

Internet Based Assignment Computer/Professional Ethics

<http://www.templetons.com/brad/copymyths.html>

Is copying and giving away software legal as long as no money is charged?

If you pirate over \$_____ worth of software it is a felony.

What are the 2 protection purposes of copyright?

<http://www.is.cityu.edu.hk/research/resources/isworld/ethics/>

What does professional ethics all about?

List 3 items from the Code of Ethics list of issues (the 3 that YOU think are most important)

List 3 advantages of a code of ethics

List 3 disadvantages of a code of ethics

In the AIS Code of Conduct, what are the three categories?

In the same code, for each category, list the item that you think is most important:

Category 1:

Category 2:

Category 3:

<http://www.ethicsweb.ca/resources/computer/index.html>

List 5 of the computer ethics institutes and organizations:

Scan through the list of institutes, pick 3 and give their views on censorship:

Institute 1: _____

Institute 2: _____

Institute 3: _____

<http://csciwww.etsu.edu/gotterbarn/secepp/>

What are the benefits of adopting the code of ethics?

What are the seven sections of the code of conduct?

List one item from each section that you think is important (do not list just the number, but the text):

Section 1: _____

Section 2: _____

Section 3: _____

Section 4: _____

Section 5: _____

Section 6: _____

Section 7: _____

What is the organization from St. Louis that has adopted this code of conduct?

List 5 items from that organization's code of ethics.

**Internet Based Assignment
Computer/Professional Ethics
“Answer Key”**

What is netiquette as defined?

"Netiquette" is network etiquette, the do's and don'ts of online communication.

What is flaming?

"Flaming" is what people do when they express a strongly held opinion without holding back any emotion. It's the kind of message that makes people respond, "Oh come on, tell us how you really feel." Tact is not its objective.

What did RIAA accuse MP3.com of?

But the RIAA is accusing MP3.com of creating an unauthorized digital music catalog of up to 45,000 CDs, claiming many of the copyrighted works are the property of its members.

What does DimA stand for?

Digital Media Association

Under the home recording act of 1992 What does subchapter B pertain to?

Copying Controls

Is copying and giving away software legal as long as no money is charged?

NO

If you pirate over \$_____worth of software it is a felony.

2500

What are the 2 protection purposes of copyright?

the protection of the author's right to obtain commercial benefit from valuable work, and more recently the protection of the author's general right to control how a work is used.

What does denial of service consist of?

A *denial-of-service attack*, therefore, is considered to take place only when access to a computer or network resource is *intentionally* blocked or degraded as a result of malicious action taken by another user

What do hackers expect to accomplish?

Theft of services, theft of valuable files, thrill and excitement, promotion

What is the definition of SPAM (from last link)

Unsolicited means that the Recipient has not granted verifiable permission for the message to be sent. Bulk means that the message is sent as part of a larger collection of messages, all having substantively identical content.

Where did the word SPAM come from? (not the meat)

The prevailing theory is that it is from the song in Monty Python's famous spam-loving vikings sketch that goes, roughly, "Spam spam spam spam, spam spam spam spam, spam spam spam spam..." The vikings, who were sitting in a restaurant whose menu only included dishes made with spam, would sing this refrain over and over, rising in volume until it was impossible for the other characters in the sketch to converse (which was, of course, a large part of the joke.)

Who is Canter & Siegel?

The "fathers" of modern SPAM

In one sentence, what is whistleblowing?

exposure of fraud and abuse by an employee.

What was the Shuttle Software whistleblowing issue about?

What was the Whitehouse Email issue about?

What does professional ethics concern?

Professional Ethics concerns one's conduct of behaviour and practice when carrying out professional work. Such work may include consulting, researching, teaching and writing.

List 3 items from the Code of Ethics list of issues (the 3 that YOU think are most important)

- »Academic honesty
- »Adherence to confidentiality agreements
- »Data privacy
- »Handling of human subjects
- »Impartiality in data analysis and professional consulting
- »Professional accountability
- »Resolution of conflicts of interest
- »Software piracy

List 3 advantages of a code of ethics

- »Set out the ideals and responsibilities of the profession
- »Exert a *de facto* regulatory effect, protecting both clients and professionals
- »Improve the profile of the profession
- »Motivate and inspire practitioners, by attempting to define their *raison d'être*
- »Provide guidance on acceptable conduct
- »Raise awareness and consciousness of issues
- »Improve quality and consistency

List 3 disadvantages of a code of ethics

Whether the so-called standards are obligatory, or are merely an aspiration

- »Whether such a code is desirable or feasible
- »Whether ethical values are universal or culturally relativistic
- »The difficulty of providing universal guidance given the heterogeneous nature of the profession
- »What the point is of specifying responsibilities, given the limited regulatory function of a code.

In the AIS Code of Conduct, what are the three categories?

Must ALWAYS be adhered to

Recommended Behavior

Good Advice

In the same code, for each category, list the item that you think is most important:**Category 1:**

Do not take work from another and pass it off as your own, i.e., plagiarize in any manner.

Do not fabricate or falsify data, research procedures, or data analysis.

Category 2:

Respect the rights of research subjects.

Do not submit for publication or presentation articles or papers you have already published elsewhere.

Do not abuse the authority and responsibility you have been given as an editor, reviewer or supervisor.

Reveal to funding agencies or universities any material conflict of interest, financial or otherwise.

Do not take or use published data of others without acknowledgement or unpublished data without both permission and acknowledgement.

Do not submit for publication a manuscript that is currently under review.

Acknowledge the substantive contributions of all research participants.

Do not use unpublished writings, information, ideas, concepts or data.

Use archival material only in accordance with the rules of the archival source.

Authors may place working paper versions of their articles on their own website.

Category 3:

Maintain authorship documentation.

Avoid "self plagiarism".

Settle data set ownership issues before data compilation.

Consult senior colleagues if in doubt.

What does AIS stand for?

Association for Information Systems

What is the IT head-in-the-sand syndrome?

Many businesses either fail to realize that we have entered the information age or fail to appreciate its importance.

What is the “myth of amoral computing and information technology”?

The myth says that computers are not good or bad, information systems are not good or bad - they simply have a logic and rationale of their own. To speak of ethics with respect to them is to make a category mistake. Hence, when the computer is down, that is no one's fault. When programs malfunction or software has bugs, that is no one's fault. In general, anything that has to do with computers and information technology has a life of its own and is not susceptible to moral evaluation or blame or censure.

List 5 of the computer ethics institutes and organizations:

Australian Institute of Computer Ethics

Centre for Computing and Social Responsibility

Computer Incident Advisory Capability (at U.S. Department of Energy)

Cyber Angels ("Internet Safety Organization")

Electronic Frontier Canada (gopher)

Electronic Frontier Foundation

Electronic Privacy Information Center

F.A.C.T.Net Inc. (a non-profit Internet digest, news service, library, dialogue center, and archive dedicated to the promotion and defense of international free thought, free speech, and privacy rights)

Health on the Net Foundation Code of Conduct (HONcode)

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia

International Center for Info Ethics (ICIE)

Internet Society, The

LoGIC (The Legal Group for the Internet in Canada)

Peacefire (Teen Net anti-censorship alliance)

CRADLE: The Cyber Rights And Digital Liberties Encyclopedia

PFIR: "People for Internet Responsibility"

Privacy International

Virtual Museum of Computing

Scan through the list of institutes, pick 3 and give their views on censorship:

Institute 1: _____

Institute 2: _____

Institute 3: _____

What are the benefits of adopting the code of ethics?

- ***Attract Employees***
Adopting this code will attract conscientious and dedicated employees who want to be involved in an organization that produces quality software.
- ***Public Concern***
Having a reputation of quality and dependability will promote an ethical image for your company. In return, this will let the public know that the corporation is working for the public good and proudly accepts that responsibility.
- ***Professional Image***
Conforming to quality standards will gain respectability for your corporation and improve the quality of software that it produces.
- ***Public Trust***
Producing a quality software will inform the public that their best interests are being met with confidentiality and high standards.
- ***Internal Standards***
Adopting this code will improve communications between management and their colleagues. Software engineers shall make these practices a lifelong practice and produce quality products that will reflect in every aspect of their professional life.

What are the seven sections of the code of conduct?

PREAMBLE

The short version of the code summarizes aspirations at a high level of abstraction. The clauses that are included in the full version give examples and details of how these aspirations change the way we act as software engineering professionals. Without the aspirations, the details can become legalistic and tedious; without the details, the aspirations can become high sounding but empty; together, the aspirations and the details form a cohesive code.

Software engineers shall commit themselves to making the analysis, specification, design, development, testing and maintenance of software a beneficial and respected profession. In accordance with their commitment to the health, safety and welfare of the public, software engineers shall adhere to the following Eight Principles:

- 1 PUBLIC - Software engineers shall act consistently with the public interest.
- 2 CLIENT AND EMPLOYER - Software engineers shall act in a manner that is in the best interests of their client and employer, consistent with the public interest.
- 3 PRODUCT - Software engineers shall ensure that their products and related modifications meet the highest professional standards possible.
- 4 JUDGMENT - Software engineers shall maintain integrity and independence in their professional judgment.
- 5 MANAGEMENT - Software engineering managers and leaders shall subscribe to and promote an ethical approach to the management of software development and maintenance.
- 6 PROFESSION - Software engineers shall advance the integrity and reputation of the profession consistent with the public interest.
- 7 COLLEAGUES - Software engineers shall be fair to and supportive of their colleagues.
- 8 SELF - Software engineers shall participate in lifelong learning regarding the practice of their profession and shall promote an ethical approach to the practice of the profession.

List one item from each section that you think is important (do not list just the number, but the text):

PRINCIPLES

Principle 1 PUBLIC

Software engineers shall act consistently with the public interest. In particular, software engineers shall, as appropriate:

- 1.01. Accept full responsibility for their own work.
- 1.02. Moderate the interests of the software engineer, the employer, the client and the users with the public good.
- 1.03. Approve software only if they have a well-founded belief that it is safe, meets specifications, passes appropriate tests, and does not diminish quality of life, diminish privacy or harm the environment. The ultimate effect of the work should be to the public good.
- 1.04. Disclose to appropriate persons or authorities any actual or potential danger to the user, the public, or the environment, that they reasonably believe to be associated with software or related documents.
- 1.05. Cooperate in efforts to address matters of grave public concern caused by software, its installation, maintenance, support or documentation.
- 1.06. Be fair and avoid deception in all statements, particularly public ones, concerning software or related documents, methods and tools.
- 1.07. Consider issues of physical disabilities, allocation of resources, economic disadvantage and other factors that can diminish access to the benefits of software.

1.08. Be encouraged to volunteer professional skills to good causes and to contribute to public education concerning the discipline.

TOP

Principle 2 CLIENT AND EMPLOYER

Software engineers shall act in a manner that is in the best interests of their client and employer, consistent with the public interest. In particular, software engineers shall, as appropriate:

2.01. Provide service in their areas of competence, being honest and forthright about any limitations of their experience and education.

2.02. Not knowingly use software that is obtained or retained either illegally or unethically.

2.03. Use the property of a client or employer only in ways properly authorized, and with the client's or employer's knowledge and consent.

2.04. Ensure that any document upon which they rely has been approved, when required, by someone authorized to approve it.

2.05. Keep private any confidential information gained in their professional work, where such confidentiality is consistent with the public interest and consistent with the law.

2.06. Identify, document, collect evidence and report to the client or the employer promptly if, in their opinion, a project is likely to fail, to prove too expensive, to violate intellectual property law, or otherwise to be problematic.

2.07. Identify, document, and report significant issues of social concern, of which they are aware, in software or related documents, to the employer or the client.

2.08. Accept no outside work detrimental to the work they perform for their primary employer.

2.09. Promote no interest adverse to their employer or client, unless a higher ethical concern is being compromised; in that case, inform the employer or another appropriate authority of the ethical concern.

TOP

Principle 3 PRODUCT

Software engineers shall ensure that their products and related modifications meet the highest professional standards possible. In particular, software engineers shall, as appropriate:

3.01. Strive for high quality, acceptable cost, and a reasonable schedule, ensuring significant tradeoffs are clear to and accepted by the employer and the client, and are available for consideration by the user and the public.

3.02. Ensure proper and achievable goals and objectives for any project on which they work or propose.

3.03. Identify, define and address ethical, economic, cultural, legal and environmental issues related to work projects.

3.04. Ensure that they are qualified for any project on which they work or propose to work, by an appropriate combination of education, training, and experience.

3.05. Ensure that an appropriate method is used for any project on which they work or propose to work.

3.06. Work to follow professional standards, when available, that are most appropriate for the task at hand, departing from these only when ethically or technically justified.

3.07. Strive to fully understand the specifications for software on which they work.

- 3.08. Ensure that specifications for software on which they work have been well documented, satisfy the users requirements and have the appropriate approvals.
- 3.09. Ensure realistic quantitative estimates of cost, scheduling, personnel, quality and outcomes on any project on which they work or propose to work and provide an uncertainty assessment of these estimates.
- 3.10. Ensure adequate testing, debugging, and review of software and related documents on which they work.
- 3.11. Ensure adequate documentation, including significant problems discovered and solutions adopted, for any project on which they work.
- 3.12. Work to develop software and related documents that respect the privacy of those who will be affected by that software.
- 3.13. Be careful to use only accurate data derived by ethical and lawful means, and use it only in ways properly authorized.
- 3.14. Maintain the integrity of data, being sensitive to outdated or flawed occurrences.
- 3.15. Treat all forms of software maintenance with the same professionalism as new development.

TOP

Principle 4 JUDGMENT

Software engineers shall maintain integrity and independence in their professional judgment. In particular, software engineers shall, as appropriate:

- 4.01. Temper all technical judgments by the need to support and maintain human values.
- 4.02. Only endorse documents either prepared under their supervision or within their areas of competence and with which they are in agreement.
- 4.03. Maintain professional objectivity with respect to any software or related documents they are asked to evaluate.
- 4.04. Not engage in deceptive financial practices such as bribery, double billing, or other improper financial practices.
- 4.05. Disclose to all concerned parties those conflicts of interest that cannot reasonably be avoided or escaped.
- 4.06. Refuse to participate, as members or advisors, in a private, governmental or professional body concerned with software related issues, in which they, their employers or their clients have undisclosed potential conflicts of interest.

TOP

Principle 5 MANAGEMENT

Software engineering managers and leaders shall subscribe to and promote an ethical approach to the management of software development and maintenance. In particular, those managing or leading software engineers shall, as appropriate:

- 5.01. Ensure good management for any project on which they work, including effective procedures for promotion of quality and reduction of risk.
- 5.02. Ensure that software engineers are informed of standards before being held to them.
- 5.03. Ensure that software engineers know the employer's policies and procedures for protecting passwords, files and information that is confidential to the employer or confidential to others.
- 5.04. Assign work only after taking into account appropriate contributions of education and experience tempered with a desire to further that education and experience.

- 5.05. Ensure realistic quantitative estimates of cost, scheduling, personnel, quality and outcomes on any project on which they work or propose to work, and provide an uncertainty assessment of these estimates.
- 5.06. Attract potential software engineers only by full and accurate description of the conditions of employment.
- 5.07. Offer fair and just remuneration.
- 5.08. Not unjustly prevent someone from taking a position for which that person is suitably qualified.
- 5.09. Ensure that there is a fair agreement concerning ownership of any software, processes, research, writing, or other intellectual property to which a software engineer has contributed.
- 5.10. Provide for due process in hearing charges of violation of an employer's policy or of this Code.
- 5.11. Not ask a software engineer to do anything inconsistent with this Code.
- 5.12. Not punish anyone for expressing ethical concerns about a project.

TOP

Principle 6 PROFESSION

Software engineers shall advance the integrity and reputation of the profession consistent with the public interest. In particular, software engineers shall, as appropriate:

- 6.01. Help develop an organizational environment favorable to acting ethically.
- 6.02. Promote public knowledge of software engineering.
- 6.03. Extend software engineering knowledge by appropriate participation in professional organizations, meetings and publications.
- 6.04. Support, as members of a profession, other software engineers striving to follow this Code.
- 6.05. Not promote their own interest at the expense of the profession, client or employer.
- 6.06. Obey all laws governing their work, unless, in exceptional circumstances, such compliance is inconsistent with the public interest.
- 6.07. Be accurate in stating the characteristics of software on which they work, avoiding not only false claims but also claims that might reasonably be supposed to be speculative, vacuous, deceptive, misleading, or doubtful.
- 6.08. Take responsibility for detecting, correcting, and reporting errors in software and associated documents on which they work.
- 6.09. Ensure that clients, employers, and supervisors know of the software engineer's commitment to this Code of ethics, and the subsequent ramifications of such commitment.
- 6.10. Avoid associations with businesses and organizations which are in conflict with this code.
- 6.11. Recognize that violations of this Code are inconsistent with being a professional software engineer.
- 6.12. Express concerns to the people involved when significant violations of this Code are detected unless this is impossible, counter-productive, or dangerous.
- 6.13. Report significant violations of this Code to appropriate authorities when it is clear that consultation with people involved in these significant violations is impossible, counter-productive or dangerous.

TOP

Principle 7 COLLEAGUES

Software engineers shall be fair to and supportive of their colleagues. In particular, software engineers shall, as appropriate:

- 7.01. Encourage colleagues to adhere to this Code.
- 7.02. Assist colleagues in professional development.
- 7.03. Credit fully the work of others and refrain from taking undue credit.
- 7.04. Review the work of others in an objective, candid, and properly-documented way.
- 7.05. Give a fair hearing to the opinions, concerns, or complaints of a colleague.
- 7.06. Assist colleagues in being fully aware of current standard work practices including policies and procedures for protecting passwords, files and other confidential information, and security measures in general.
- 7.07. Not unfairly intervene in the career of any colleague; however, concern for the employer, the client or public interest may compel software engineers, in good faith, to question the competence of a colleague.
- 7.08. In situations outside of their own areas of competence, call upon the opinions of other professionals who have competence in that area.

TOP

Principle 8 SELF

Software engineers shall participate in lifelong learning regarding the practice of their profession and shall promote an ethical approach to the practice of the profession. In particular, software engineers shall continually endeavor to:

- 8.01. Further their knowledge of developments in the analysis, specification, design, development, maintenance and testing of software and related documents, together with the management of the development process.
- 8.02. Improve their ability to create safe, reliable, and useful quality software at reasonable cost and within a reasonable time.
- 8.03. Improve their ability to produce accurate, informative, and well-written documentation.
- 8.04. Improve their understanding of the software and related documents on which they work and of the environment in which they will be used.
- 8.05. Improve their knowledge of relevant standards and the law governing the software and related documents on which they work.
- 8.06. Improve their knowledge of this Code, its interpretation, and its application to their work.
- 8.07. Not give unfair treatment to anyone because of any irrelevant prejudices.
- 8.08. Not influence others to undertake any action that involves a breach of this Code.
- 8.09. Recognize that personal violations of this Code are inconsistent with being a professional software engineer.

What is the organization from St. Louis that has adopted this code of conduct?

Independent Computer Consultants Association

List 5 items from that organization's code of ethics.

- Consultants will be honest and not knowingly misrepresent facts.
- Consultants will install and use only properly licensed software on their systems as well as the clients' systems.

- Consultants will divulge any potential conflicts of interest prior to accepting the contract or as soon as possible after the conflict is discovered.
- Consultants will only represent opinions as independent if they are free from subordinated judgment and there is no undisclosed interest in the outcome of the client's decision.
- Consultants will ensure that to the best of their knowledge they can complete the project in a professional manner both in terms of skill and time.
- Consultants will keep the client informed of any matters relating to the contract even if the information is unfavorable, or may jeopardize the contract.
- Consultants will safeguard any confidential information or documents entrusted to them and not divulge any confidential information without the consent of the client.
- Consultants will not take advantage of proprietary information obtained from the client.
- Consultants will not engage in contracts that are in violation of the law or that might reasonably be used by client to violate the law.
- ICCA member firms, their principals and employees will uphold the principles of the ICCA and not commit acts discreditable to the ICCA.