Course number and name: INTR 01266: Computers and Society
Credits and contact hours: 3 credits. / 3 contact hours
Faculty Coordinator: Kimberly Poolos
Text book, title, author, and year: A Gift of Fire, Sara Baase, 2012

Specific course information

Catalog description: This interdisciplinary course focuses on the effects of computer systems on individuals and institutions. How computer systems are developed and operated will be related to an analysis of current trends in society. Ethical, legal, security, and social issues stemming from the use of computers in society will be discussed in the context of philosophical frameworks and professional codes of ethics including those of the Association for Computing Machinery. Students are expected to compose reflective papers on such topics.

Prerequisites: COMP 01112 College Composition II or
HONR 01112 College Composition II Media Literacy or
ENGR 01201 Sophomore Engineering Clinic I

Type of Course: ☒ Required ☐ Elective ☐ Selected Elective

Specific goals for the course

1. **analysis of social issues.** Students have actively examined approaches to ethical, legal, security and social issues and will produce reflective papers on such topics in computing.

   o ABET (g) An ability to analyze the local and global impact of computing on individuals, organizations, and society

2. **application of behavioral codes.** Students have demonstrated their ability to apply historical codes of behavior (e.g., constitutions and legal precedents, international standards, ethical frameworks) to such technology topics as intellectual property, privacy, freedom of speech and proprietary information.

   o ABET (e) An understanding of professional, ethical, legal, security and social issues and responsibilities

3. **concepts philosophy, ethics, law.** Students have identified the fundamental concepts and methods of philosophy, ethics and/or law and used these principles to better articulate the relationship between the individual and society with respect to computers and information systems.

- ABET (e) An understanding of professional, ethical, legal, security and social issues and responsibilities

4. **examination of behavioral codes**. Students have examined documentation that they may be expected to create or review in their future careers, such as Code of Ethics, Acceptable Use Policies, Proprietary Information Protection Policies, and Security Policies.

    - ABET (e) An understanding of professional, ethical, legal, security and social issues and responsibilities

5. **historical basis of standards.** Students have expressed through written and/or oral deliverables the historical basis for technology-based societal standards.

    - ABET (g) An ability to analyze the local and global impact of computing on individuals, organizations, and society

6. **societal impacts of technology.** Students have scrutinized technology issues and articulated the societal impacts to individuals and institutions that frequently have conflicting perspectives.

    - ABET (g) An ability to analyze the local and global impact of computing on individuals, organizations, and society

7. **solution formulation**. Students have demonstrated the capability to formulate a complete solution that takes societal factors into account.

    - ABET (g) An ability to analyze the local and global impact of computing on individuals, organizations, and society

Required list of topics to be covered

1. How computer systems relate to current trends in society
2. Ethical, legal, security and social issues stemming from use of computers in society
3. Ethical codes, philosophical frameworks and professional codes of ethics (including the ACM Code of Ethics)
4. Ethics in cyberspace
5. Intellectual property availability
6. Understanding and respecting the rights of others
7. Respect and principles of community resource use, allocation, and abuse
8. Censorship
9. Ethics-based decision tools
10. Cybersecurity and social responsibility
11. Laws (HIPAA, FERPA, Sarbanes-Oxley, FISMA, Data breach disclosure laws)
12. Regulations

13. NIST 800-53
    FDA 21 CFR part 820/806
    Rainbow Series
14. Commercial Standards (PCI/DSS)
15. Open Standards (OWASP)

Optional list of topics that could be covered

1. Careers in computing
2. Workplace communications