

THE PHILOSOPHY OF ETHICS WITHIN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Bus 479 COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Dr. Linda Reid	E-mail Address: lwreid@adams.edu
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Virtual Office Hours: MWF 10:00 – 11:00 A.M.
 MW 1:00 - 2:00 P.M.
 Or By Appointment

Required Texts:

1. *Ethics in Information Technology*. By George Reynolds.
ISBN: 978-1-4188-3631-3

Course Objectives:

This course is also designed to educate existing and future business managers and IT professionals on the tremendous impact ethical issues play in the use of information technology in the modern business world. Students within the course will receive purpose and relative meaning behind the foundation of information technology, as well as acquire an invaluable guide for professionals who deal with information on a day to day basis.

At the completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Explain the terminology associated with ethics.
- Understand the approaches and models for ethical decision making.
- Understand the significance of IT professional organizations and their codes of ethics.
- Explain how to manage security vulnerabilities and respond to specific security incidents to fix problems quickly and improve ongoing security measures.
- Be able to address issues raised by file sharing, infringement of intellectual property, Internet crime, identity theft, employee surveillance, and privacy.
- Score a "C" or better on all combined course requirements.

Grading Policy:

90-100 A 80-89 B 70-79 C 60-69 D 59 and Below F

Exams and Projects:

Midterm Exam	100 points	100 points
Final Examination	200 points	200 points
Assignments	10 points each	100 points
Project	100 points	100 points

A total of 500 points is possible.

Exams:

Two exams will be given over the course of the semester – a midterm and a final. Exams will consist of questions from the chapter Powerpoint slides and the textbook

readings. The midterm exam will be taken online at the “Assessment” link. The final comprehensive exam is paper-based and must be proctored. No make-up exams will be given. Exam dates can be found at the “Calendar”.

Assignments:

There are ten assignments (worth 10 points each) for a total of 100 possible points. The assignments must be completed and turned in on time by submitting them through the “Assignment Dropbox” or by this e-mail system. The assignments can be found by clicking on the assignments at the “Assignment” link. Assignment due dates can be found at the “Calendar”.

Project:

The project is worth 100 points and will be due the last week of the semester. The project can be found by clicking on the project at the “Assignment” link. The project can be submitted through the “Assignment Dropbox” or by this e-mail system. The project due date can be found at the “Calendar”.

Course Segments:

The course is divided into two segments as follows:

Part 1

Chapter 1 – <i>“An Overview of Ethics”</i>
Chapter 2 – <i>“Ethics for IT Professionals and IT Users”</i>
Chapter 3 – <i>“Computer and Internet Crime”</i>
Chapter 4 – <i>“Privacy”</i>
Chapter 5 – <i>“Freedom of Expression”</i>
Chapter 6 – <i>“Intellectual Property”</i>

Part II

Chapter 7 – <i>Software Development”</i>
Chapter 8 – <i>“Employer/Employee Issues”</i>
Chapter 9 – <i>The Impact of Information Technology on the Quality of Life</i>
Appendices – <i>“A Brief Introduction to Morality”</i>

Expectations:

Students are expected to make a serious commitment to academic excellence. You should spend a few hours every day studying, as the course progresses very quickly. The instructor is always available and willing to assist students.

On-line students, like on-campus students, often have questions. Unfortunately, you are not in the classroom to seek questions to them. As you complete the readings, jot down your questions. You may use the on-line chat, bulletin board, and private e-mail features of the course to discuss any questions you may have. It is our belief that interaction with other students is a valuable component of any course – on or off campus. In this way, we hope to provide you with the dialogue you need to complete your understanding of the material.