

# CSE/ISE 312

## Social, Legal, and Ethical Issues for Information Technology

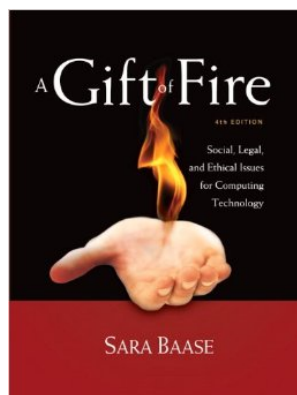
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## General Class Issues

- Dr. R. Kelly (contact info on class Web site)
- Interactive class
- Text
  - Readings (list on a page in class Web site)
  - Course text - Baase, A Gift of Fire, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition
  - You will other readings beyond the text

Consider the rental or  
Kindle options for text



Note that we are using  
the 4<sup>th</sup> edition

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## Class Web Site

- [www.cs.sunysb.edu/~cse312/Section01/](http://www.cs.sunysb.edu/~cse312/Section01/)
- Check it regularly for
  - Syllabus
  - Office hours / location / e-mail addresses
  - Assignments and lecture code
  - Class notes (pdf) - Print notes before each class
  - References
  - Lots more



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## Purpose

- This course deals with the impact of computers on us as individuals and on our society
- Rapid changes in computing technology has created a flood of new social and legal issues that demand critical examination.
  - Search engines
  - Gmail
  - Facebook
  - Music sharing
  - iTunes
  - Electronic voting
  - Wikis
  - Surveillance cameras

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## Course Outcomes...

- An understanding of how computing and information systems give rise to social issues and ethical dilemmas
- An ability to discuss the benefits offered by computing technology in many different areas and the risks and problems associated with these technologies

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## ... Course Objectives

- Understand some social, legal, ethical, philosophical, political, constitutional, and economical issues related to computers and the historical background of these issues
- An understanding of some social, legal, philosophical, political, constitutional, and economical issues related to computers and the historical background of these issues
- To recognize the need for continuing professional development

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## Reasons for Course Objectives

- Learn how to analyze a set of facts
- Understand that there can be multiple points of view based on the same set of facts
- Learn to articulate your thoughts
- Learn to integrate ethics into everyday decisions
- Understand the need to constantly learn (especially after you graduate)

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## Ethics

- We will spend approximately 1/3 of the class on ethics issues
- Class satisfies the ISE and CSE ethics requirement

Ethics example - reneging on a job offer

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## Theme of the Course

- Rapid change of technology (e.g. large DBs, image recognition, GPS, wireless, natural language processing, etc) poses problems for a legal framework that is slow to change
- We will examine
  - changes in the legal framework that responds to computer technology changes
  - issues in ethics that apply between the introduction of new technology and modification of the legal system
  - Details of legal protection for new technology (e.g., patents)

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## Grading

- A, B, C ... grades
- Grade basis
  - Mid-term exam (25%)
  - Final exam (25%)
  - Quizzes (20%)
  - Class discussions (30%)
- Exam and quiz questions will be taken from the text
- Approximately 3-6 quizzes (notice on Web site)
- In-progress grades will be available on the class Web site, make sure that you check it regularly
- Grade distribution resembles College overall grade distribution

Exam and quiz questions will be closely related to textbook reading

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## How Will We Cover the Material?

- Class requires active engagement
- How do we do that with 100 students?
- Not a series of lectures that just restate what is in the textbook
- Your restatement of facts is much less important than your development of an opinion based on the facts

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## Class Interaction

- You are expected to have completed the assigned reading for a session before the session
- Classes will include
  - Discussion topics
  - Debates
  - Specific questions

These will be graded as part of your class discussion grade

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## Class Presentations

- Either individual or in a group of 2
- You will be assigned
  - An issue to debate with another student/student group (e.g., benefits of increased campus surveillance)
  - A topic to be presented in more depth than the textbook (e.g., examine the published security policy of Gmail, summarize the policy for the class, and identify any aspects of the policy that could be considered an issue)
  - Present details of recent events (e.g., recent Supreme Court decision on Child Online Protection Act). Present pros and cons concerning the issue
- You will be expected to regularly participate in class presentations
- References in the textbook will be typical source material for your presentation

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## Reading Assignments

- Reading assignment
  - Textbook
  - Web readings (especially for timely material)
- You are expected to read the material prior to the time we cover it in class
- In-class quiz on the material may precede class discussion

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## Academic Integrity

- Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong
  - Assignments
  - Exams
- Gaining an unfair advantage in grading harms other students
- Suspected instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Academic Judiciary
- For details, refer to the Academic Judiciary Web site (link on class home page)

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## Academic Integrity

- University rules for academic integrity located at [http://sb.cc.stonybrook.edu/bulletin/current/policiesandregulations/policies\\_\\_expectations/responsibilities\\_\\_integrity.php](http://sb.cc.stonybrook.edu/bulletin/current/policiesandregulations/policies__expectations/responsibilities__integrity.php)
- All your work should be your own with the exception of:
  - Collaboration with approved teammates
  - Cited references to information sources in your project
- Photos at the start of each exam/quiz

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## How to Learn the Material

- Don't plan on memorizing material – plan on learning to think about the material
- Try to read the material well in advance of the class
  - Think about pros and cons for each issue
  - Think about your own opinion on each issue
- Try to discuss the readings with friends
- Access the source material (good references in text)
- Stop in if you have any questions.

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## Sessions

- Lecture slides will be available at the class Web site before each sessions
- Print a copy of the slide handout before class and use it to make notes
- Remember – the sessions are expected to be interactive

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## Topics

- Privacy
  - Freedom of speech
  - Intellectual property
  - Patents
  - Computer crime
  - Internet gambling
  - Work
  - Evaluating and controlling technology
  - Ethics
  - Errors, failures, and risk
  - Professional ethics
  - Case studies (e.g., Net Neutrality)
  - Special topics
- Issues in ethics will relate to most of the topics

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## Assignment # 1

- Part 1
  - Send me an e-mail (Hi!, name id#, "I can't (or can) read the class notes", etc.)
  - Put "CSE312 - HW#1" in the subject line of the e-mail message

For any email to me, put "CSE312" or "ISE312" in the subject line

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