

Ethics Reader

Information Ethics

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I dedicate this book to:

My father, Virgilio Raymundo Jr.

For inspiring me unconsciously,

My other half, Kleir Pineda

For giving me the love I need,

Mr. Paul Pajo

For being informative as he can,

ITETHIC classmates

Sabawww kayo grabe,

My computer, emaxx 55274-648-4620504-23503

Ikaw ang the best,

And for my printer, hp LaserJet 2300n

Sa hindi pagka-crash

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CHAPTER 1: ETHICS AND THE INFORMATION REVOLUTION

Learning Expectations:

I expect to introduce myself of Computer Ethics terms.

Quote:

“The outlook, however, is not all bad. Consider, for example, the fact that the computer industry already has generated a wide variety of jobs: hardware engineers, software engineers, system analysts, information technology teachers, computer sales clerks, and so on. Thus, it appears that in the short run, computer-generated unemployment will be an important social problem; but in the long run, information technology will create more jobs more than it eliminates.”

Book Review:

The first paragraphs of this part focused on the brief history on how computer ethics was founded. It emerged from the idea of controlling technology of misuse and abuse. There were sets of guidelines declared to be followed by technology practitioners, not just the computer users.

The fathers (and mothers) of Cyber Ethics rooted their thoughts from ethical theorists such as Immanuel Kant. They believe that these ethics are the foundation of what is right and wrong to be applied in using technology as a tool.

Technology nowadays is widely used around the globe. It has shaped the course of life thoroughly resulting into positive and negative effects. It is a tool that man must carefully consider in using for the benefit of the majority. Many crimes can be paired unto the abuse of technology. Viruses, hacking, and software stealing are to name a few. I believe that these problems are impossible to be removed because like the flow technology, innovations in crime is

also rapidly adapting to the system, no matter how good it was constructed. But it is possible that these problems be controlled and manifested in such a way that it can not impact the whole world in a massive scale.

Integrative Questions:

1. Who contributed most to Cyber Ethics? Why?
2. Should there be a global standard to regulate the use of computers? Why or why not?
3. How does this relate to ethics in the general sense?

CHAPTER 1: ETHICS ON-LINE

Learning Expectations:

To learn about what other people think of the behavior of the persons while on-line.

Quote:

“Trust seems to be built on the development of expectations that continue to be met. Individuals feel deceived and betrayed when they have expectations that are not met. I expect that my friend will not tell anyone what I have said. I expect when I enter a discussion with colleagues that what I will say will be treated with respect. I expect that my friends will not lie to me. And so on. My trust is betrayed when individuals fail to fulfill these expectations.”

Book Review:

Today, the World Wide Web is frequently used by people for different purposes. Some individuals consider being connected electronically as a necessity. There are a variety of ways one has in being in this network, for social, business, and entertainment are to name a few. Deborah Johnson observed the behavior in which people practice while on-line and cited some differences while they are off-line. She identified 3 features of online communication namely, scope, anonymity, and reproducibility.

The scope she refers to is the ranges of people consider dwelling while on-line. In an electronic network, outlays of information are spread very fast and at a relatively wide area. She said that we have to authorize people who have the capacity to deliver their professionalism responsibly.

Second is anonymity. People enjoy the benefits of hiding their identity to further express themselves. But one must do this responsibly. Some abuse these benefits to “express themselves” in a rather “wrong” way. Racism, sexism, and other sorts of discrimination are to name a few of what people can do while hiding their own persona.

Next is reproducibility. Information that is exchanged online is not entirely safe from theft. Your work can be illegally used and reproduced by others. And people can be capable of attributing works of malice unto you.

The main problem here is the lack of respect and proper conduct. People tend to take advantage of on-line communication in a bad way and further process them to practice atrocity. Somehow, I believe that this is a controllable problem. Strict regulations should be implemented to promote respect among netizens.

Integrative Questions:

1. Will stricter regulations on the World Wide Web be ethical? Why or why not?
2. Is there a way to cease these problems?

CHAPTER 1: REASON, RELATIVITY, AND RESPONSIBILITY IN COMPUTER ETHICS

Learning Expectations:

I expect to learn more about the role of computer ethics in today's society.

Quote:

“Ethical responsibility begins by taking the ethical point of view. We must respect others and their core values. If we can avoid policies that result in significant harm to others, that would be a good beginning toward responsible ethical conduct. Some policies are so obviously harmful that they are readily rejected by our core value standards.”

Book Review:

The technology of computers are said to be “logically malleable” in the sense that it can be altered to cater to the needs of the society. Computers have been very flexible in providing solutions to different problems. It is widely used in education, businesses, researches and the like. The growing demand of computers is supported by the relatively growing supply of it. This calls for a further study of computer ethics to monitor the functions it serves.

The use of these technologies makes tasks informationally enriched. More improvements to human activities are associated with this tool. For example, the typical student way back before computers were used, resorted to the access of a library whereas, the student today can easily research through the internet and provide more information on the subject matter. A more profound approach is met through information technology.

Because of computers being logically malleable, computer ethics too, should be able to keep up with its pace. For example, there are a lot of standards and factors to judge whether a computer program is good or not. Not all people may agree to the same set of standards. Moor

stated on his paper that: "The core values provide standards with which to evaluate the rationality of our actions and policies They give us reasons to favor some courses of action over others." This means that there is a social norm in which all values meet in an intermediate area disregarding differences among other beliefs.

Integrative Questions:

1. Will formal education help computer users to be ethically responsible?
2. What simple ways can be done to be ethically responsible?

CHAPTER 1: DISCLOSIVE COMPUTER ETHICS

Learning Expectations:

I expect to be provided with more insights on computer ethics.

Quote:

“The notion that technologies are themselves worthy objects of moral analysis is perhaps especially true for computer technology. This is because computer systems have become, because of their information processing abilities, important determinants in many human decision making processes, behaviors and, social relations. Computer systems often function less as background technologies and more as acting constituents in the shaping of society.”

Book Review:

Brey focused on 4 fundamentals of disclosive computer ethics namely, justice, autonomy, democracy and, privacy. All terms are correlated in the sense that they imply rights of people using computer technology. He stressed out the bias he observed, for example, in search engines, the order of the results are categorized not by relevance of the search query but the reputation of large and well-known sites, thus compromising smaller sites but relevant in information. This example portrays the inefficient distribution of on-line information.

The study of justice focuses on the relation to computer applications and uses. The distribution of power and influence from information must be balanced and in the favor of no one.

Autonomy, as a study on disclosive computer ethics, focuses on the possible effects of freedom on users. All users must have developed independence from other users in the system.

Democracy, according to Brey, *“These are studies designed to investigate whether particular computer technologies or applications effect redistributions of political power in societies or organizations such that a loss or gain in democratic content is applied.”*

The study of privacy determines the implications of the use of computer technology for relational and informational privacy.

Integrative Questions:

1. What feasible courses of actions can be done to eliminate bias in search engines?
2. Are social networking sites invading the privacy of its users?

CHAPTER 1: GENDER AND COMPUTER ETHICS

Learning Expectations:

I expect to learn why gender is an issue in computer ethics.

Quote:

“Categorical claims that gender either definitely does or definitely does not make a material difference to moral reasoning relating to the use of computers somehow misses the point. More important is the question of whether or not the more collectivist ‘ethic of care’ approach to ethics advocated in feminist approaches to ethics can offer alternative and perhaps better ways to tackle computer ethics problems.”

Book Review:

For as long as I have been studying, sexism has always been existent. This special type of discrimination has reached controversial issues such as; women not allowed to vote, daughters being sold by their fathers, etc. It has always been a social and a moral issue concerning ethical treatment on women. In this paper, Adam stated that women experience problems in accessing computer technology, and she argued on whether there is a difference between men and women’s ethical decision making in relation to information and computing technologies (ICT).

In our society today, the men outnumber the women in the field of Information Technology. But I don’t think there’s any discrimination in this field, at least here in the Philippines. Equal treatment is always practiced.

I personally think that the ethical decision making among men and women in ICT, would always differ. Of course, there are social and intellectual differences and I would regard it as natural and inevitable.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the advantages/disadvantages of men in the ICT field?
2. What are the advantages/disadvantages of women in the ICT field?

CHAPTER 1: IS THE GLOBAL INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE A DEMOCRATIC TECHNOLOGY?

Learning Expectations:

To determine whether Global Information Infrastructure is a democratic technology or not.

Quote:

“The idea that the GII is democratic because it connects every individual to every other individual and allows individuals to engage in political discussion puts the emphasis on the users of technology. It focuses attention to on what the technology facilitates.”

Book Review:

The Global Information Infrastructure refers to the dome in which the whole cyber world is in. Gigantic amounts of information are transferred every second. Every person has the option to be connected to the world wide network.

“Information is power”. This paper mentioned two kinds of interpretations. The first one says that information goes to the receivers, meaning “to know is to be empowered”. For example, I read on an article about preserving the useful life of hard disks, I can then use this information to apply it to my own, thus empowering me. The second says that the senders of information are the ones who are empowered. For example, a TV anchorman reports on the headlines for the day. He conveys the news to the television viewers. This shows that he has the power to narrate to the people the current events in the society. He is empowered through giving out information to the masses.

In my opinion, I think that the GII really is partly a democratic technology in the sense that there are a lot of ways to express one’s self through interchanging information with others. But certain laws and regulations from rightful authorities are implemented to control these liberties.

Integrative Questions:

1. Aside from power, what else does information symbolize?
2. What will make a GII a pure democratic technology?

CHAPTER 1: APPLYING ETHICAL AND MORAL CONCEPTS AND THEORIES TO IT CONTEXTS: SOME KEY PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES

Learning Expectations:

To learn more about the applications of ethical theories in the study of computer ethics.

Quote:

“Many of the traditional theoretical black and white dichotomies in ethics lose their absoluteness when we turn to the real world, and ask ourselves how certain proposed principles would work out when they were used in a concrete social practice.”

Book Review:

There are a lot of ethical theories made by great philosophers and thinkers back in the days. Whom I personally favor in this field are Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Friedrich Nietzsche, Karl Marx, and Immanuel Kant. They have made formidable arguments in defining what is right and what is wrong. All are influenced by their own personal moral standing as philosophers.

The technological advancements specifically in the computing field have to be discerned and developed with ethical considerations. For example, the violence in computer games should be controlled and should only be played by non-minors. Another example is the widespread use of social networking sites like facebook. Facebook was banned in Syria and Iran because of employer complaints on employees using facebook applications while working. This issue has resulted into a degraded quality of output.

The application of ethical theories in the IT industry never rests. It periodically enters a phase wherein theories are modified if not eliminated. This process is to adapt to the fast-paced innovation of technology.

Integrative Questions:

1. Name 1 ethical theory that is evidently used in the IT industry.
2. Name examples wherein an ethical theory is needed to resolve an IT issue.

CHAPTER 1: JUST CONSEQUENTIALISM AND COMPUTING

Learning Expectations:

To define just sanctions to computer related crimes.

Quote:

“We want good computing policies that promote human flourishing, consequences are important, but only as long as the policies themselves remain just. Unjust policies will in the long run, both directly and indirectly, undermine the benefits of these policies no matter how good they are.”

Book Review:

“Don’t do unto others what you don’t want others to do unto you.” This is perhaps the most famous rule that advocate consequentialism. Just consequentialism means that a person deserves an appropriate punishment or sanction that will parallel the weight of his/her crime. Because of the computer’s “logically malleable” property, functions are easily customized to suit the needs of the people, whether it does or does not harm other individuals.

The issue on computer crime can be attributed to Kant’s Categorical Imperative. That is make sure that what you do will become a universal law. For example, you illegally copied some picture files from the company you are working at. This means that you don’t mind that the same will be done to you. By doing so, you are giving the go signal to other people to copy your personal files.

This part also discusses the moral basis of what is right and what is wrong and how can such acts be justified. Moor stated that *“The ends do not justify using unjust means”*

Integrative Questions:

1. Should utilitarianism be considered in this issue?
2. What sanctions would be just to persons committing computer-related crimes?

CHAPTER 2: THE INTERNET AS PUBLIC SPACE: CONCEPTS, ISSUES, AND IMPLICATION IN PUBLIC POLICY

Learning Expectations:

To know more about the properties of the Internet.

Quote:

“As an alternative model, physical spaces are not technologically deterministic. It seems trivial to say that in architecture, function does not follow form, yet it is an important distinction between the media types model and the spatial model. The Internet is more like physical places in that the same generic technology defines things, which are very different-different spaces locale, media, or forums.”

Book Review:

The internet has many functions and capabilities that are being used. Exchanges of information are done to provide knowledge to other users. Dating back to the early years of the Internet, its only function circulates only among the U.S. Military, to exchange information on a specific subject matter limited to military data. Now, the Internet has evolved dramatically. The use of Internet is becoming a necessity to all people.

I believe that in the near future, there will be no need for newspapers to exist. All the features of a newspaper can also be provided through the Internet and perhaps, surpasses it. One of its advantages is that the information posted in the Internet has a much wider scope than any other forms of media.

More capabilities of the Internet are yet to come. It is quite hard to predict the demands of the people in the near and distant future. There is an uncertain assumption that Internet will destroy every other media existent as of today. The use of radio is slowly fading. And who knows if the television set will still be required someday.

Integrative Questions:

1. What can the “old” media do to adapt to the Internet.
2. Will Internet die like the other forms of media?

CHAPTER 2: THE LAWS OF CYBERSPACE

Learning Expectations:

I expect to learn more about the regulating factors in the cyberspace.

Quote:

“This is the age of cyber-libertarian. It is a time when a certain hype about cyberspace has caught on. The hype goes like this: Cyberspace is unavoidable, and yet cyberspace is unregulable. No nation can live without it, yet no nation can control behavior in it. Cyberspace is that place where individuals are, inherently, free from the control of real space sovereigns. It is, in the words of James Boyle, the great techno-‘gotcha’-nations of the world, you can’t live without it, but nations of the world, when you’ve got it, you won’t live long with it. ”

Book Review:

Cyberspace created its own entity in the society. It is a space wherein technology is applied by its citizens, or netizens for that matter. Cyberspace has become a necessity for human activities. Cyberspace is a virtual setting in which individuals enjoy the benefits of socializing, transacting business, etc. The focus in this paper by Larry Lessig is to define what controlling variables manage the Cyberspace.

According to Lessig, behavior is regulated by four constraints namely, Laws, Norms, Markets and Nature. Law as a constraint refers to the rules constructed by lawmakers to facilitate if not limits certain acts. Norms are acts that turned into habits through time and cultural considerations. Markets refer to the accessibility of goods, for example, the pricing concept. And Nature refers to the natural flow of things. These four constraints regulate the behavior in the cyberspace, just like in real life.

The concept of internal passports reflects a limiting regulatory act. One cannot move freely wherever he wishes to, as the government decides on where one can only travel. Liberty in this system however, is inexistent. In my opinion, the government should just limit themselves of regulating the citizens’ behavior. Men are born free and should be free at all times but keeping in mind ethical considerations.

Integrative Questions:

1. How can the government regulate human behavior without invading the citizens’ privacy?
2. What factors should be considered first to allow liberty?

CHAPTER 2: OF BLACK HOLES AND DECENTRALIZED LAW-MAKING IN CYBERSPACE

Learning Expectations:

I expect to learn more about the authorities in the cyberspace.

Quote:

“My fear is that this leads to a policy-making catastrophe of significant proportions. A “stable” Internet is one locked in place, incapable of generating innovative responses to the very problems that it is itself bringing into existence. The very existence of the Internet should caution us against dismissing too quickly the notion that there are some problems that are best solved by these messy, disordered, semi-chaotic, unplanned, decentralized systems, and that the costs that necessarily accompany such unplanned disorder may sometimes be worth bearing. But which problems? How can we know?”

Book Review:

The emergence of technologies like the Internet has brought a debate on who should govern it. The government, for instance, has voluntarily embraced the responsibility. But many groups have cried for this system for being unfair. The focus on this discussion lies on who should be the rightful authority to govern cyberspace and who or what determines that authority.

Integrative Questions:

1. What should be done to the RBL?
2. Should the government control cyberspace?

CHAPTER 2: FAHRENHEIT 451.2: IS CYBERSPACE BURNING?

Learning Expectations:

I expect to know what they mean when they say that cyberspace is burning.

Quote:

“Today, all that we have achieved may now be lost, if not in the bright flames of censorship then in the dense smoke of the many ratings and blocking schemes promoted by some of the very people who fought for freedom. And in the end, we may find that the censors have indeed succeeded in ‘burning down the house to roast the pig.’”

Book Review:

I believe that the internet today is far more obscene than any other forms of media. People have abused and misused free speech on the Internet. As a result, the morale level among the community is gradually decreasing. The ACLU proposed that free speech in the Internet should be highly protected too as compared to the protection granted to books and other periodicals.

Self-rating is subject to biases which will result into unfair evaluations. I think what ACLU should consider is to carefully select individuals who will do the ratings. Standards like adequate education, positive moral standing, and good intellectual capacity are in my opinion, the best qualities a rater must have.

For me this is justifiable because this will regulate all information streamed on the Internet. There should be standards that must be set to ensure that the public is safe from obscene acts.

Integrative Questions:

1. In what ways does free speech in the Internet can be violated?
2. What are some visible measures in controlling free speech in the Internet?
3. Who should website rating be assigned to?

CHAPTER 2: FILTERING THE INTERNET IN THE USA: FREE SPEECH DENIED?

Learning Expectations:

I expect to learn how USA handled the regulation of free speech

Quote:

“The basic concern is that the features for blocking or restricting access are determined on the basis of criteria unavailable to the user. Thus, when a Web search is undertaken, what is not returned is a product of the inadequacies of the search query, the search engine style, and the filtering software. Censorship is a constant companion.”

Book Review:

I have always known that USA is a country where violence, sex, and other obscene materials are publicly displayed through media. I think this is caused by the Americans not being conservative enough. But it is not right to limit their internet access especially to educational institutions like libraries

The issue on which sites to label as “good” and “bad” is again debated in this paper. But then again, users are burdened with the responsibility to choose wisely which sites to visit. For example, a newly wed couple searches for ways for them to conceive a baby the right way, but the library blocks this access because it contains the keyword “sex”. Some information on research materials are then blocked, resulting into inadequate information.

Here in the Philippines, educated families are disciplined well, in the sense that heads of the families are responsible enough to monitor their children’s internet activities. Parents have the authority to choose from which sites they would allow for their kids to visit.

Integrative Questions:

1. Why are filtering and blocking software needed?
2. What are the determinants to be considered in blocking a site?
3. Why is this practice unfair?

CHAPTER 2: CENSORSHIP, THE INTERNET, AND THE CHILD PORNOGRAPHY LAW OF 1996

Learning Expectations:

I expect to learn more about how child pornography is controlled.

Quote:

"I close by offering the outlines of an amended version of the law that promises not to violate the rights of adults, that affords children and adults equal and effective protection against the very harmful practices the current law cannot eradicate, and that prescribes punishments that are consistent with the tolerance necessary to support a more democratic vision of the Internet."

Book Review:

Due to the fast travel of information offered by today's technology, people have devised ways in which it can be abused. One way is child pornography. Children are very fragile. They should not be exposed to sex at a young age. That is why there is a line that separates a minor from an adult.

In the Internet, one can quickly search for child pornography. It is just a matter of few clicks to find a site. Creators of child pornography should be dealt on accordingly since they both violated morals and the law.

Integrative Questions:

1. Why is child pornography illegal?
2. What do the creators of child porn violate?
3. What punishments do they deserve?

CHAPTER 2: PICS: INTERNET ACCESS CONTROLS WITHOUT CENSORSHIP

Learning Expectations:

To gain more knowledge in regulating information in the Internet.

Quote:

“When publishers are unwilling to participate, or can't be trusted to participate honestly, independent organizations can provide third-party labels. For example, the Simon Wiesenthal Center, which is concerned about Nazi propaganda and other hate speech, could label materials that are historically inaccurate or promote hate. Third-party labeling systems can also express features that are of concern to a limited audience. For example, a teacher might label a set of astronomical photographs and block access to everything else for the duration of a science lesson.”

Book Review:

PICS (Platform for Internet Content Selection) aims to manage labels on the Internet to efficiently distribute appropriate information to users. Basically, it is a good thing since this regulation will screen the information displayed on the Internet for specific individuals. A computer administrator can easily configure which labels are allowed for access to each computer user.

But, PICS later showed its weakness. First of all, the authority to set standards seems vague because it is quite easy to find ways to breach the security of a system. As stated in the paper, for instance, a parent sets a configuration list on a browser for allowed sites to be visited by his children, but the children of today is getting smarter, children may opt to install another browser to view sites restricted by their parents.

PICS failed to perceive its potential to regulate access to certain sites. The computer world is getting far more complex every minute. I hope it is still possible in the near future to regulate access in the Internet for different audiences. For the internet population is getting more and more obscene.

Integrative Questions:

1. When was PICS established?
2. What are the major weaknesses of PICS?
3. What could be done to patch up these weaknesses?

CHAPTER 2: INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS AND DEFAMATION: NEW STANDARDS OF LIABILITY

Learning Expectations:

To determine what are the causes and effects of defamation in the Internet.

Quote:

“One way of inflicting harm on to others is to do something which results in their being harmed; the other is to fail to do something the consequence of which is that they are harmed, in short, to fail to prevent harm”

Book Review:

This paper focuses on ISP’s (Internet Service Providers) responsibility to detect their users who are engaging in defamatory acts. Defamation, in layman’s terms, means to say untruthful claims to another party which results in that person’s reputation and social standing be damaged. This is in fact a very controversial matter since defamation nowadays is uncontrollable, especially with anyone’s ability to remain anonymous.

Free speech here is abused, but the main argument here is who should be held responsible with these acts? Is it the person who made defamatory remarks, the ISP, or the one being defamed? As stated in this paper, the one who did harm must be held accountable for his crime. But, this remains ambiguous in the sense that, given today’s technological advancements, detection avoidance is very plausible to do. Thus, defamers avoid being apprehended. The ISP’s, they have limited liability because it is administratively and economically impossible to monitor their users in real time, if they would, they would have violated their users’ privacy. The ones being defamed should totally not be liable because they don’t have control with the defamers.

To conclude, ISP’s should maintain their systems periodically as to review activities by their users to apprehend those who are rightfully should.

Integrative Questions:

1. How can the ISP’s lessen the number of defamers?
2. What measures must the ones being defamed do to protect their image?

CHAPTER 3: DIGITAL MILLENNIUM COPYRIGHT ACT

Learning Expectation:

By the end of this part, I expect to have learned what role the Digital Millennium Act plays in the society.

Quote:

“(1) When a public or other nonprofit institution of higher education is a service provider, and when a faculty member or a graduate student who is an employee of such institution is performing a teaching or research function for the purposes of subsections (a) and (b) such faculty member or graduate student shall be considered to be a person other the institution, and for the purposes of subsections (c) and (d).”

Book Review:

This Copyright Act ensures that no individual will be treated unfairly of his works in the new age. The act aims to penalize and sanction people who will violate the code. Here in the Philippines, it is yet to be implemented firmly. Copyrighted materials here are easily pirated by people from everywhere. For example, the market of pirated DVD's is hard to eliminate since the authorities can not pinpoint where the primary source of these can be found. From what I've heard, DVD's are imported from neighboring Asian countries such as Indonesia and Thailand.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is reverse engineering?
2. What is the limit for infringement liability?
3. What are the conditions of eligibility?

CHAPTER 3: NOTE ON THE DeCSS TRIAL

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about what occurred on the DeCSS Trial

Quote:

“The DeCSS Trial, which concluded in mid-August 2000, has tested the scope and constitutionality of the anti-circumvention provision included in Section 1201 of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA). The questions triggered by this case go to the heart of debate about intellectual property protection on the Internet. Is DeCSS no more than a piracy tool that enables widespread copying of DVD files? Or does it merely enable ‘fair use’ of DVD media by allowing DVD formatted movies to be played on computers with unsupported operating systems such as Linux?”

Book Review:

Pirating DVD files is very easy given the technology we have today. People must remember the limitations when it comes to copying DVD's. Powerful software should be developed to control this crime. The Government should invest in this because this will provide a boost in the economy since many establishments carrying pirated DVD's will be forced to sell original copies. There should also be platform-independent software that will create and protect DVD's.

Integrative Questions:

1. How does DeCSS work?
2. Were there any sanctions given to the violators?
3. What concluded the trial?

CHAPTER 3: A POLITICS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: ENVIRONMENTALISM FOR THE NET?

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn if being environmental is possible with the use of Net.

Quote:

"Is the environmental analogy of only rhetoric or strategic value, then? For my part, though I would be happy to acknowledge its imperfections, I would say that it also shows us some of the dangers inherent in the kind of strategies I have described. Right now, even under a purely instrumental economic analysis, it is hard to argue that intellectual property is set at the appropriate level. Just as the idea of 'activities internalizing their full costs' galvanized and then began to dominate environmental discourse, the economic inadequacy of current intellectual property discourse has been emphasized by skeptics. But the attraction of the economic analysis conceals a danger. The problems of efficiency, of market oligopoly, and of future innovation are certainly important ones, but they are not the only problems we face."

Book Review:

In this part, the author discusses about the effects of intellectual property in the society. The revolution of the information age has indeed crossed boundaries. Almost any information about a topic can be found in the net. The problem is, however, that not all of that information is legally produced. Certain laws prohibit the access of the said information.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the tensions in an intellectual property system?
2. How does environmentalism relate to intellectual property?
3. What is pay-as-you-read architecture?

CHAPTER 3: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, INFORMATION, AND THE COMMON GOOD

Learning Expectation:

I expect to define more key terms regarding intellectual property.

Quote:

“Intellectual Property has always been closely tied to technology. Technology arises in Intellectual Property in the form of new inventions. But technology also supports intellectual property by providing new, more powerful and more efficient ways of creating and disseminating writing, musical composition, visual art, and so on. In fact it was the technology of the printing press that originally gave rise to intellectual property as legal and a moral issue.”

Book Review:

In this part, intellectual property is said to be an oxymoron. Sometimes, its definition conflicts itself. This part also discusses 5 cases wherein intellectual property rights were used. It also examines the traditional justification of such rights to discover its limits. Intellectual property is said to be individualistic because it ignores the social work of the author and the work itself.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the 5 cases presented in this chapter?
2. How does philosophy justify intellectual property?
3. How does store-and-forward architecture work?

CHAPTER 3: IS COPYRIGHT ETHICAL? AN EXAMINATION OF THE THEORIES, LAWS, AND PRACTICES REGARDING THE PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF INTELLECTUAL WORK IN THE UNITED STATES

Learning Expectation:

I expect to conclude whether copyright is ethical or not.

Quote:

“United States Copyright Law is theoretically based on policy created within a framework that valued the interests of the people as a whole over the interests of individual creators. The original framework is being slowly dismantled to give more weight to the interests of individual creators. This shift in policy is often defended based on the ethics of allowing a creator control over her work. However, this ethical position does not generally extend to moral rights. Moral rights, of course, only benefits creators, not publishers or distributors. This calls into question whether the extension of rights is based on an ethical position or in reaction to pressures exerted by those whose profits depend on the protections granted by Copyright. ”

Book Review:

This part focuses on the question whether copyright is ethical or not. It analyzes all sources of the copyright law in the United States and traces all of them whether they are practiced in an ethical manner. It also discusses the history of the Copyright Act in the USA, and what copyright doesn't cover. There are some cases wherein copyright conflicts with other rights such as the freedom of speech.

Integrative Questions:

1. How did copyright start in the United States?
2. What are the works that are not covered by Copyright?
3. How are moral rights different from economic rights?

CHAPTER 3: ON THE WEB, PLAGIARISM MATTERS MORE THAN COPYRIGHT PIRACY

Learning Expectation:

I expect to answer the answer why plagiarism is more important than copyright piracy.

Quote:

“The obvious candidate for plagiarism harm is the author who receives no credit. But it is hard to see what harm that author may have suffered. Unless there is also copyright infringement, an author has few legal grounds for claiming economic loss for a plagiarized use of his work. There is no direct financial harm. And, given the strong tradition of refusing to grant property protection over ideas and information it is unlikely that we would want to grant an author any financial interest in the uncopyrighted print of paper.”

Book Review:

This part discusses the crime of plagiarism on the web. Plagiarism, in this chapter, is defined as the act of failing to give credit and piracy, on the other hand, is the infringement of copyright. Nowadays, people fail to cite their sources in for example, a research paper. This will make the author of the copied work feel violated as some part of his work is stolen and not attributed to him. Cybercriminals never runs out of ways to steal works posted online.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the differences between plagiarism and copyright piracy?
2. What are the similarities between plagiarism and copyright piracy?
3. What are the possible harms of plagiarism?

CHAPTER 3: AN ETHICAL EVALUATION ON WEB SITE LINKING

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about web site linking's relevance to ethics.

Quote:

"If labor has endangered a property right in a web site, it follows that one should have one of the most basic rights of ownership, that is the right to derive income from that site, especially since that income is the primary reward for that labor and an incentive for future creations. By making the investment of labor, energy, and capital, the owner is surely entitled to maximize the return on that investment, which is realized by the right to earn income by allowing others to use that site. Any restrictions on that particular right would be tantamount to disincentive for investing heavily in the socially valuable activity of new web site creation. It seems evident then that a property right based on the labor-desert rationale would surely be hollow unless the property owner can get a return on his or her investment as enabled by the right or 'power' to earn income. "

Book Review:

Web site linking refers to the sites forwarded to when you click a link. The argument here is that, in the web, not all links are useful. Some websites link their visitors to their own products disregarding what their visitors really want. For example, in google, a student researches for the history of Valentine's Day to be used in class, but, the search returned by the search engine contains links of flower shops, valentine's cards, etc. The purpose of that student is not met completely. Rather, they perceive the student to as a potential buyer of flowers.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the 3 theories that a person can encounter in intellectual property?
2. What is deep linking?
3. What tag in HTML is used to link a website?

CHAPTER 3: THE CATHEDRAL AND THE BAZAAR

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about the benefits of using open source software.

Quote:

“One thing many people think the traditional mode buys you is to hold somebody legally liable and potentially recover compensation from if the project goes wrong. But this is an illusion; most software licenses are written to disclaim even warranty of merchantability, let alone performance-and cases of successful recovery for software nonperformance are vanishingly rare. Even if they were common, feeling comforted by having somebody to sue would be missing the point. You didn’t want to be in a lawsuit, you wanted working software.”

Book Review:

This chapter tells about the benefits in using open-source software. Open software is best defined as a software that is free and is editable. Some institutions use these to save money. The argument in using these is the users’ notion to attribute to the author. Some users and editors fail to give credit to the developers. Today, more and more developers of open software are vanishing because they are not earning well. They have been lacking support from the government and the users.

Integrative Questions:

1. What does “release early, release often” mean?
2. What is Linus’ law?
3. What represents the cathedral and the bazaar in this context?

CHAPTER 4: TOWARDS A THEORY OF PRIVACY FOR THE INFORMATION AGE

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn if whether the theory of privacy still apply to modern trends.

Quote:

“An individual or group has normative privacy in a situation with regard to others if and only if in that situation that individual or group is normatively protected from intrusion, interference, and information access by others.”

Book Review:

This part tells about the natures of piracy and its relation to information ethics. The author said that in a computerized society, information travels at a very fast rate. Privacy is best defined as the security of not being disturbed or influenced by external factors. Nowadays, privacy has been compromised because of technology. For instance, a network administrator can view the activities done by an employee working on a computer in that network.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is normative privacy?
2. What is the publicity principle?
3. What does the Justification of Exceptions Principle state?

CHAPTER 4: THE STRUCTURE OF RIGHTS IN DIRECTIVE 95/46/EC

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn what structure was formulated in this directive.

Quote:

“The basic idea of the control account is just as simple as that of the restricted accesses account. The classical definition is due to Westin, who says: ‘Privacy not simply an absence of information about us in the minds of others, rather it the control we have over information about ourselves.’ One attractive feature of this account is the way it distinguishes between situations where a person’s privacy is violated and situations where the person reveals personal information about himself. The difference is, on the control account, that there is a loss of control in the first case while in the second case the person exercises his control.”

Book Review:

This part discusses the Directive 95/46/EC which is about the protection of individuals with regard to processing of personal data and the free movement of such data. Personal data can be used to evaluate and assess that person in a company. But, in some cases, it is abused in the sense that some firms process their employees’ data and send it external firms. Those external firms will then find products to sell to those employees based on their personal data.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is the focus of this directive?
2. What purposes for which the processing of personal data are considered legitimate?
3. What are the plausible candidates for an explication of the notion of incompatibility?

CHAPTER 4: PRIVACY PROTECTION, CONTROL OF INFORMATION, AND PRIVACY-ENHANCING TECHNOLOGIES

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn what the society has been doing to improve privacy.

Quote:

“A fundamental problem about defining the concept of privacy in terms of individual control of information is that it greatly reduces what can be private. We control so little. As a practical matter we cannot possibly control vast amounts of information about us that circulates through myriads of computer networks and databases. The current globalization of these information processes exacerbates the problem. If privacy depends, by definition, on our individual control, we simply don’t have significant privacy and never will in a computerized world.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on the technologies being developed to help enhance privacy. System databases are being developed rigorously to ensure that the security of personal data and the like are being used only by the authorized people. Privacy matters a lot to all people. It gives a person an armor to protect himself of being intruded by.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is normative privacy and Restricted Access Theory?
2. What exactly are PETs and what are they appealing?
3. What is the Principle of Informed Consent?

CHAPTER 4: TOWARD AN APPROACH TO PRIVACY IN PUBLIC: CHALLENGES OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn what information technology can do to improve privacy.

Quote:

“Release of information on computer tape in many instances is far more revealing than release of hard copies, and offers the potential for far more intrusive inspections. Unlike paper records, computerized records can easily be retrieved, researched, and reassembled in novel and unique ways, not previously imagined.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on the situations wherein privacy is practiced and violated in public. The challenge in information technology is to categorize which data are to be private and which not to. Here in the Philippines, privacy is respected since it is our part of our culture to be conservative. But, there are some cases in which privacy is violated, for example, the Katrina Halili Scandal. The scandal was then posted to several porn sites which resulted in a public and congressional debate.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the two misleading assumptions in this context?
2. Which realms are considered as private realms?

CHAPTER 4: KDD, PRIVACY, INDIVIDUALITY AND FAIRNESS

Learning Expectation:

I expect to know more about the relation of privacy in the society.

Quote:

“The only way to protect individuals against the possible negative consequences of the use of group profiles based on personal information in the broad sense lies in a careful assessment of the ways in which the profiles are in fact used and can be used. By meticulously investigating and evaluating these applications, one may hope to find starting points for restrictions of the purposes for which these data and profiles may be produced and applied. An elaborate proposal concerning such acceptable and unacceptable purposes cannot be provided here.”

Book Review:

This part tells us about the treatment of the society in respecting privacy. KDD's (Knowledge Discovery Databases) help people to analyze large amounts of data. With this, some privacy are violated since they were accessed. These are used to keep track of data that can be used for assessment purposes. Every individual has the right to be treated like everyone else. Every individual should free himself of personal bias to treat others well. Fairness is sometimes vague since hierarchy in the society will never cease to exist.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the similarities of categorical privacy and individual privacy?
2. What are the differences of categorical privacy and individual privacy?
3. How can group profiles protect individuals?

CHAPTER 4: DATA MINING AND PRIVACY

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about data mining.

Quote:

“It is unnerving, however, when a database of film garnered from a bank video camera at an ATM shows a pregnant woman and her ATM card and triggers an avalanche of circulars, advertisements, and e-mail spam for products for newborns sold by another subsidiary of the bank’s corporate holding company. Yet it is not truly the pregnancy that is private, much less her address; it is the linkage that disturbs. This example brings into relief the difficult philosophical question that data mining and knowledge discovery have created.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on what data mining is able to do to people. Data mining digs very deep to find vital information about a person. This triggers into the database finding what it can supply to the needs based on the specifications of the data that have been mined. This act violates privacy in the sense that, unnecessary help is supplied to the people. But, Data Mining is not purely evil. It has some benefits too, if used in a proper way. People must first think of ethical considerations before acting.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are some good practices of data mining?
2. When is data mining considered as a violation of privacy?

CHAPTER 4: WORKPLACE SURVEILLANCE, PRIVACY AND DISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn the ethical assumptions in workplace surveillance.

Quote:

“Employees do not fear the transparency of surveillance, as such, in the way argued by Posner. It is rather the choices, both explicit and implicit, that the employers will by necessity be making that employees mistrust. They are concerned that these choices may only inflict the interests of the employer. They are rightly concerned that the employer will only have ‘part of the picture’ alone. They are also concerned that the employers will apply inappropriate values when judging this ‘part of the picture’.”

Book Review:

This part discusses about the analysis in workplace surveillance. Workplace surveillance is a procedure to evaluate and assess workers. It measures the productivity rate of each worker. But sometimes, it is considered as unethical because it violates the privacy of the workers. The workers should have confidence in themselves to ensure that they are doing what they are supposed to do, not monitor their every movement.

Integrative Questions:

1. What does the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 state?
2. What are the two perspectives to outline interests and opinions?
3. What are the guidelines that may be used by those behind the veil of ignorance?

CHAPTER 4: PRIVACY AND THE VARIETIES OF INFORMATIONAL WRONGDOING

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn which ethical principles are evident in informational wrongdoing.

Quote:

"...in professional relations and the world of work, a man operates, and his activities come up for criticism, under a variety of professional or technical titles, such as 'miner' or 'agricultural laborer' or 'junior executive'. The technical or professional attitude is that which regards the man solely under that title, the human approach that which regards him as a man who has that title, willingly, unwillingly, through lack of alternatives, with pride, etc. ...each man is owed an effort at identification: that he should not be regarded as the surface to which a certain label can be applied, but one should try to see the world from his point of view."

Book Review:

This focuses on the outlying responsibility of every people to respect the privacy of every individual. The topic also outlined panoptic technologies such as CCTV cameras to promote a free-ridelessness community. As stated: *"The free-rider problem manifests itself in many areas and has the structure of Prisoner's Dilemma. The Prisoner's Dilemma is a strategic choice situation, where the optimal result is individually inaccessible, and the only equilibrium is suboptimal'."*

Integrative Questions:

1. What is the Prisoner's Dilemma?
2. What are the moral reasons to justify data-protection?
3. What are the two types of communication thinking?

CHAPTER 5: DEFINING THE BOUNDARIES OF COMPUTER CRIME: PIRACY, BREAK-INS AND SABOTAGE IN CYBERSPACE

Learning Expectation:

I expect to categorize computer crimes from crimes accordingly.

Quote:

“We have also noted that computer technology, especially the Internet, has provided a new forum for certain illegal activities which, at first glance, might seem like instances of computer crime. On closer inspection, however, some of these criminal acts turned out not to be computer crimes at all—at least not in the strict sense of the category of criminal activity that we have defended in this essay. We can now see why some of those crimes—e.g., certain crimes involving pedophiles, child pornographers, and cyber-stalkers that we briefly described in the introductory section of this essay—are not, strictly speaking, computer crimes, despite the fact that computer technology was a means used for carrying out those criminal acts.”

Book Review:

This topic categorizes from computer crimes to normal crimes. Some labeled as computer crimes are not really considered as computer crimes at all, rather, as computer-assisted crimes. The law must be reconstructed to penalize cybercriminals because most of the time, they are judged as not guilty because of insufficient provisions of the law. However, this reconstruction must be done in real time to keep up with the fast pace of technology, as to the emergence of computer crimes.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the three types of computer crime?
2. What are the limits of defining computer crime?
3. What are considered as computer crimes?

CHAPTER 5: TERRORISM OR CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE: TOWARD A HACKTIVIST ETHIC

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn how to differentiate terrorism from civil disobedience.

Quote:

“Through the routine gathering of information about transactions, consumer preferences, and creditworthiness, a harvest of information about an individual’s whereabouts and movements, tastes, desires, contacts, friends, associates, and patterns of work and recreation become available in the form of dossiers sold on the tradable information market, or is endlessly convertible into other forms of intelligence through computer matching. Advance pattern recognition technologies facilitate the process of surveillance, while data encryption protects it from public accountability.”

Book Review:

This part discusses about the differentiations and the similarities of terrorism and civil disobedience. Hacktivism as defined in this context refers to the clandestine use of computer hacking to help advance political causes. Hacktivism has been used to inveigh against the corporate domination of telecommunications and mass media, the rapid expansion of dataveillance, and the hegemonic intrusion of the consumer culture into the private lives of average citizens.

Integrative Questions:

1. What hacktivist groups are the most popular?
2. What principles must hacktivists possess to qualify as civil disobedience?
3. What are the core principles of hacker ethics?

CHAPTER 5: WEB SECURITY AND PRIVACY: AN AMERICAN PERSPECTIVE

Learning Expectation:

I expect to know how security and privacy is done in the USA.

Quote:

“The privacy implications are that people under surveillance are not likely to express views, or go to assemblies or religious meetings with which the agencies of surveillance are likely to disagree. The freedom to read is actually the freedom to read without fear of surveillance. The Court has ruled the right to privacy covers the right to read-unobserved-material that the Federal Government finds objectionable. The Court has ruled that the right to privacy covers memberships and personal associations, confirming the ‘right of members to pursue their lawful private interests privately and to associate freely with others’.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on the web security in the USA. USA has been known to be one of the countries that implements new and updated web technologies. Somehow, they are also among the first countries to experience security breaches. Americans employ a semi-conservative culture, which means that they care less than Filipinos when it comes to privacy issues. But, Americans are known to be strict when it comes to security due to the reputation of their Federal Government.

Integrative Questions:

1. What does the First Amendment state?
2. What are the rights of autonomy and the rights of seclusion?

CHAPTER 5: THE MEANING OF ANONYMITY IN AN INFORMATION AGE

Learning Expectation:

I expect to define anonymity in the modern setting.

Quote:

“Problems arise when the key to a system of opaque identifiers is compromised, as, for example, critics say has occurred with Social Security numbers. They charge that the mapping between these numbers and information that allows people to be reached has seeped slowly but surely into the public domain. The Social Security number has become a sure-fire way not only to ‘get at’ a person but to extract an enormous array of other information that has been keyed to it. In other cases, a key to the mapping can be less inadvertently and more directly betrayed, such as occurred in a controversial case involving Timothy McVeigh, a member of the US Navy. Navy personnel, investigating his alleged homosexuality, managed to elicit McVeigh’s real identity from America Online on submitting his screen name, ‘boysrch’. It is of great importance that people at least have an accurate grasp of the existing level of integrity for each of these systems of opaque identification.”

Book Review:

This part discusses about the advantages and disadvantages of anonymity in modern times. Every individual should have security and privacy of his own identity. Stalkers and rumor-mongers violate this. As for the text’s example about the navy member who is assumed to be homosexual, his rights are violated since people snooped inside his America Online account and threw false allegations just because of his screen name.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the two categories of identification?
2. What are opaque identifiers?

CHAPTER 5: DOUBLE ENCRYPTION OF ANONYMIZED ELECTRONIC DATA INTERCHANGE

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn how double encryption is done.

Quote:

“We conclude that it is possible to automatically anonymize an electronic sender by the introduction of a Gatekeeper’s postbox. The possibilities of double encryption programs are demonstrated as way to be sure about sender and receiver. We propose a combination of double encryption and automatic anonymization of the sender, which makes the transmission more complex, but also possible in principle. The automation of the proposed solution requires additional features of the postbox. From the point of independence, it is preferable that providers add this functionality instead of introducing it at IPCI side. However, since no provider is willing to implement it yet, we have to first make a prototype ourselves to show at least the technical possibility.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on why double encryption is necessary today. Double encryption ensures the security of a person’s mail when he sends it. Nowadays, the mail you send is possible to be read by other people whom you don’t intend to be reading. For example, whenever you read a mail in google, several keywords are highlighted for the purpose of marketing some products to you. The reader will get the feeling that the mail he is reading has been read before by someone else.

Integrative Questions:

1. What two main problems to keep a sender of an anonymized data to be anonymous too?
2. What are the minimum functional specifications of a digital postbox?

CHAPTER 5: WRITTEN ON THE BODY: BIOMETRICS AND IDENTITY

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about biometrics and its relation to ethics.

Quote:

“Generally speaking, biometric technology involves the collection with a sensing device of digital representations of physical features unique to an individual, like a fingerprint, pattern of the iris, the retina, the veins of the hand, physiognomic features, shape of the hand, or voice patterns; it may also include typical behavioral patterns like typing or writing a signature. This digital representation of biometric data is then usually transformed via some algorithm to produce a so-called ‘template’.”

Book Review:

This part tells about where each individual is unique. Every one of us is distinct from one another. But in the net, one can alter his or her own identity. There has been a debate on requiring people to first identify themselves accordingly before they can access the Internet. This can be done through thumb mark recognition, retina scanning, etc. But this practice would limit each person’s activity in the net since everyone will know who he really is.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the differences between Biometric Identity and Virtual Identity?
2. What are the similarities between Biometric Identity and Virtual Identity?

CHAPTER 6: ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE INFORMATION PROFESSIONS

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn about the ethical guidelines for IT persons.

Quote:

“Professional ethics seek to identify and discuss ‘the most serious problems of professional conduct, the resolution of problems arising from conflicts of interest, and the guarantee that the special expertise of the members of a profession will be used in the public interest’. Codes must provide guidelines for ‘justice, beneficence, nonmaleficence, independence, objectivity, and professionalism’.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on the application of ethics for the information professions. Ethics is needed for all legal professions. Following the code of ethics will ensure every employee that what he is doing is right. The field of information technology is very subjective to unfair practices. For example, IT personnel in a company always have the option to give false records to the managers who have very little technical aptitude. This is why, each IT professional are required if not, strongly encouraged to abide by their code of ethics.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the 2 phases in evaluating and justifying decisions and behaviors?
2. What are the 3 realms of ethics?
3. What are the ethical issues that challenge information professionals?

CHAPTER 6: SOFTWARE ENGINEERING CODE OF ETHICS: APPROVED!

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn the steps in a code of ethics being established.

Quote:

“Ethical Tensions can best be addressed by thoughtful consideration of fundamental principles, rather than blind reliance on detailed regulations. These principles should influence software engineers to consider broadly who is affected by their work; to examine if they and their colleagues are treating other human beings with due respect; to consider how the public, if reasonably well-informed, would view their decisions; to analyze how the least empowered will be affected by their decisions; and to consider whether their acts would be judged worthy of the ideal professional working as a software engineer.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on the software engineering code of ethics. The code motivates software engineers to take first ethical considerations whenever they develop software. The code also encourages them to adapt to the code of ethics iteratively. The effect would be a more fruitful computing world wherein you can purchase software and ensure that it would really help you in a task. This will teach the software engineers to be always responsible for their actions professionally and personally.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the eight principles of the software engineering code of ethics?
2. What is the focus of the Software Engineering Professional Ethics project?

CHAPTER 6: NO, PAPA: WHY INCOMPLETE CODE OF ETHICS ARE WORSE THAN NONE AT ALL

Learning Expectation:

I expect to know why a complete code of ethics is required.

Quote:

“Often, however, such people in business are aware of morality and are very aware of moral obligations. Behavior that seems to critics to be immoral may in fact have moral motivation: Those in business are often aware that they have obligations to shareholders and to others working for the business, and they are also often aware that they have an obligation to members of their family to earn enough income to live on. Such obligations to those immediately around the worker may seem, with a good deal of justification, to be very pressing: It is not surprising if obligations to those less closely connected to the business seem very unimportant by comparison, and get ignored.”

Book Review:

This part tackles why it is important to establish a complete code of ethics. The analogy of having no code of ethics is better than an incomplete one says that it is not a good practice because it will fail to consider all issues relating to ethics. A company must use all the help it can to collaborate all ideas to formulate a complete and sustainable code of ethics. All members must contribute what they are good at.

Integrative Questions:

1. What does PAPA stand for?
2. What are the common problems encountered when referring to an incomplete code of ethics?

CHAPTER 6: SUBSUMPTION ETHICS

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn what subsumption ethics are.

Quote:

“The difference between computers and simple machines is the extent to which computer systems subsume design and development decisions over which users little or no control. Normally, such decisions are all but forgotten after implementation. Subsumption Ethics describes this process.”

Book Review:

“Subsumption Ethics is the process by which decisions become incorporated into the operation of Information Technology systems, and subsequently forgotten.” This is the definition given by this reading. Subsumption is the process of building larger components from smaller ones. When it comes to subsumption, people think that programming is just a set of instructions. What they don’t know is that developing software is like constructing a building.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the 4 axioms of subsumption ethics?
2. What are the 4 ethical principles in IT decisions?
3. What are the 3 categories in which ethical impact of IT falls to?

CHAPTER 6: ETHICAL ISSUES IN BUSINESS COMPUTING

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about business ethics.

Quote:

“Essentially, computers are used in business to solve problems. An individual manager, focused on use of a computer for the task in hand, may understandably lack specialist awareness of wider ethical issues. Even if a computer manager is aware of the importance of such questions, time for proper assessment is likely to be available without the support of senior staff. However, I contend that acting ethically is both an individual and corporate responsibility, and should therefore be considered in the same way as other corporate responsibilities.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on the application of business ethics to companies. It says that ethics has a lot of issues when it comes to business computing. Business functions like accounting are easy targets of fraud. That is why, ethical considerations should be addressed to the appropriate personnel.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is business computing?
2. What are the four possible levels of business computing?

CHAPTER 6: THE PRACTITIONER FROM WITHIN: REVISITING THE VIRTUES

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn why it is important to review the virtues of ethics.

Quote:

“In order to encompass the global nature of the world of ICT, we should try to teach values that cross cultures. Before asking our students to examine the complex and novel issues of computer technology, we must first ask them themselves as human beings with values that motivate them to live their lives in a particular manner.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on the professionals on looking back to the virtues. Every professional is encouraged to update his ethical standing on current issues from time to time. Every student should be educated accordingly to secure the future of the society. The practitioners today should nurture their seeds well. With adequate information being fed to students, an ethical world is ahead of us.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the differences of character forming theories from action guiding theories?
2. What are the 2 groups concerned with computer ethics?

THE FORTUNE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PYRAMID

THE MARKET AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PYRAMID

LEARNING EXPECTATIONS:

To introduce me to C.K. Prahalad's views.

QUOTE:

"MNCs (Multi National Companies) often assume that the default rate among the poor is likely to be higher than that of their rich customers. The opposite is often true. The poor pay on time and default rates are very low. In the case of ICICI Bank, out of a customer base of 200,000, the default rate is less than 1 percent. The default rate at Grameen Bank, a microfinance pioneer in Bangladesh, is less than 1.5 percent among 2,500,000 customers. The lessons are clear. Through persistent effort and the provision of world-class quality, private-sector businesses can create mutual trust and responsibility between their companies and BOP customers. Trust is difficult to build after 50 years of suspicion and prejudice based on little evidence and strong stereotyping."

BOOK REVIEW:

The first chapter provides a brief overview on what this book is aiming to advocate. This part focuses on who the major players are in poverty alleviation. C.K. Prahalad said that we should cease the stereotypical image we see towards the less fortunate, but instead we should recognize them as profit opportunities. We should also keep in mind that they are not just the "gold mine" but as the "gold miners" as well. Poverty alleviation should not be focused on just earning profit from the poor. One might quickly judge that this move is about taking advantage of the poor people's limitations. Rather it is to promote the social responsibility as humans as well.

C.K. Prahalad contradicted the common stereotypical view on the poor such as them not being brand-conscious. The poor values quality so much. Also, the poor interacts with their neighbors often. If something new is experienced by a person in that area, that new experience, possibly a business opportunity, the tendency is that the whole neighborhood will get to know about it. It is like setting fire to a single tree in a chaparral. Information travels faster than before, thanks to further advancements in technologies. The whole society is connected and ready to meet the demands of today's business entities.

WHAT I HAVE LEARNED:

I have learned that the poor is not who we think they really are. We have to eliminate our discriminatory discretion on them, as they are very vital to businesses.

INTEGRITY QUESTIONS:

1. What are the common stereotypes normal people think of the less fortunate?
2. Why is investing at this business strategy a good or bad move?

THE FORTUNE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PYRAMID

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES FOR THE BOP

LEARNING EXPECTATIONS:

I expect to learn the differences of products and services for the BOP from the traditional markets.

QUOTE:

"It might appear that the new philosophy of innovation for the BOP market requires too many changes to the existing approach to innovation for developed markets. It does require significant adaptation, but all elements of innovation for the BOP described here might not apply to all businesses. Managers need to pick and choose and prioritize. Although effective participation requires changes to the philosophy of innovation, I argue that the pain of change is worth the rewards that will be reaped from the BOP as well as from traditional markets."

BOOK REVIEW:

With reference to the previous chapter, we have dissected the focus to the BOP market, that is, the people struck with poverty. The writer said that it requires a new and adjusted understanding on price-performance relationships. It does not necessarily mean that prices have to be lowered; rather, it is to alter or adjust the price-performance relationships. For example, here in the Philippines, the price of a single SMS 10 years ago is now very different. Back then, it is a single peso for every text, but now, other promos were introduced like unlimited texting. For a globe user, it would only take 25php to register for an unlimited texting for 1 day. If one is an avid texter from 10 years ago, it would take 100php for 100 SMS, whereas compared to just 25php for 100 SMS or more. Here, the performance or the quality of text messaging remained the same, but the price was adjusted drastically to meet the demands of the BOP.

Educating Customers plays a major role in the BOP market. A significant portion of the BOP is illiterate, meaning; it is possible that the target market cannot perceive the proper use of the product. According to C.K. Prahalad, the best way to educate customers is by cooperating with the NGO's, and other authorities like the WHO (World Health Organization). Here in the Philippines, one of the secrets in educating the customers is by creating catchy commercial jingles. The message of the product is easily remembered with this.

WHAT I HAVE LEARNED:

I have taken into consideration C.K. Prahalad's 12 principles that constitute the building blocks of a philosophy of innovation for BOP markets.

INTEGRITY QUESTIONS:

1. Which of the 12 principles discussed is the most hardest to adapt? Why?
2. What companies here in the Philippines practice these principles?

THE FORTUNE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PYRAMID

BOP: A GLOBAL OPPORTUNITY

LEARNING EXPECTATIONS:

I expect to learn more about the positive and negative effects of BOP strategies as it is globalized.

QUOTE:

“The most interesting lesson for MNCs from operating in the BOP market is about costs-for innovation, distribution, manufacturing, and general ‘costs of organization.’ Because the BOP forces an extraordinary emphasis on price performance, firms must focus on all elements of cost. Shortage and the cost of capital force firms in BOP markets to be very focused on the efficiency of capital use. MNCs tend to impose their management systems and practices on BOP markets and find that it is hard to make a profit. The choices are simple: Change the management systems to cut costs or lose significant amounts of money.”

BOOK REVIEW:

There is a lot of BOP markets discussed in this book that are now globalized. There is this salt that is sprayed with iodine and coated with a chemical that can endure spoilage gained from transportation and distribution. The special coating can only be eliminated at high pH levels particularly, the human stomach. This special kind of salt is now adapted and distributed to different countries around the globe to combat IDD. Then there is this soap from HLL (Hindustan Lever Ltd.) that is coated with a very special chemical that makes it waterproof. This innovation is able to prolong the useful life of the soap.

Several other examples were discussed throughout the book. All of them made great strides locally and globally. The purpose of such innovations remains the same, to alleviate poverty in the whole world. If MNCs (Multi National Companies) continue to employ this strategy to their system, the society’s disease called poverty will be eliminated. I believe that in a few years of adapting to BOP strategies, the pyramid would have reshaped itself, into a trapezoid. The market at the top of the pyramid will increase because the poverty is being ceased of. The less-fortunate population will slowly become the middle-class.

WHAT I HAVE LEARNED:

I have learned that BOP not only helps the local sector but the poverty around the world as well, if adapted.

INTEGRITY QUESTIONS:

1. Are the examples of BOP market in India existent in the Philippines?
2. What could hinder the globalization of these BOP strategies?

THE FORTUNE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PYRAMID

THE ECOSYSTEM FOR WEALTH CREATION

LEARNING EXPECTATIONS:

I expect to learn more about the interaction of the BOP market.

QUOTE:

“Ultimately, the goal in development is to bring as many people as possible to enjoy the benefits of an inclusive market. Transaction governance capacity is a prerequisite. The market based ecosystem might provide us an approach to building the basic infrastructure for inclusion of BOP consumers. It also allows large firms to build new and profitable growth markets.”

BOOK REVIEW:

They say that it is better to teach a man how to fish rather than giving him just fish. I agree with this saying because I believe that providing end materials to people will just develop their dependence to such charitable acts. Teaching a man how to be independent is a work of a socially responsible person. This chapter focuses the interaction among the private firms and the BOP markets.

Based on C.K. Prahalad’s interview on one Shakti Amma, the market-based ecosystem imposes a solid and symbiotic relationship between the large firms and the BOP consumers. They too are “little entrepreneurs” that directly help companies to expand their business to the less-fortunate sector. The Shakti Amma is very loyal to her company because she loves what she is doing. It also increases her as a social status in her community because people see her as a distributor of goods as well as an educator.

Here in the Philippines, the same applies to stores selling e-load. Directly, they enjoy benefits such as cash inflows and bonus load. Sometimes, the e-load business employs promotion to the stores, in the sense that patrons who purchase e-load will buy something else in the store. Store keepers also have this habit of chatting with buyers, thus, the relationship between them is very social.

I believe that Filipinos have the potential to be, like India and China, a fast- emerging industry. We can compete globally, all we have to do is start in our own little ways and nurture that potential within ourselves.

WHAT I HAVE LEARNED:

I have learned that maintaining a good relationship with your employer or your employees will reap you economic benefits more than you normally think of.

INTEGRITY QUESTIONS:

1. What motivates people to be loyal to their company?
2. How does education help BOP to expand the market?

THE FORTUNE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PYRAMID

REDUCING CORRUPTION: TRANSACTION GOVERNANCE CAPACITY

LEARNING EXPECTATIONS:

I expect to learn how BOP can reduce corruption.

QUOTE:

“Corruption, as we said, is a market for privileged access. It thrives in a system that allows for opaque decision-making. The cost of being inside the system will decrease only if governments tackle the issues of access, and transparency and recognize the changes needed in both the regulations and the laws. The experiment in Andhra Pradesh is one example of how digital technologies can be used to creatively enhance TGC through better access and transparency.”

BOOK REVIEW:

I have learned a lot from this chapter because it showcased one of the many possible applications of my course, information systems. Knowing of how the government in Andhra Pradesh combated corruption through the use of technology, I was motivated to plan on doing the same to my home country. C.K. Prahalad stated that what the citizen needs from the government to implement TGC (Transaction Governance Capacity) are access, transparency, speed and trust.

Corruption is a very evasive enemy. It will try to bail itself out just to continue on feeding on people’s money. Information technology is one of corruption’s nemeses. The project eSeva has made gigantic strides into repelling corruption. It still is a work in progress, but the promises are very delighting. They have turned the government-centric system the other way around, to a citizen-centric system. This way, the people have easy access to what they need from the government. I believe that this ethical move should be applied all over the globe.

But corruption will do whatever it takes to maintain itself. As the new technology emerges, so is the literacy of these people to flaws to the system. These government officials will hire hackers to devise new ways to earn money from the people.

What practitioners of the Information Technology field must do is to continuously find ways to erase corruption. They must not rest, for the trend of technology never rests.

WHAT I HAVE LEARNED:

I have learned that IT is able to combat corruption.

INTEGRITY QUESTIONS:

1. What are other ways that the IT industry is capable of to cease corruption?
2. What are the risks involved if any?

THE FORTUNE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PYRAMID

DEVELOPMENT AS SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

LEARNING EXPECTATIONS:

I expect to learn more about the social benefits that the BOP produces.

QUOTE:

"I have tried to depict a picture of the possibilities. I am sensitive to the fact that the illustrations that I provide are but islands of excellence in a sea of deprivation and helplessness. The important question for us is, 'Do we see the glass as half full or half empty?' There is a long way to go before the social transformation leading to the elimination of inequalities around the world will be accomplished."

BOOK REVIEW:

C.K. Prahalad identified 4 drivers of Social Transformation namely, access to information, community, patterns of interaction and access to knowledge, and ability to make choices. The growth and evolution of the citizens of the BOP is emerging fast.

Humans are constructed to be a social being. The purpose of BOP marketing is to promote people to utilize economic resources, specifically the less-fortunate population. The author cited a lot of business strategies that employ the core values emphasizing the alleviation of poverty. Casas Bahia, CEMEX, Annapurna Salt and Jaipur Foot are some of them.

WHAT I HAVE LEARNED:

Social interaction is a necessity for BOP business to bloom.

INTEGRITY QUESTIONS:

1. What will happen if you refuse to implement social transformation in your business?
2. Who are responsible to do social transformation?

PART 1: FOUNDATIONS OF INFORMATION ETHICS

Learning Expectation:

I expect to be reoriented with the foundations of information ethics

Quote:

“All we need to understand now is the meaning of ‘morally qualifiable action.’ Very simply, an action qualifies as moral if it can cause moral good or evil. Note that this interpretation is neither consequentialist nor intentionalist in nature. We are neither affirming nor denying that the specific evaluation of the morality of the agent might depend on the specific outcome of the agent’s actions or on the agent’s original intentions or principles.”

Book Review:

Information Ethics seeks to standardize the behavior of people under the information professions. It employs a framework wherein actions done will correspond to just and fair outputs. Ethics was formed because the need for justifiable behavior was demanded. Every now and then, an ethical issue happens, and it is up to us as rational beings to consider ethical decisions.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the stages involved in ethics as it was formulated?
2. What are moral agents?
3. What are the four moral principles?

PART 1: MILESTONES IN THE HISTORY OF INFORMATION AND COMPUTER ETHICS

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about the roots of information and computer ethics

Quote:

“Computers are logically malleable in that they can be shaped and molded to do any activity that can be characterized in terms of inputs, outputs, and connecting logical operations...Because logic applies everywhere, the potential applications of computer technology appear limitless. The computer is the nearest thing we have to a universal tool. Indeed, the limits of computers are largely the limits of our own capacity.”

Book Review:

This chapter started on Norbert Wiener’s unintentional discovery of ethics. He was in the process of inventing digital computers and radar during the middle of the Second World War. With Wiener’s insight and foresight, he thought that what he’s creating has enormous potential for good and evil. His inventions could be used for the common good, otherwise, for evil and destruction. He thought that there should be a study to determine the good and evil of such as issues.

Integrative Questions:

1. According to Norbert Wiener, what are the great principles of justice?
2. What was Wiener’s method for analyzing information ethics issues?
3. According to Floridi, what are the four fundamental principles of information ethics?

PART 1: MORAL METHODOLOGY AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Learning Expectation:

I expect to define what moral methodology is

Quote:

“There has been a longstanding and central debate in practical ethics about methodology. The debate has been between those who think that general items, for example, rules and principles or universal moral laws, play an important or even central role in our moral thinking and those who think that general items play no special or important role in our moral thinking. The latter think that people typically discuss particular and individual cases, articulate contextual considerations, the validity of which expires when they are generalized or routinely applied to other cases.”

Book Review:

In this chapter moral methodology is further discussed and information technology is put into relation. I believe that Information Technology is one of the most transformative fields since technology is parallel with it. Ethical evaluation is also mandatory as this field advances. Morals too, must be considered iteratively in day-to-day lives.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is generalism?
2. What is reflective equilibrium?
3. What is value sensitive design?

PART 1: VALUE SENSITIVE DESIGN AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn what value sensitive design is

Quote:

“What is wrong, I think, is that we have permitted technological metaphors...and technique itself to so thoroughly pervade our thought processes that we have finally abdicated to technology the very duty to formulate questions...Where a simple man might ask: ‘Do we need these things?’ technology asks ‘what electronic wizardry will make them safe?’ Where a simple man will ask ‘is it good?’ technology asks ‘will it work?’.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on value sensitive design employed in most information systems. Value Sensitive Design, as defined in the context, “a theoretically grounded approach to the design of technology that accounts for human values in a principled and comprehensive manner throughout the design process.” It means that the design is based on human values.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the 8 features of value-sensitive design?
2. Based on the reading, what are the suggestions for using value-sensitive design?
3. What are heuristics?

PART 2: PERSONALITY-BASED, RULE-UTILITARIAN, AND LOCKEAN JUSTIFICATIONS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about justifications of intellectual property

Quote:

“When the artist creates, be he an author, painter, a sculptor, an architect or a musician, he does more than bring into the world a unique object having only exploitive possibilities; he projects into the world part of his personality and subjects it to the ravages of public use. There are possibilities of injury to the creator other than merely economic ones; these the copyright statute does not protect.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on ethical theories that relate to intellectual property. Intellectual Property must always be respected. But it always depend on the thinking of a person whether he will abide by the rules or violate them. Educational Institutions are doing their best to teach intellectual property limitations and rights to their students.

Integrative Questions:

1. What does the rule-utilitarian theory say?
2. What is personality-based justification?
3. What is Lockean justification?

PART 2: INFORMATIONAL PRIVACY: CONCEPTS THEORIES, AND CONTROVERSIES

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about informational privacy

Quote:

“We demand recognition of our right to privacy, we complain when privacy is invaded, yet we encounter difficulties immediately when we seek to explain what we mean by privacy, what is the area, the content of privacy, what is outside the area, what constitutes the loss of privacy, a loss to which we have consented, a justified loss, an unjustified loss”

Book Review:

Every one of us value privacy in our own special ways. Technology has devised ways to protect a computer user’s privacy. But, technology too, has created ways in which privacy of a person to be invaded. One perfect example is the function in Yahoo! Messenger to be invisible while being online, giving the user the option to chat only with people he wishes too. But, there are some sites that provide detection of invisible users thus, privacy is invaded and violated.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the four kinds of privacy?
2. What are the theories of informational privacy?
3. What are the three benchmark theories of informational privacy?

PART 2: ONLINE ANONYMITY

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about online anonymity

Quote:

“Anonymity presupposes social or communicative relations. In other words, it is relative to social contexts in which one has the capacity to act, affect or be affected by others, or in which the knowledge or lack of knowledge of who a person is, is relevant to their acting, affecting, or being affected by others.”

Book Review:

Online anonymity is a privilege of computer users to remain anonymous while surfing the net. It enhances the privacy of users while being online. But, there are some cases wherein users abuse this feature. For example, hackers enjoy this privilege because they can cause harm to other people without being identified. Others use this to try things that are normally restricted to them like in the case of a 12-year old boy accessing porn sites that can not detect his real age. Nowadays, technology uses various detection schemes to ensure that online content is used or viewed by the appropriate audience.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the purposes and ethics of anonymity?
2. In what issues are anonymity abused?
3. What acts practices the correct use of anonymity?

PART 2: ETHICAL ISSUES INVOLVING COMPUTER SECURITY: HACKING, HACKTIVISM, AND COUNTERHACKING

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about online hacking

Quote:

“The justification of hacktivism entails demonstrating that its practitioners are neither crackers-those who break into systems for profit or vandalism-nor are they cyberterrorists-those who use computer technology with the intention of causing grave harm such as loss of life, severe economic losses, or destruction of critical infrastructure. Hacktivism must be shown to be ethically motivated.”

Book Review:

Hacktivism refers to the activity done by certain individuals who use the shield of anonymity to protest or express their views. These individuals normally don't have the authority to demonstrate in person so they use hacking to do so. Hacktivism has its own responsibilities too, since it is also subject to abuse. The message they convey must follow the guidelines stated in this chapter.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is hacktivism?
2. What is civil disobedience?
3. What is contained by the main tenets of the hackers' ethics?

PART 3: INFORMATION ETHICS AND THE LIBRARY PROFESSION

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn about the library profession

Quote:

“At the center of the librarian’s commitment to humanity’s search for truth and understanding is the goal of remaining always neutral in the battle of competing ideas. No matter how precious to us any faith or philosophy or social movement might be, we have to keep our distance and maintain our impartiality as we help to insure that all the people can hear all the arguments and establish for themselves what is right or true”

Book Review:

Libraries contain very large collection information resources such as books, journals, and articles. One of its aims is to provide research information to people. Libraries nowadays are being paralleled by online information databases, like Wikipedia. Most Institutions however, discourage the use of Wikipedia because most educators say that it is not a valid source of information. Students are getting very lazy in the sense that whenever they are given research topics, they immediately consult to Wikipedia. Another ethical issue concerning libraries is the idea of Google to scan all existing books and converting it to a soft copy that will be posted online.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the five laws of library science?
2. What are the limits of library use?

PART 3: ETHICAL INTEREST IN FREE AND OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn about the relation of ethics in free and open source software

Quote:

“No covered work constitutes part of an effective technological “protection” measure under section 1201 of Title 17 of the United States Code. When you convey a covered work, you waive any legal power to forbid circumvention of technical measures that include use of the covered work, and you disclaim any intention to limit operation or modification of the work as a means of enforcing the legal rights of third parties against the work’s users.”

Book Review:

Free and Open Source Software are collections of programs distributed free of charge and contains its source code. A user can freely edit it to their own discretion. One ethical issue here is that when companies use open source software, they fail to give credit or attribution to the author. One of the reasons why they do that is to evade fees being charged to them. Here in the Philippines, there exists an agency that will take authoritative measures to entities using pirated software without attributing to the author.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the four freedoms that are essential for free software?
2. What is GPL?
3. What are the four barriers to accountability of open source software?

PART 3: INTERNET RESEARCH ETHICS: THE FIELD AND ITS CRITICAL ISSUES

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn about the relation of ethics in research

Quote:

“The principle of justice mandates that the selection of research subjects must be the result of fair selection procedures and must also result in fair selection outcomes. The “justness” of subject selection relates both to the subject as an individual and to the subject as a member of social, racial, sexual, or ethnic groups.”

Book Review:

Internet research ethics is a very controversial issue as of date. One of the main arguments, as usual, is failing to cite resources of a research material. Many accounts of plagiarism are existent in such materials. There are some researchers that just copy-paste texts from the Internet without proper authorization. Some paraphrase these texts, wanting to avoid detection of plagiarizing. But, the blame should also not be left to the users, rather, to the web sites containing information too. Web sites must develop a page that will not support ctrl+c or copying of texts. This way, they can lessen the cases of plagiarism.

Integrative Questions:

1. According to this context, what are some specific IRE issues?
2. What is ethical pluralism?

PART 3: HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: CHALLENGES IN ETHICS, SCIENCE AND UNCERTAINTY

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn about the relation of ethics in health information technology

Quote:

“To say “a computer is a tool” is inaccurate by understatement if by “tool” we think of a caveman’s adze; and a mischaracterization of tools if by “computer” if we think of a science fiction robot, malevolent, and out of control. Humans use tools to do extraordinary things. For the most part, the human brain does a passable job of identifying which uses are good and which are not.”

Book Review:

The field of health today practices information technology. Almost every field existent today practices information technology. The concern however, is the functionality of information technology. It must cater accordingly to the needs of health. It needs real time support as health is updated in real time fashion. One of the great projects of IT is the aim to provide medical advice to persons who cannot consult a doctor physically. A patient can just send information about his current condition and the online database will find symptoms based on the data he submitted.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are clinical decision support systems?
2. What are the three ethical principles concerning the risks of CDSS's?

PART 3: ETHICAL ISSUES OF INFORMATION AND BUSINESS

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn about ethical issues concerning information and business

Quote:

“One should note that there are a variety of reasons for employers to use surveillance mechanisms on their employees. Private organizations usually give economic reasons for employee surveillance. It is often said that companies lose huge amounts of money because of non-work-related use of company resources. This seems to be such an important problem that scholars have seen a need to come up with terms such as “cyberslacking”, “cyberslouching”, or “cyberloafing”. The use of surveillance technologies is supposed to limit such personal use of technology and thereby increase worker productivity and company profits.”

Book Review:

Workplace Surveillance is one of the most controversial issues when it comes to business ethics. For managers, it is a good practice since they can measure the productivity of his subordinates in real time fashion. He can prompt the employees whenever he sees inappropriate behavior while working. But, for employees, this practice is a violation of their privacy. They feel that they are treated as slaves. It is true however; both parties are subject to abuse and unfair use. It is another challenge for information technology to help balance this.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is a Corporate Social Responsibility?
2. Who are the shareholders and the stakeholders in a business?

PART 4: RESPONSIBILITIES FOR INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about the responsibilities on the internet

Quote:

“Part of the risks of sharing expert knowledge with the general public is caused by the nonexperts’ inability to recognize and assess the reliability or unreliability of expert information or information that is being presented as expert information. In this section, I will suggest some distinctions and a general conceptual framework, which may offer starting points for nonrestrictive and nonpaternalistic solutions of problems regarding quality of online information.”

Book Review:

This topic focuses on whom and what are the responsibilities of the information on the internet. Information is a very vital resource in almost anything. The responsibility is that the Internet must provide true information, which depends on people who posted them. Modern students rely on information contained by the Internet too much. This results into overdependence to subjective information. Information written in books are more credible and justifiable. But, books are not always updated.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the 3 conditions to ascertain moral responsibility of an agent in the primarily retrospective sense according to this chapter?
2. What are the reasons to not leave moral responsibility?
3. What are the problems of reliability?

PART 4: VIRTUAL REALITY AND COMPUTER SIMULATION

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about virtual reality

Quote:

“Next to the term “virtual reality,” there is the term “virtuality” and its derivative adjective “virtual.” This term has a much broader meaning than the term “virtual reality” or even “virtual environment.” As explained more extensively in the following section, the term “virtual” refers to anything that is created or carried by a computer and that mimics a “real,” physically localized entity, as in “virtual memory” and “virtual organization.””

Book Review:

Virtual reality provides a simulation of the real world or an experiment. It aims to observe and test factors that can not be measured in the real world. The ethical issue here is the correctness of the process itself. Some computer games that support virtual reality are often referred to be too violent and don't portray the possibilities of life.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the four essential elements in virtual reality?
2. What are the distinctions between the virtual and the real?
3. What is an avatar?

PART 4: GENETIC INFORMATION: EPISTEMOLOGICAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn the relation of genetic information to ethics

Quote:

“The transfer of information from nucleic acid to nucleic acid or from nucleic acid to proteins may be possible . . . but transfer from protein to protein or from protein to nucleic acid is impossible. Information means here the precise determination of sequence, either of bases in the nucleic acid and or of amino acid residues in the protein.”

Book Review:

The field of genetics might seem hard to relate to information technology. But, this chapter aims to represent terms in genetics to information technology. Genetic information of a person can be gathered and stored with the aid of computers. These data can be used for studies and experiments. But, some scientists play god, in the sense that they do procedures that clone beings, and in some cases, create babies for senile couples. These practices defy nature laws.

Integrative Questions:

1. In this chapter, how is a cell represented in computer machinery?
2. What is genetics?
3. What does the notion of Genetic Information state?

PART 4: THE ETHICS OF CYBER CONFLICT

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about cyber conflicts

Quote:

“Although the law of information conflict concerns state actors and the application of armed force, its general principles can be applied to nonstate actors who conduct cyber attacks for political and social reasons. This domain of conflict includes hacktivism, which is the convergence of hacking with activism and civil disobedience, and cyberterrorism, which uses hacking as a means of terrorism. In both cases, the objective is change of a political or social nature, but whereas the activist generally avoids causing physical injury or property damage, the terrorist seeks to kill and destroy.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on the upbringings of conflicts done in cyberspace. In the real world, whenever two parties disagree, they engage in a conflict, whether by argument or by brute force. In the Internet, given the feature of anonymity, two parties can wage war against the other. For example, when a YouTube video is uploaded, it is open to commentaries by other users. But what usually happens is that hostile and sometimes discriminatory remarks are posted. This results into a conflict. Site administrators must do everything they can to maintain peace in the cyberspace.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the three areas of cyber conflict?
2. What does the Law of Conflict Management state?
3. What does the Law of War state?

PART 4: A PRACTICAL MECHANISM FOR ETHICAL RISK ASSESSMENT- A SODIS INSPECTION

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn about ethical risk assessments

Quote:

“To meet the goal of quality software, developers focus on particular risks, including project and schedule slips, cost increases, technical and quality risks, the timeliness of the product, and risks that the final product will not fit the business for which it was designed. Nevertheless, developers use the quantitatively assessed risk exposure to help them focus on the most critical risks. The use of easy-to-read fonts or an easy-to-use backup system may be ignored in an effort to get a product out in time or at lower cost.”

Book Review:

Risk analysis is an essential part of information systems. It perceives and forecasts possible problems a system might encounter in the future. The SoDIS process provides a standard list of stakeholders that are related to most projects. This standard list of stakeholder roles changes with each change of project type. For example, a business project will include corporate stockholders, while a military project will not have stockholders in a standard stakeholder role. The system also enables the SoDIS analyst to add new stakeholder roles.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the practices of risk assessment?
2. What are the two types of risk analysis?
3. What is SoDIS?

PART 5: REGULATION AND GOVERNANCE OF THE INTERNET

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn about regulation and governance of the internet

Quote:

“Internet governance is the development and application by Governments, the private sector and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programs that shape the evolution and use of the Internet”

Book Review:

The World Wide Web is a large collection of files and web sites. The ethical issue concerning this is that the regulating authorities that circulates the whole map. Certain countries prohibit access of information sensitive to their culture. Different cultures have established large walls of prohibition to ensure that they preserve their own traditions. In other countries however, the liberty they implement on their citizens is limitless. New technologies have sometimes crossed cultures like in hacking wherein one can assert himself to limitless boundaries in the Internet.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the broad issues regarding the regulation of Internet content?
2. Which countries exercise tight control of Internet content?
3. Which countries exercise liberated control of Internet content?

PART 5: INFORMATION OVERLOAD

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn about information overload

Quote:

“There is an irony in the increased production and use of information goods, however, an irony that has become increasingly clear throughout the more than century-long process of informatization. Information goods—whether newspapers, television advertisements, books, or e-mail messages—are themselves circulating products; they too need to be managed and controlled, just as much as do traditional material goods.”

Book Review:

Information overload happens when there is too much processed data in a given topic. The data, being large in quantity, becomes inconsistent and conflicts with other data. The ethical issue here is the establishment of a boundary or a limit to control information to make it sufficient. Site administrators must make sure that their databases only contain enough information.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is Information Overload?
2. When does Information Overload occur?

PART 5: EMAIL SPAM

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn about email spamming

Quote:

“The struggle against unwanted emails will continue. Ethical analysis can be useful in analyzing emerging strategies of email senders and email recipients. In these analyses, ethicists must be careful to look at individual stakeholders as well as systematic stakeholders; both micro- and macroissues are important. All such analyses should start with a clear exposition of the characteristics of the emails that will be considered “spam.” Only then can we discuss with precision the ethics of spam.”

Book Review:

Email spamming is done for various purposes. One reason behind it is to market products using email. Before it was implemented, one can see that his email inbox to contain same messages by one or more senders. This is harmful because most people don't require this. I experienced this when I was surfing the Internet back in 2001, when I viewed a certain topic, and then the next day I checked my mail, only to be shocked that my inbox was plagued by more than 600 messages with the same contents. Web Site authorities have adapted to this change and they are implementing methodologies to combat email spamming.

Integrative Questions:

1. Why does email spamming considered as illegal?
2. What are Unsolicited Commercial Bulk Mails?
3. According to this chapter, what are the ethics of suggestions to reduce the number of emails sent?

PART 5: THE MATTER OF PLAGIARISM: WHAT, WHY AND IF

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about the questions concerning plagiarism

Quote:

“As an example more relevant to the digital controversies, consider the unauthorized web distribution of copyrighted films where both the distributor and the receiver understand that the item is pirated. There is no deception. When distributed from pirate centers in localities that by policy do not enforce international copyrights, there is moreover no attempt to conceal the free distribution from the copyright holder”

Book Review:

Plagiarism like technology has evolved throughout time. Back in the twentieth century, cases of plagiarism were limited to tangible versions of texts, music and the like. Nowadays, plagiarism can be witnessed in texts posted online, music streamed online and the like. The main problem, (as used for the nth time in this book) is failing to attribute. Modern people have this laziness to create their own insights and just copy to other people’s work. The people’s intellect has declined over the ages and it is up to the authorities to manage this change.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is plagiarism?
2. What is the difference between personality and economic harms?

PART 5: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: LEGAL AND MORAL CHALLENGES OF ONLINE FILE SHARING

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about the challenges of online file sharing

Quote:

“Peer-to-peer networks require some method of indexing the information about the digital files available across the network so that user queries can be handled efficiently.

There are three different methods of indexing: a centralized index system, in which the index is located on a central server; a decentralized indexing system; and a supernode system, in which a special group of computers act as indexing servers.”

Book Review:

Online file sharing has violated the intellectual property rights. Copies of movies, music, and images can be found lurking all over the net which was uploaded by users from all over the world. The most popular file sharing applications are p2p networks like limewire, and torrent clients like BitTorrent. The web site, thepiratebay.org, the world’s leading copyright infringement web site, carries millions if not billions of files ready to be downloaded provided there are users to seed it.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is a peer-to-peer network?
2. What are the two doctrines of secondary liability?

PART 6: CENSORSHIP AND ACCESS TO EXPRESSION

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about censorship

Quote:

“Although the motivation for censorship is often disapproval of the content or worry about its effects on “public morality,” this is not always the case. I may not morally disapprove of some content, but still think it would be bad if people had access to it. For example, I do not morally disapprove of the information about how to make a bomb out of household chemicals. I do not think having such information available will hurt “public morality.” The information itself is interesting and perfectly benign.”

Book Review:

Censoring materials in the net is one implementation done by certain administrators to control content for different audiences. The ethical issue concerned here is its consistency. It must cater responsibly to sensitive audiences like children, cultural groups, and the like. Censoring can be limited to various groups like hacktivists since it is hard to control their activities.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is censorship?
2. What are types of harm and arguments against censorship?
3. What are the four types of bad consequences of censoring?

PART 6: THE GENDER AGENDA IN COMPUTER ETHICS

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn more about gender agenda in computer ethics

Quote:

“To date, the focus of feminist ethics has tended to be women’s caring roles, especially mothering. There are some theoretical problems with this focus, particularly in terms of the emphasis on “ethics of care” that can be seen as problematic as it reinforces women’s traditional self-sacrificing role while, at the same time, emphasizing a level of control over those who are cared for. There have been few attempts to apply feminist ethics to science and technology.”

Book Review:

Women have always been subject to discrimination to almost any field. This can be traced from the early years of history when women were treated as slaves or the weaker gender. Nowadays, women can parallel any man’s competencies. There are a lot of woman leaders across the world. Our Madame President is one example. In the field of information technology, women are not to be out casted since the balance of gender in this field is consistent. We as men, should not let our egoistic pride as masculine and cease the traditional image of women as the weaker ones.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is feminism?
2. What are some discriminative remarks done to women in the field of information technology?

PART 6: THE DIGITAL DIVIDE: A PERSPECTIVE FOR THE FUTURE

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn about the digital divide

Quote:

“The moral basis for the case for affluent nations to eliminate the digital divide is grounded in the idea that nations and people with far more than they need to satisfy basic needs have a moral obligation to redistribute some of their wealth, at the very least, to nations and people in life-threatening or absolute poverty. If the digital divide is both a reflection of a gap between rich and absolute poor and perpetuates that gap, it follows that wealthy nations are obligated to close the divide.”

Book Review:

This part focuses on the boundaries of technological capacity as applied in the society. Not all parts of the world are computer literate. Somehow, this number decreases from time to time. The ethical challenge here is to respect illiterate groups and helping them eliminate their discrepancy. But, other cultural traditions conflict with this social transformation. Some ethnic groups decide to not entertain elements outside their boundaries.

Integrative Questions:

1. What is digital divide?
2. What is empirical skepticism?

PART 6: INTERCULTURAL INFORMATION ETHICS

Learning Expectation:

I expect to learn about intercultural information ethics

Quote:

“There are pitfalls of prima facie convergences, analogies, and family resemblances that may be oversimplified by a pro hen strategy. In many cases we should try to dig into deeper layers in order to understand where these claims originate or simply accept the limits of human theoretical reason by celebrating the richness of human experience.”

Book Review:

Cultural traditions sometimes limit the capabilities of information ethics. The challenge here is to adapt to those differences to achieve a balanced society. Every culture deserves to be included in the information field. Just like every individual is. The society as a whole must bridge this gap to ensure that fairness and a just community exists within us. For now, advancements are formulated and I believe that time will come when intercultural ethics will be complete and included every aspects of the society.

Integrative Questions:

1. What are the sources of morality?
2. What alternatives concern moral cognitivism?

APPENDIX A: ITETHIC 00A CODE OF ETHICS

IT-Ethic

Code of Ethic

By: Rocky Ho, Jommel Gonzales, Xyrus Peralta, Martin Ramos, Ian Villanueva, Quan Zhou, Jino Raymundo, Andrew Carnduff

The image shows several handwritten signatures in blue ink. There are approximately seven distinct signatures, some appearing as initials and others as more full names, corresponding to the authors listed in the text above.

OUR CODE OF ETHICS

No-delegable Quality

- You shall extend the performance or tasks with the importance of professionalism
- You shall seek for an excellence work in appropriate level of competence
- You shall judge ones work in accordance to knowledgeable and technical criticisms
- You shall setting up your goals through the advance performance
- Establishing a good reputation to the observation of the others but not to the just perspective of yours
- Evaluate self performance towards the progress of tasks to lead a breakthrough performance

Traceability, which reduces occasions for wastes and frauds.

1.) Traceability

- Traceability, according to the book, the topic which fraud and waste was found in the net, says that it is to track or trace products, while according to the Wikipedia, it says that traceability is “referring to the completeness of the information about every steps in a process chain. It is also an ability to chronologically interrelate the uniquely identify the entities in a way that is verifying something. It is the ability to verify a certain history, location, application of an item by means of documented recorded identification.”

2.) Traceability occasions for waste and fraud.

- According to my research, this topic talks about the waste from food which other people may not be thinking what will happen if they go wasting something precious food, materials, or anything which can be useful for us.

3.) Breadth

- Breadth is something that can store record and gets all information needed for us. It can grow as a huge corporation. It is a system that excludes many attributes like processing, sale from producer to wholesaler or retailer, transportation, storage, harvest, cultivation, bean.

4.) Depth

- It is how the system tracks down the given important information. Examples were given in the class when my professor was discussing. It is better off when it comes to fair-trade than middleman, we can earn more when it is fair-trade. Example, the Starbucks coffee, they rather have fair-trade than going thru the process of middle man.

5.) Precision

- Precision talks about the assurance that a system can either be tracked down or can give out specific information for the movement of the productions or the character of the product itself.

Respect for privacy and avoidance of conflicts of interest

Treating people with respect makes your world a nicer place to live in, whether it's at home, at school, or out in your community. And it's easy - all you have to do is treat people the way you like to have them treat you.

We live in a diverse nation made up of many different cultures, languages, races, and backgrounds. That kind of variety can make all our lives a lot more fun and interesting, but only if we get along with each other. And to do that we have to respect each other. In addition to the list above, here are some ways we can respect people who are different from us.

- Try to learn something from the other person.
- Never stereotype people.
- Show interest and appreciation for other people's cultures and backgrounds.
- Don't go along with prejudices and racist attitudes.

Avoidance of conflicts of interests

All persons must avoid conflicts of interest between their private financial activities and their part in the conduct of company business. All should be sensitive to which their actions should not conflict to the jobs of others. There must be communications to every people affecting the cycles of interest. All should treat their job honestly and not being unfair and not taking advantage of other people in their range. If all people should follow this, then conflicts of interest will never be visible.

Antidiscrimination which is required by law but inserted to complete the code

Duty to the profession

- Being an IS professional, you shall not discriminate others by their gender (gay, lesbian, etc.)
- You shall take into consideration the upcoming employees personal status
- You should not prioritize your relatives, friends , and family member on the field
- You shall abide the rules set by the company
- You should not use your power/position to accommodate people
- You should not use emotions dealing with other people and dealing with decisions
- You should treat fairly the disabled person
- You should respect other people's religion
- You should practice and respect employees privacy
- You shall take into consideration the age of the employees

Empowerment through organizational freedom, responsibility and authority

Empowerment comes in different forms and purposes. An organization needs to be an influence within themselves and externally, by acts of good-faith. Social and economic factors should be considered primarily with these acts.

Organizational Freedom

All members of the organization should act on their natural free will that is by positive means. An employee is free to do and think anything that will prove beneficial for the organization. For example, an employee in an IT industry should be free to suggest to the top executives his views on how to improve their service.

Responsibility

All members of the organization are responsible of his and his colleague's actions. All actions done inside the organization's boundaries should reflect to all members. For example, an installation of a new hardware in a manufacturing firm should be announced to all members, since that act is all about the organization itself.

Authority

An organization must not fail to recognize authority. People labeled as an authority must empower his subordinates in good-faith. For example, a manager in an organization must discipline his people accordingly. But he must take ethical considerations in doing so.

True Report

It is important in every individual or groups of people that their reports are true, because naturally nobody

wants to receive reports that are known to be untrue. It is also important that the law does not require the individual or group

to investigate and prove that their report is false. If a true report is made in bad faith it will nevertheless be in the individual's interest that the report should be made.

it can gain public interest if a report was reported true and not false

- it is in the persons choice whether he/she will report a true report
- nobody wants a false report

Integrity

According to WikiAnswers, integrity comes from the Greek words 'integritas' and 'integra' meaning whole. It enters into any aspect of one's life. It's belief system without faltering no matter how dangerous, how unpopular the person makes themselves to others. It includes: sincerity, keeping one's word and agreements, honesty, truthfulness, ethics, fairness and justice, punctuality and never faltering for what one believes in. A quote regarding integrity is 'It is better to have an enemy who keeps his word, than a friend who does

not..(<http://zhou1.pbworks.com/Integrity?edit=1&new=1&referer=http%3A%2F%2Fzhou1.pbworks.com%2F>)

Integrity is very important to every individual because it always brings honesty, truthfulness and honor to you company. In our everyday lives, always look and work at your best because we never know who is going to come and we always carry our company's name as an accessory. In working to a prestigious company, always protect your company's confidential information, assets, documents and resources. When at work always prioritize every task that are given to us and work with integrity.

At work, integrity is not an accessory that one can put on and take off when it is convenient. Though, our behaviors during work loads are more important than to seem convenient and it plays a large part in working whether people show up in integrity or not. Integrity is to show what kind of attitude you have during work, how people act during work and it seems to change in anyways whether it is convenient.