

Syllabus
CS 293 Social and Ethical Issues in Computing
Fall 2020

Course description:

This course provides an overview of philosophical ethics, privacy, intellectual property, computer security, computer crime, safety and reliability, professional responsibility and codes, electronic communities and the Internet, and social impact of computers. Students will participate in discussions, make oral presentations and produce written reports.

Instructor

Dr. Vanessa Job

Lectures:

Section 001: Tuesday, 2:00, online. Zoom link: <https://unm.zoom.us/j/93119562504>
Section 002: Thursday, 2:00, online. Zoom link: <https://unm.zoom.us/j/96990587397>

Office hours:

I will be having office hours online right after class, i.e. Tuesday 3-3:30, and Thursday 3-3:30. Please use the appropriate zoom link above. I am available other times by appointment.

Contact information:

Email address: vjob@unm.edu

The best way to contact me is via email.

If you have a question that may be of interest to the entire class, please ask it on the UNM Learn Discussion Board. Not only will it help your fellow students (and save me answering the question several times), participation on the Discussion Board counts towards your class participation grade. You can configure your Discussion Board so that it emails you whenever there is a post.

Prerequisites:

None.

Course format and assignments

The course will consist of class discussions on various topics, guided by the assigned reading. There will be several short written homework assignments to consolidate lecture material, given about every couple of weeks. Typically these will be commentaries on the assigned weekly reading, perhaps to update it with current events, provide an analysis, or give a personal perspective. There is no length limit, but concise assignments are preferred; three paragraphs

will suffice for most arguments. Assignments must be carried out individually unless they are specified to be group assignments. Detailed submission instructions will be given with each assignment.

In addition, there will be a group presentation.

Our selection of topics is somewhat flexible and can adapt to current events. Students are encouraged to submit ideas for reading and class discussion.

Required reading

Various reading material be assigned weekly; all will be freely available online.

Textbook

There is no required textbook. All assigned materials will be available for free online.

Grading

You are expected to attend class weekly, read the assigned reading before class, and participate in class discussion. Class attendance and participation is a crucial component of this course. If you know you must miss class due to a conference, sporting event, etc., notify me by email as far in advance as possible. If you are ill or have some other emergency that prevents you from attending class, notify me within 24 hours of class to discuss whether you can be excused from the in class assignment. The bulk of this class is discussion, so attendance is required. Your weekly attendance is expected.

The grade will be determined as follows:

Attendance, participation, and in class assignments 65%
Oral presentation 25%
Short papers 10%

No grading option changes will be entertained after the last day of class.

Assignment hand-in policy

All assignments will be submitted through UNM Learn. Do not email assignments to me: I will lose them. It is expected that you write in grammatical English. At minimum, your sentences should begin with a capitalized word, contain a verb, and end with punctuation.

In class assignments are due by end of class, while other assignments are due by midnight on their due date. In class assignment may not be submitted late except by PRIOR permission of the instructor. For assignments not to be completed during class, there will be a submitted late penalty of 10% for each day they are late.

Academic Honesty

Unless otherwise specified in an assignment, you must complete your assignments on your own. Students who cheat will be prosecuted according to UNM's guidelines. Read about your rights and responsibilities at <https://policy.unm.edu/regents-policies/section-4/4-8.html> . Make sure you know what plagiarism is. Students who plagiarize will be dismissed from the course and receive an F for their semester grade.

Announcements

Announcements for this class will be made through UNM Learn. Make sure you have configured your UNM Learn account so that you will receive announcements in a timely fashion.

UNM statement of compliance with ADA

Qualified students with disabilities needing appropriate academic adjustments should contact the instructor as soon as possible to ensure their needs are met in a timely manner. Handouts are available in alternative accessible formats upon request.