

Spring 2015 Course Syllabus

Meeting Schedule

Tentative Meeting Schedule			
<u>Date</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Week 1	April 6	Course introduction	
	April 8	The computer as a research tool	
Week 2	April 13	Unwrapping the Gift	Discuss project paper. Chapter 1. *
	April 15		
Week 3	April 20	Authoring Documents Using Technology	
	April 22		
Week 4	April 27	Privacy	Chapter 2. *
	April 29		
Week 5	May 4	Free Speech	Chapter 3. * Distribute midterm (Wed).
	May 6		
Week 6	May 11	Intellectual Property	Midterm due (Mon). Chapter 4. *
	May 13		
Week 7	May 18	Telecommunications.	Review midterm (Mon).
	May 20		
Week 8	May 25	Memorial Day Holiday	No class
	May 27	Crime.	Chapter 5. *
Week 9	June 1	Technology and the workplace.	Term Paper Due (Mon). Chapter 6. *
	June 3		
Week 10	June 8	Errors, Failures, and Risks.	Chapter 8. * Review Term Paper (Mon).
	June 10		
Week 11	June 15	Ethical issues.	Chapter 9. *
	June 17		
Week 12	June 22	Review, summary, conclusion, Distribute final.	
	June 25	Final. Held per finals schedule.	4:00 – 6:00 pm. (Thursday)

Catalogue Description

A critical examination of the capabilities and uses of the Internet, computers and cellular communications, and how they are changing business, law, politics, health, education, entertainment, and society.

Required Text

A Gift of Fire: Social, Legal and Ethical Issues for Computers and the Internet, Fourth Edition. Sara Baase, 2013. Either paper or e-book is fine.

Supplemental Materials

CIS-2 Lecture Notes and Handouts, posted on Catalyst.

Class Participation

A portion of most class sessions will be dedicated to discussing occurrences in the news that relate to what we have (or will) discuss in the course. You will be expected to participate in these discussions, and bring topics for discussion. Class attendance and participation will account for 10 percent of your grade. I do not have a specific “cut” policy, or drop anyone for poor attendance. For enrollment purposes, attendance at the first class session is mandatory.

On-line Component

I have placed materials on line for your use. Some of these are readings, references, videos, etc. You will complete several quizzes on line as well. We have a “forum” where you may post messages for your classmates and instructor. The rules of classroom etiquette apply here as well as in class. You can log into the material through <https://catalyst.deanza.edu/>

Readings and Quizzes

You will be expected to complete textbook readings and take a short quiz on those readings before that week’s class meetings. The quiz questions were prepared by the textbook author. Each quiz will consist of true/false, and multiple choice. The quiz has a 30 minute time limit, so you should read the materials before you attempt the quiz. I will discard your lowest quiz score, and average the rest. The quiz average will account for 15 percent of your course grade. Quizzes are associated with the weeks marked with an “*” in the syllabus.

Term Paper

You will be expected to research an aspect of the application of computer technology and prepare a paper discussing how that application has changed and can be expected to continue to change society. I would expect that this paper to be in the range of seven to ten pages. This paper will account for 25 percent of your grade. The paper is due on Monday, June 2.

Tests

There will be two written tests, a mid-term and a final. Each will require a short written discussion of topics that we have discussed to that point in class. The mid-term exam will be distributed at the end of class on May 6 and returned at the beginning of class on May 11. The final exam will be due on June 25 per the campus finals schedule. Each exam will count 25 percent of your grade.

Academic Integrity

From the California State Educational Code (#76130): “The following types of misconduct for which students are subject to disciplinary sanction apply at all times on campus as well as to any off-campus functions sponsored or supervised by the college: cheating, plagiarism or knowingly furnishing false information in the classroom or to a college officer.” Violations will result in a grade of “0” for that assignment.

Grades

Course grades will be computed as follows:

Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent
A+	>97	B	83 – 86.9	D+	67 – 69.9
A	93 – 96.9	B-	80 – 82.9	D	63 – 66.9
A-	90 – 92.9	C+	77 – 79.9	D-	60 – 62.9
B+	87 – 89.9	C	70 – 76.9	F	<60

Late returns of the midterm or term paper will be assessed a 10 percentage point penalty for each class day that they are late without documentation of illness, death in the family, etc. All work must be turned in by the final exam date.

Contacting the Instructor

The best way to contact me outside of class is by e-mail at hepburnbill@deanza.edu. However, I do NOT accept assignments via e-mail unless specific arrangements are made in advance.