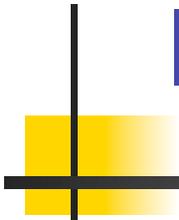


CS305 Social, Ethical, and Legal Implications of Computing



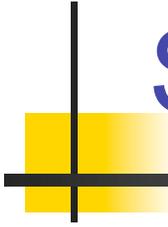
Spring 2010

Prof. Harry Porter

harry@cs.pdx.edu

Class webpage:

www.cs.pdx.edu/~harry/ethics



Slide Credits

These slides were created by
Prof. Jingke Li

Catalog Description

- History of computing
- Social context of computing
- Professional and ethical responsibilities
- Risks and liabilities of safety-critical systems
- Intellectual property
- Privacy and civil liberties
- Social implications of the Internet
- Computer crime
- Economic issues in computing

Course Goals

Upon the successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- Identify the ethical issues that relate to computer science in real situations.
- Decide whether a given action is ethical as regards computer science professional ethics, and justify that decision.
- Recognize situations in which there may be legal issues as regards computer science and related topics such as intellectual property, and know some legal principles to apply.

Course Goals (cont.)

- Prepare and deliver a short professional-quality talk on a topic relating to ethical, legal, and social implications of computer science.
- Research and write a professional-quality paper about a topic relating to social, legal, and ethical implications of computer science.
- State several important impacts of computer science and related fields on society.
- State several examples of important ethical principles as they apply to computer science related situations.

Prerequisites

- A course in computer science at the 300 or higher level.
- Sophomore inquiry (or a course in public speaking and a course in writing a research paper).

Textbook

- Michael J. Quinn, “*Ethics for the Information Age*”, 4th, Addison Wesley, 2011.

Another Reference (not reqd):

Sara Baase, “*A Gift of Fire -- Social, Legal, and Ethical Issues for Computing and the Internet*”, 3rd ed, Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2007.

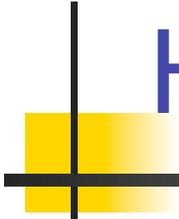
Course Organization

Class Format:

- Lectures
- Discussions
- Student presentations

Assignments:

- *Weekly homeworks (about five)*
- *Oral presentation*
- *Research paper*



Homework

- Assigned weekly
- Bring hardcopy to class
- Due at before lecture starts!!!
- Involves mostly research on the Internet
- Provides materials for class discussions
- Staple pages!!! Include your name!!!

Class Discussions

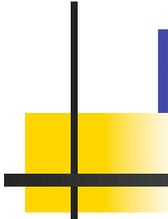
- A block of time in each class is devoted to discussions
- Everyone is required to participate
- Learn to argue real cases based on legal or ethical principles

Oral Presentation

- Every student is required to give one 10 minute oral presentation to the class.
- Every student is required to submit a draft version of the slides (in PowerPoint or equivalent format) before the speech.
- Any of the course topics can be used as the base for the presentation.
- Detailed requirements and schedule will be available later.

Research Paper

- Every student is required to choose an issue related to one of the course topics and analyze it in a written paper.
- The paper must be 1800-2200 words in length. It must include a “My Opinion” section.
- A draft version of the paper needs to be submitted first.
- A student may choose the same topic for both paper and oral presentation.



Final Exam

- Take-home format, one or two days
- Similar to homework assignments

Grading

- Homework 15%
- Class participation 15%
- Paper 25%
 - Draft 5%, paper 20%
- Presentation 25%
 - Draft 5%, presentation 20%
- Final exam 15%
- Attendance 5%

Tentative Schedule

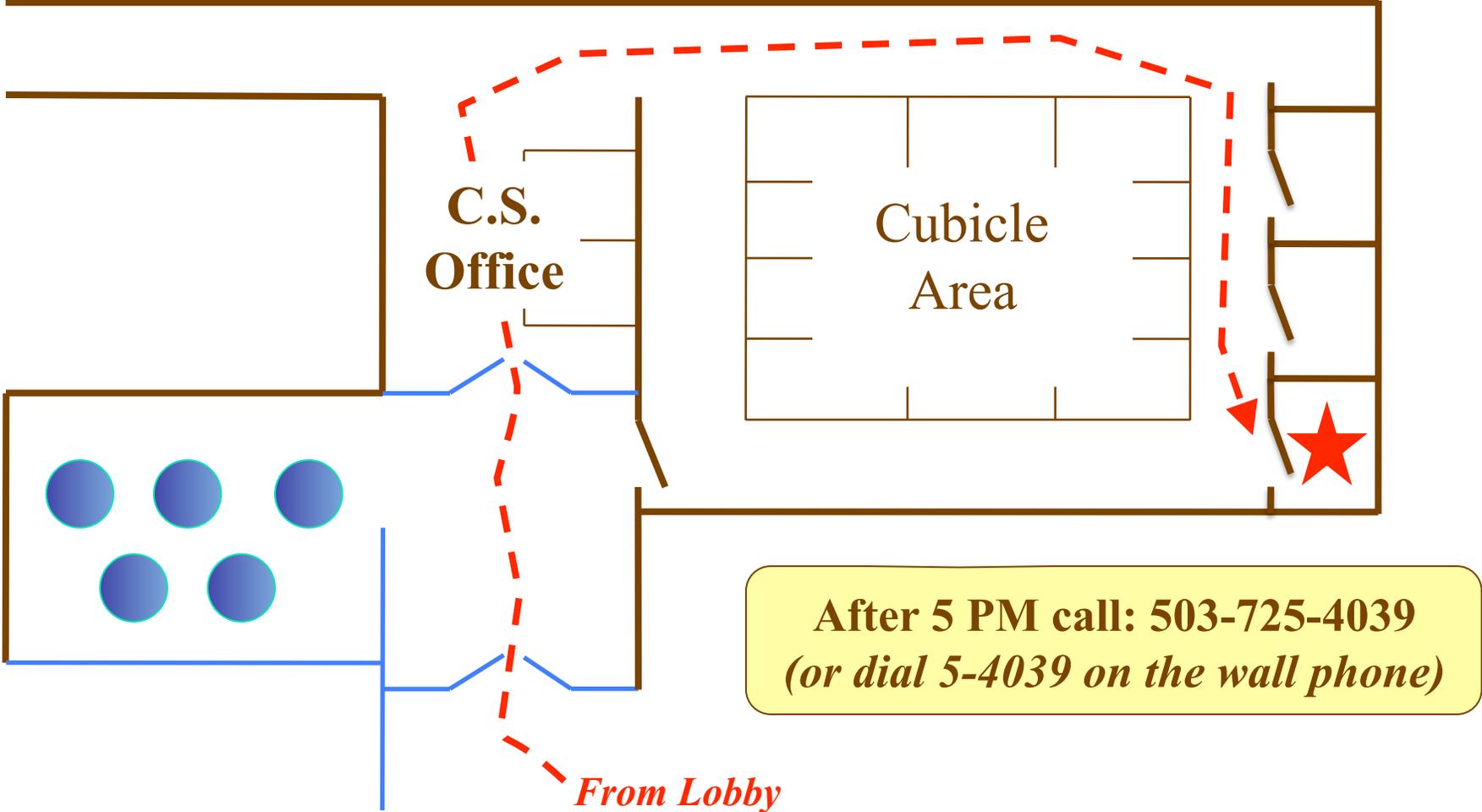
- *Week 1:* Syllabus & History of Computing
- *Week 2:* Ethical Theories
- *Week 3:* Intellectual Property
- *Week 4:* Privacy and Civil Liberties
- *Week 5:* Computer and Network Security
- *Week 6:* Computer Reliability
- *Week 7:* Professional Ethics; Impacts on Society
- *Weeks 8-10:* Student Presentations

Instructor Information

- Prof. Harry Porter
- Office: FAB 115-06
- Office Hours: Mon, Wed, 3-4PM
- Email: **harry@cs.pdx.edu**

Location of Prof. Harry Porter's Office

Fourth Avenue Building, Room 115-06



Misc Info

- Class webpage = syllabus
`www.cs.pdx.edu/~harry/ethics`
- Mailing List
 - Mailman: “PorterClassList”
 - You must subscribe, details on webpage
- Attendance is required

First Assignment

- Read chapters 1 and 2
 - We'll read entire textbook
- Homework #1 – due next Wednesday