



PHIL 314 Lec 01
Information Technology Ethics
SUMMER 2021

COURSE OUTLINE

Instructor Name: Dan Kary
Email: dakary@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours: By appointment via skype or Zoom

COURSE DELIVERY INFORMATION

- Lectures: Asynchronous – Links to pre-recorded lecture videos will be posted on D2L, which can be accessed at any time after posting.
- Discussion: Asynchronous – Class discussion takes place at any time via forums on D2L.

PREREQUISITE(S)

There are no prerequisites for this course.

COURSE INFORMATION

An examination of ethical issues related to information technology such as privacy and surveillance, intellectual property, computational enhancement, freedom of expression and censorship, hacking, information overload, social media, virtual reality, algorithms, and artificial intelligence.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Broad knowledge and comprehension of a diverse set of philosophical issues, concepts, problems, traditions, and views relevant to information technology ethics.
- Ability to critically, fairly, clearly, thoughtfully, and charitably, state, explain, evaluate, and discuss basic arguments and ideas for various positions in information technology ethics.
- Ability to construct and communicate ideas and arguments that are convincing, plausible, and productive in support of one's own positions relating to topics in information technology ethics.

REQUIRED READINGS AND MATERIALS

All readings and lectures will be available on D2L.

REMOTE LEARNING CONTEXT

I acknowledge the difficult and complex circumstances in which the course is taking place. The remote teaching and learning contexts are new to most. I will do my best to interact with empathy and care. I ask that all other participants in the course try their best to do the same.

COURSE ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

Participation 10%

The participation grade is based on regular, polite, civil, respectful, and thoughtful participation in class discussions. A student can earn a maximum of one participation point per topic (up to a maximum of 10

points) so long as that participation makes a meaningful contribution and/or has the potential to generate further discussion. The deadline to earn participation points is within one week of the lecture being posted or the last day of classes (whichever date occurs first).

Exams

Test One: Friday, July 9	25%
Test Two: Friday, July 23	25%
Test Three: Tuesday, August 3	25%
Quiz: Wednesday, August 11	15%

There will be no registrar-scheduled final exam.

All exams will be the same format: short answer questions. Exams can be accessed via D2L under “assessments”. You have a limited time to write an exam once started, and the exam will only be available for a 24-hour period (from Midnight to 11:59pm - Mountain Standard Time). Exams cannot be taken on days other than those indicated, unless communicated otherwise, without prior arrangement or an acceptable excuse.

Letter Grade Conversion Table

A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme:

A+ 95-100	B+ 80-84.9	C+ 67-69.9	D+ 55-59.9
A 90-94.9	B 75-79.9	C 63-66.9	D 50-54.9
A- 85-89.9	B- 70-74.9	C- 60-62.9	F 0-49.9

IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTAL, FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Academic Accommodations

It is the student’s responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures. The student accommodation policy can be found at ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Accommodation-Policy.pdf.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf. Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor.

Absence or Missed Course Assessments

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform their instructors as soon as possible. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test.

Student Support and Resources

Full details and information about the following resources can be found at ucalgary.ca/current-students/student-services

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

Academic Advising

If you are a student in the Faculty of Arts, you can speak to an academic advisor in the Arts Students' Centre about course planning, course selection, registration, program progression and more. Visit the Faculty of Arts website at <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate/academic-advising> for contact details and information regarding common academic concerns.

For questions specific to the philosophy program, please visit arts.ucalgary.ca/philosophy. Further academic guidance is available by contacting Jeremy Fantl (Undergraduate Program Director ifantl@ucalgary.ca) or David Dick (Honours Advisor dgdick@ucalgary.ca). If you have questions regarding registration, please email Courtenay Canivet (Undergraduate Program Administrator phildept@ucalgary.ca)

Writing Assessment and Support

The assessment of all written assignments—and, to a lesser extent, written exam responses—is based in part on writing skills. This includes correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.), as well as general clarity and organization. Research papers must include a thorough and accurate citation of sources. Students are also encouraged to use Writing Support Services for assistance. For more information, and other services offered by the Student Success Centre, please visit ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success.

Required Technology

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote, and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current and updated web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
- Broadband internet connection.

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Responsible Use of D2L

Important information and communication about this course will be posted on D2L (Desire2Learn), UCalgary's online learning management system. Visit <https://ucalgary.service-now.com/it> for how-to information and technical assistance.

All users of D2L are bound by the guidelines on the responsible use of D2L posted here: <https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/commitment-to-the-responsible-use-of-d2l/>. The instructor may establish additional specific course policies for D2L, Zoom, and any other technologies used to support remote learning. Instructional materials, including audio or video recordings of lectures, may not be posted

outside of the course D2L site. Students violating this policy are subject to discipline under the [University of Calgary's Non-Academic Misconduct policy](#).

Media Recording

Please refer to the following statement on media recording of students: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Media-Recording-in-Learning-Environments-OSP_FINAL.pdf

Academic Misconduct/Honesty

Cheating or plagiarism on any assignment or examination is as an extremely serious academic offense, the penalty for which will be an F on the assignment or an F in the course, and possibly a disciplinary sanction such as probation, suspension, or expulsion. For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

Intellectual honesty requires that your work include adequate referencing to sources. Plagiarism occurs when you do not acknowledge or correctly reference your sources. If you have questions about referencing, please consult your instructor.

University Policies

The Instructor Intellectual Property Policy is available at ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Intellectual-Property-Policy.pdf

The University of Calgary is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act, as outlined at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>. The instructor (or TA) must return graded assignments *directly* to the student UNLESS written permission to do otherwise has been provided.

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>).