



**ISM 4041**  
**CRN Number-- TBA**  
**Contemporary Issues of Digital Data Management**  
**Term – TBA**  
**Class Location – TBA**  
**Class Meeting Time(s) – TBA**

**Professor Information---TBA**

**Required Text and Materials**

Baase, Sara( 2013), A Gift of Fire: Social, Legal and Ethical Issues for Computing Technology, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, Pearson, ISBN: 978-0-13-249267-6

Some readings will be provided online, including articles about technical topics and current events

**Course Description**

This course covers business processes and frameworks for data collection, storage, retrieval, and transfer of digital data. Discussed are various ways through which industry and government compile data for purposes such as marketing, customer relationship management, fraud and crime prevention, e-government, etc. Considered is also the business, legal, ethical, and social context of data gathering and utilization.

**Course Prerequisites, Credit Hours & Class Time Commitments**

3 credit hours

Complete working knowledge of Blackboard 9 - You will need to use Blackboard to retrieve class notes, use the Discussion Board, messages, take exams, and listen to videos.

“According to Florida State Statute 6A-10.033, students must spend a minimum 37.5 of **in class** time during a 3-credit course. Additionally, students enrolled in a 3-credit course are expected to spend a minimum of 75 hours of **out-of-class-time** specifically working on course-related activities (i.e., reading assigned pieces, completing homework, preparing for exams and other assessments, reviewing class notes, etc.) and fulfilling any other class activities or duties as required”

## Course Learning Objectives

Information technology has completely changed the way we live our personal lives and how we function in a productive manner. Whether we plan to be a computer scientist, healthcare professional, law enforcement professional, businessperson, scientist or media professional, we will be impacted by information technology and the global information system. The power of the information system is unbounded from allowing us to communicate anywhere in the world, while we are walking the streets, controlling the water we drink, the food we eat, the knowledge we obtain to the extension of our lives and ability to explore the reaches of space. However, with all this beneficial power has come the power to invade, control our lives and affect our freedoms. Information technology has been used to affect our privacy, be a tool for multi- million dollar thefts, be used to damage people's reputation, destroy businesses and governments and be a tool to wage war. Can we effectively harness the IT power and still mitigate the obvious downsides? Since, there is no turning back; we will have to deal with these problems that keep expanding.

In addition, other topics will include: the changing global workforce, our heavy reliance on the global information system network, the new way we evaluate and analyze information, and our resultant knowledge gain. We will actively explore all these real world topics as well as current issues that occur during the semester.

Covered are larger ethical and social issues of computing, including the role of a digital society in the modern world. The material includes information privacy and security, ethical and legal theories and value systems and their application to the etworked digitized world. Discussed also are social impact, human factors, use and misuse of computers.

After completing the course, the students will be able to gain knowledge and understanding on:

1. Clearly understand the developments in the Information Age that have affected our personal and business lives
2. Identify and articulate situations, reasons, problems, solutions in computer privacy and security
3. Distinguish the needs of the different parties having a stake in the privacy/security of an information system
4. Be able to relate privacy and security considerations to real world ethics cases
5. Characterize the issues and controversies surrounding freedom of speech, intellectual property and fair use on the Internet globally
6. Understand how the Internet can be employed as a criminal weapon and whose laws rule the Web
7. Understand the effects of computerization on the work environment
8. Identify and articulate central ethical problems concerning equality, justice and rights and understand the roles these play in personal and professional lives
9. Think and write critically about ethical issues relating to computers and technology



- 10. Demonstrate an ability to apply ethical theories and values in personal and professional decision making

At the end of this course, students will understand the present and future impacts of information technology on our lives, techniques to safeguard our rights and others. You will look at information technology in a new light.

**Course Resources**

You are expected to be proficient in computer usage and Blackboard 9. We will utilize various Blackboard 9 features throughout the course. If you are experiencing any Blackboard problems, contact the IRM help desk. If you are experiencing problems with the course material, email me your problem together with a screen shot of your present activity. Notify me of the problem immediately so that it can be resolved as soon as possible.

**Grading Scale**

GRADING

Midterm Exam	14%
Final Exam	16%
On-line Lecture Quizzes (9)	9%
Discussions/ Assignments	20%
Term Paper	20%
Discussion Presentations	12%
Class Participation (attendance, discussions in class)	9%

The grading scale:

Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
Cutoff	93	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	63	60	0

**Course Evaluation Method**

EXAMS

Two (2) exams will be administered this semester (see Course Outline). They are comprehensive, covering all the assigned reading and lecture notes. These exams will cover the material preceding the exam, which may be a combination of multiple choice and descriptive essay questions. The final exam will be comprehensive of the entire semester.

LECTURE QUIZZES/DISCUSSION/ASSIGNMENT

There will be nine (9), on-line lecture quizzes, each worth 1% of your grade. The quiz topics will be based upon the textbook and lecture. There will be three (3) on-line Discussions, worth 4% of your grade, based upon a lecture topic. There will be



two (2) assignments, each worth 4% of your grade. These assignments will be based upon specific class topics discussed

### TERM PAPER

Each student will investigate a topic relating to social, legal or ethical issues. Use articles and/or books, etc., for background. Your project must include some background research and some activity, e.g., an interview or a physical site visit.

Don't just report. Discuss pros and cons. Evaluate. Use your own words. Quote where appropriate. Give citations for facts and quotes. Discuss how your topic relates to material covered in the text and/or in class discussions.

The paper should be approximately 4000 words. This paper will be submitted via Safe Assignment

Outline for the paper (roughly)

- Cover page with title and your name
- Introduction/overview of topic and issues to be discussed
- Background, description, and/or history of the issue
- Issues, various points of view
- Results of interviews, observations, etc.
- Your comments or evaluation
- Summary
- List of references
- Appendix

Possible topics might include:

- Smartphones and privacy.
- Analysis of Facebook.
- Cars that drive themselves.
- Deep packet inspection.
- Identification and biometrics.
- Telemedicine.
- Health information on the Web.
- Privacy on the Web.
- Privacy for organizations and businesses.
- Personal data privacy regulations in other countries.
- Computing and communication technology in law enforcement.
- Computers in the legal/justice system.
- Technological responses to terrorism.



Children and cellphones.  
The global economy.  
Safety-critical applications.  
Spam.  
Information warfare.  
Recent copyright battles for music and movies.  
Hacktivism.  
Computing and the environment.  
Political activism on the Net in the United States (or other politically free country).  
Use of the Internet in a unfree country  
Electronic voting and Internet voting.  
Violence in video/computer games.  
The Web in schools.  
Distance learning at the university level.  
Monitoring of employees' Web use and email.  
Cyberspace communities.  
Gender or ethnic issues.  
Computing and network access in other countries.  
What will the world be like 50 years from now?

You will be asked to present a short synopsis of the term paper to the class on week 14

#### DISCUSSION PRESENTATION

A group of two or three students will lead a discussion based upon the night's chapter. You will choose one of the selected topics and prepare a 5 minute presentation to induce class discussion. The presentation should analyze the situation, use analogies and include discussion as to how technology changed the situation. Also, indicate how it compared to the old way of doing things and conclusions. The presentation will be graded on its presentation quality and ability to initiate class discussions. Each student is responsible for participating in three separate discussions. There will be up to four (4) discussions a night (eleven available nights).

#### CLASS PARTICIPATION AND DISCUSSION

During the lectures, frequent discussions of concepts and implications can be expected in class. Regular attendance and active participation are an essential part of learning in this course, and you may be called upon to share your ideas, experience, or educated opinions. Therefore, it is advised that you come to each class having read the assigned materials. To assist your preparation, lecture notes for each class is posted on Blackboard. During each class, a group of students will be selected to lead discussions on specific chapters. Class students will be graded on their participation in these discussions.

Stated chapters must be read prior to class in order to gain a complete understanding of the topic.



## Additional Course Policies

### Missing Exams

If you are unable to take an exam due to an emergency, you must inform the instructor of that fact *on or before* the day of the exam and arrange for a make-up to be administered before the graded exam is returned to the class. Any student requiring a make-up has to document his/her excuse (e.g., a letter from a physician written on the physician's letterhead, University-approved activities). Please note that *in no event will a make-up test be given after the graded exam is returned to the class.*

### Late Assignments

Late assignment submitted within three (3) days of due date will incur a 10% penalty. Assignments after the three day period will not be accepted – no exceptions!

### Attendance Policy

This course does not have a formal attendance policy. However, attendance is essential to do the required work and exams.

## E-MAILS

Students are required to have email account for this course, and it is your responsibility to ensure that your email address listed on Blackboard is the one that you check regularly (you can always change it on Blackboard or set up auto forward or POP download if not). All course-related email should contain "ISM 4041" and your section time in the subject field. Include your name in the body of the message, since email addresses do not always identify the sender. Use proper salutations and signatures; use the same type of language and manners that you would use in a formal, business setting. Failure to use proper "Netiquette" may result in your e-mail being unanswered.

All course correspondence should be via Messages in Blackboard. Do not send e-mails to the professor, except for an emergency.

## Course Outline

### Schedule

Week	Topic	Textbook (Sara Basse)
1	Course Introduction SETTING THE STAGE	Chapter 1
2	PRIVACY	Chapters 2      ASSIGNMENT #1 IS DUE



3	GUEST SPEAKER ON PRIVACY	
4	FREEDOM OF SPEECH	CHAPTER 3 DISCUSSION # 1 IS DUE
5	GUEST SPEAKER ON FREEDOM OF SPEECH ON THE INTERNET	
6	INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	CHAPTER 4 DISCUSSION # 2 IS DUE
7	PROFESSIONAL ETHICS MIDTERM REVIEW	CHAPTER 9
8	MIDTERM EXAM	
9	COMPUTER CRIME	Chapter 5
10	GUEST SPEAKER ON INTERNET CRIME	
11	IMPACT ON EMPLOYMENT	CHAPTER 6 DISCUSSION # 3
12	EVALUATING AND CONTROLLING TECHNOLOGY	CHAPTER 7
13	ERRORS, FAILURES AND RISKS	Chapter 8 ASSIGNMENT # 2 IS DUE
14	TERM PAPER PRESENTATIONS	TERM PAPERS ARE DUE
15	COURSE REVIEW	
16	>>> <b>FINAL EXAM</b> <<<	

### Selected University and College Policies

#### Code of Academic Integrity Policy Statement

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see [University Regulation 4.001](#).

#### Disability Policy Statement

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodation due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office





for Students with Disabilities (OSD) – in Boca Raton, SU 133, (561) 297-3880; in Davie, MOD 1, (954) 236-1222; in Jupiter, SR 117, (561) 799-8585; or, at the Treasure Coast, CO 128, (772) 873-3305 – and follow all OSD procedures.

#### Religious Accommodation Policy Statement

In accordance with rules of the Florida Board of Education and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices **and beliefs with regard to admissions, registration, class attendance and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments.** For further information, please see [Academic Policies and Regulations](#).

#### University Approved Absence Policy Statement

In accordance with rules of the Florida Atlantic University, students have the right to reasonable accommodations to participate in University approved activities, including athletic or scholastics teams, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to notify the course instructor at least one week prior to missing any course assignment.

#### College of Business Minimum Grade Policy Statement

The minimum grade for College of Business requirements is a "C". This includes all courses that are a part of the pre-business foundation, business core, and major program. In addition, courses that are used to satisfy the university's Writing Across the Curriculum and Gordon Rule math requirements also have a minimum grade requirement of a "C". Course syllabi give individualized information about grading as it pertains to the individual classes.

#### Incomplete Grade Policy Statement

A student who is passing a course, but has not completed all work due to exceptional circumstances, may, with consent of the instructor, temporarily receive a grade of incomplete ("I"). The assignment of the "I" grade is at the discretion of the instructor, but is allowed only if the student is passing the course.

The specific time required to make up an incomplete grade is at the discretion of the instructor. However, the College of Business policy on the resolution of incomplete grades requires that all work required to satisfy an incomplete ("I") grade must be completed within a period of time not exceeding one calendar year from the assignment of the incomplete grade. After one calendar year, the incomplete grade automatically becomes a failing ("F") grade.

#### Withdrawals

Any student who decides to drop is responsible for completing the proper paper work required to withdraw from the course.

#### Grade Appeal Process





A student may request a review of the final course grade when s/he believes that one of the following conditions apply:

- There was a computational or recording error in the grading.
- Non-academic criteria were applied in the grading process.
- There was a gross violation of the instructor's own grading system.

The procedures for a grade appeal may be found in [Chapter 4 of the University Regulations](#).

#### Disruptive Behavior Policy Statement

Disruptive behavior is defined in the FAU Student Code of Conduct as “... activities which interfere with the educational mission within classroom.” Students who behave in the classroom such that the educational experiences of other students and/or the instructor's course objectives are disrupted are subject to disciplinary action. Such behavior impedes students' ability to learn or an instructor's ability to teach. Disruptive behavior may include, but is not limited to: non-approved use of electronic devices (including cellular telephones); cursing or shouting at others in such a way as to be disruptive; or, other violations of an instructor's expectations for classroom conduct.

#### Faculty Rights and Responsibilities

Florida Atlantic University respects the right of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires classroom conditions which do not impede their exercise. To ensure these rights, faculty members have the prerogative:

- To establish and implement academic standards
- To establish and enforce reasonable behavior standards in each class
- To refer disciplinary action to those students whose behavior may be judged to be disruptive under the Student Code of Conduct.