Course Format

IS 350 is a hybrid course. We meet in the classroom for lectures once a week. Online you engage in discussion and other activities. All are mandatory. You will be responsible for attending all lectures, reading the textbook and online materials, participating in online discussion and activities, and doing all assignments. If you must miss a lecture, email me in advance. You will be responsible for finding out what you missed.

Instructor

Prof. Michael Bieber
Telephone: 973-596-2681
Office: GITC 4104
http://web.njit.edu/~bieber
E-mail: bieber@njit.edu (include “IS 350” in the email subject)
IM/Skype: profbieber (AIM/Google/Yahoo)

Office Hours (visit me in person or IM, phone, Skype, etc.):
- Monday 2:45-3:15
- Tuesday 1:30-2:15
- Thursday 1:30-2:30
  - On campus: 1/29/2015, 2/12, 2/26, 3/5, 3/12, 3/26, 4/9, 4/23 only
  - Other Thursdays online at this time
- by appointment: (973) 596-3368
- Also feel free to IM, phone or Skype me anytime...

General Course Information

1. Prerequisites:

   As prerequisites, IS 350 requires an introductory course in computing, an introductory course in the social sciences, and HUM 101. This course is an upper-level course designed for juniors and seniors.

2. Course Goals:

   Upon the completion of this course you should be able to:
   a. Explain beneficial and detrimental ways in which computing affects people, including the primary and secondary effects, and intended and unintended consequences.
   b. Utilize theories of ethical decision-making and professional codes of ethics to analyze difficult situations with computing aspects.
   c. Find and critically evaluate relevant literature pertaining to a situation of concern.
   d. Communicate about difficult issues in the computing sciences.
This is an ambitious set of goals, which meets several of the requirements for an ABET accredited degree in the Computing Sciences.

3. **Time Required** – This course requires a significant amount of work to help you achieve these goals. On average, you need to set aside up to 13 hours a week for this course, including discussion and other online activities, reading, studying the lecture slides, homework and classroom activities.

4. **Lecture & Recitations** – The lecture slides cover the major course content and supplement (not repeat) the textbook. By necessity we can only cover a portion of the lecture slides in class. Readings and other online materials further supplement both the lecture slides and the textbook.

5. **Moodle** – Course materials and other information are on Moodle (moodle.njit.edu).

6. **Assignments**
   a. **Weekly Implications Assessment** - The weekly Implications assignment contains your assessment of and questions about the lectures, discussion and readings. We’ll review your questions in the next class.
   b. **Weekly Online Discussion** – We’ll hold substantial discussion of the week’s topics in Moodle.
   c. **Library Research Analysis** - Gaining experience in finding and analyzing the quality of research articles, and skills such as summarizing and paraphrasing, which you’ll use throughout the course.
   d. **Ethics Case Analysis, Assignment 1** - The only way to truly understand ethics is to apply the theories to real-world situations. Groups will be responsible for reading and analyzing an ethical case scenario.
   e. **Debate, Assignment 2** – As part of a team you will persuasively argue about an ethical dilemma concerning technology during an online debate.
   f. **Research Report, Assignment 3** – This is an individual project in which you will report on an interesting and timely topic.
   g. **Getting Started** – In addition we will have an assignment in the first week to help set up your infrastructure for the course.

7. **Community Service Internship** (optional) – NJIT Career Services can provide you the opportunity to work with a Newark-area non-profit organization using your skills to help that organization achieve its goals. This is a great experience, great service, can open doors for you, and looks great on your resume!

(continued →)
Required Textbook, Readings & Materials

Textbook (various options)

- printed, rental and online versions are available through the NJIT bookstore

Alternative online version through CourseSmart ($41);
- coursesmart.com/9780133744088

(If you have a hard copy of the fifth edition, it may be “mostly good enough”, but your exams will mostly come from the 6th edition and it has some new material.)

Readings & Materials

All required journal articles will be linked to in the course Moodle and/ or available through the NJIT digital library.

Note: From time to time I may assign additional readings and other materials.

Words of Wisdom

Do not get behind in reading the text and articles! You will regret it!

Suggestions, Questions, Problems and Falling Behind

If you have any problems or feel like you are falling behind, please contact me as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to recognize problems as early as problem, so we can work together to keep you progressing. Feel free to email me or visit during office hours if your comment is more private.

I welcome suggestions and questions. I encourage you to post these in the Moodle “Questions and Interesting Links” forum, so we can all share in the discussion.

Grading and other Requirements:

“A” breakers – You must do 3 things to be eligible for an A.

1. Post Implications on time. Late implications will not be accepted.
2. Post all other assignments on time. Late assignments will lose 20% per day (not per class).
3. Participate in recitation and online discussions.
4. Attend all sessions or email me ahead of time if you will be late or cannot attend class.

If you will miss any assignment deadline or session email me in advance. Otherwise you will be disqualified from an A. (Emailing me does not necessary earn back the A, but is a required courtesy.)
The percentages for all course work are as follows. These are subject to adjustment.

The course will be graded on a curve: Approximately 30% A, 30% B+ and B, 30% C+ and C, 10% D and F. These approximations are subject to change as conditions warrant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliverables</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment: Getting Started</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment: Library Analysis</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 1. Ethics Case Analysis</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 2. Debate (group)</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment 3: Research Report</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implications Papers</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Discussion</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Service (extra credit)</td>
<td>+3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What if I Don’t Agree with my Grade?**
If you do not agree with your grade, you have 1 week to dispute it after it is posted. Follow the instructions on Moodle.

**But What If Moodle Crashes and I Cannot Submit Homework or Complete my Midterm or Final?**
What if…? It’s simply too bad. Would your boss accept such an excuse? Do NOT wait till the last minute to do your homework or take your exam.

**Academic Honesty, Integrity and Cheating**
NJIT and Rutgers students are expected to follow published guidelines on academic honesty and integrity. You must acquaint yourself with these policies before submitting any assignments.

njit.edu/academics/integrity.php

Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students at both institutions and may result in failure in the course and probation, or failure in the course and expulsion. I pursue Honor Code violations immediately and aggressively.

If you know of a classmate who has cheated, please let me know.