Chapter 2, 10 Reybolds – Chapter 3, 6 Mittleman - Unit 4, 6, 7, 8 (supplemental)_ Discussion 3 & 4 Assignment 2
3		Reynolds – Chapter 4, 5 Reynolds – Chapter 7, 9 Mittleman - Unit 2, 3, 5 Discussion 5 & 6 Assignment 3
4		Mittleman – Unit 9 (supplemental) Discussion 7 & 8 Final Exam Final Project