

CSCI 494

Social and Ethical Issues in Computing (Capstone)

Spring 2020 Th 1:15–3:05pm MEY 184

<http://cs.wheaton.edu/~tvandrun/cs494>

Syllabus addendum for remote learning

Updated March 18, 2020

In light of Wheaton College's transition to *technology-mediated instruction* during the coronavirus / COVID-19 pandemic, the following modifications are made to the course.

GENERAL INTENT. Our goal is to give you exposure to ideas about how the field of computer science affects society and your vocation, and to give you the experience of wrestling with social and ethical questions in the discipline. We may need to be more casual on how the course is conducted and how the students are assessed, but we strive to preserve the content of the course. Specifically, the course's objectives remain unchanged, that at the end of the semester, students are able to

- Integrate the discipline of computer science with their Christ at the Core learning. (CELO 1)
- Articulate how their understanding of vocation (God's general calling on all Christians, their calling as students, and their distinctive vocational callings) has developed while at Wheaton College. (CELO 2)
- Discuss how studying the Christian liberal arts themselves and computer science in that context has shaped their growth in knowledge, wisdom, and Christian character. (CELO 3)

USE OF SCHOOLGY. Throughout this addendum, you will notice that I plan to make more use of Schoology. Specifically, Schoology is now the preferred way for you to turn in your essays and papers, since those exist as "assignments" in Schoology. Email is still preferred for summaries and personal communications. But I also aim to be flexible. Whatever you send/submit by either email or Schoology, I will get.

CLASS MEETINGS. In line with the college's expectations, our intent is to substitute class meetings with video conferencing at the scheduled class time (1:15pm central time Thursday). To implement that, here is what we'll try:

- Our first choice is to hold class through Schoology's **Conferences** tool. These video sessions will not be as long as the 110-minute scheduled class time; we'll have to see how long of a conference is reasonable. To make up for the time we don't meet, video sessions will be supplemented with Schoology discussion boards.
- If Schoology's Conferences tool turns out not to be practical, our second choice is to use **Discord** for a similar purpose.
- If we find that video conferencing is not practical in any form, our last resort is solely to use Schoology discussion boards as a substitute for class discussions.

REFRESHMENTS. Students are responsible for obtaining their own cookies or donuts.

COURSE SCHEDULE. The revised course schedule can be found on the course website. The main changes are

- The start of B-quad has, of course, been moved to Monday, March 23.

- The topic of intellectual property, originally scheduled for Apr 2, has been dropped.
- The topics originally scheduled for Mar 19 (business) and Mar 23 (Privacy and security) have each been pushed back one week.

READINGS. All B-quad readings are available on Schoology for the sake of any students who don't have access to a course manual. Nothing has been added or otherwise changed about the readings (except that the readings by Barlow, Stallman, and Lemly have been dropped). Students who have a course manual can continue to use their hard copies.

Reading summaries should be done as before: send me a "good" and "bad" think about each reading by 8 pm the night before. Email is preferred, but a Schoology message is also acceptable.

ESSAYS. Nothing has changed about the essays (five required, one of which should be a follow up to your FYS essay on "Learning in Wartime", and one of which should reflect on your personal growth at Wheaton) except that now submission through Schoology is preferred; email submission is also acceptable.

TERM PAPER. My intent is for the term paper project to proceed as originally planned, with the following modifications:

- The due date of the outline is moved from Fri, Mar 27 to Fri, Apr 3. Other due dates are unchanged.
- The length of the paper is reduced from 8–12 pages to 5–8 pages.
- "Assignments" for the outline, draft, and final version now exist on Schoology, and my preference is that you use these for submission. Email submission is also acceptable.

FINAL EXAM BLOCK. Assuming it proves to be feasible, we will meet by video conference during our final exam block (Tues, May 5, 10:30-12:30). As originally stated in the syllabus, the block is set aside for students to summarize their term papers.

OFFICE HOURS. I plan to use Schoology's **Meetings** tool to hold office hours by video. As needed, make an appointment using Calendly. I will try to make myself as available as possible, especially during the normally scheduled office-hours times.

COMMUNICATION. My preferred way for you to get in touch with me is through email, but you may also message me through Schoology.

All this, the Lord willing.