

**HT-MGT 392E**  
**Contemporary Legal & Ethical Issues in Cyberspace**  
**Spring '08**

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**The instructor reserves the right to make modifications to the course schedule, readings, and course requirements.**

**Office Hours:** Mondays from 2:30-3:30 pm and Wednesdays from 1-4 pm.

**Textbook and Other Course Materials:**

Ferrera, Lichtenstein, Reder, August & Schiano, *CyberLaw, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.*, South-Western College Pub: 2004. A copy of the text is on reserve in the DuBois Library.

Course packet of additional readings and course notes available from Campus Design & Copy.

*All instructions for locating online materials are based on using Yahoo as your search engine.*

**Course Requirements:** There are three exams in this course as well as an optional final (during final exams). I will prepare two versions of each exam—one essay and one objective. Without first looking at each, you select which format you prefer. Each of the exams represents one-third of your course grade. If you are satisfied with your grade after the first three exams, you do not need to take the final. If your grade on the comprehensive final exam is higher than your average on the first three exams, you will receive the higher grade as your course grade. In other words, everyone has a second chance and taking the final can help you, but not hurt you.

**Grading Scale:**

93+ = A	73-77 = C
90-92 = A-	70-72 = C-
88-89 = B+	68-69 = D+
83-87 = B	60-67 = D
80-82 = B-	There is no D- in this system.
78-79 = C+	Less than 60 = F

**English as a Second Language Students:** You may bring a translation dictionary into exams.

**Students Entitled to Accommodations:** Please notify me early of your need for an accommodation. Late requests often create logistical problems.

**Electronic Devices & Classroom Etiquette:** During class time, please refrain from using cell phones, MP3 players, and other electronic devices. You may use laptops for taking notes (not for surfing the Internet, instant messaging, etc.). I reserve the right to restrict even the use of laptops if their use becomes distracting to me or your classmates.

**Course Objectives:** 1. To familiarize students with the range of legal and ethical issues germane to information technologies. 2. Provide students with a historical context for understanding the evolution of the body of law regulating information technologies. 3. Assist students in the development of an understanding of current laws regulating information technologies. 4. Examine the ethical implications of the explosion of information technologies.

**Academic Honesty:** Any case of alleged academic dishonesty believed to have occurred in this course will be pursued in accordance with applicable university policies as outlined in the Students' Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

*If you want to be trusted, you need to be trustworthy!*

### SEMESTER OUTLINE

January	28	Introduction to Course
	30	Information Technology & Ethics Mason, Four Ethical Issues of the Information Age, Management Information Systems Quarterly, March, 1986, pgs. 5-12. Locate by going to <a href="http://www.misq.org">http://www.misq.org</a> . Click on MISQ Archivist and then click on Ethics & IT Papers.
February	4	Information Technology & Ethics The Ten Commandments for Computer Ethics. Locate by typing "Computer Ethics Institute" into a search engine. From the home page, you will see a link for the Ten Commandments. Bring to class.
	6	U.S. Legal System Course Packet: <i>Overview of the U.S. Legal System</i>
	11	U.S. Legal System
	13	Information Technologies Complicate the Issue of Jurisdiction <i>CyberLaw</i> —Chapters 1 & 2
	18	<b>President's Day—UMass Holiday</b>
	19	Copyright Law <i>CyberLaw</i> —Chapter 4
	20	Copyright Law
	25	Copyright Law Course Packet: <i>A&amp;M Records v. Napster, MGM v. Grokster</i> (read 1 <sup>st</sup> 5 pages which is a summary of the case)
	27	<b>EXAM I</b>
March	3	Trademark Law <i>CyberLaw</i> —Chapter 3
	5	Trademark Law
	10	Patents & Trade Secrets <i>CyberLaw</i> —Chapter 5
	12	Patents & Trade Secrets
	17	<b>Spring Break</b>
	19	<b>Spring Break</b>

	24	Online Contracting & Electronic Signatures <i>CyberLaw</i> —Chapter 6
	26	Taxation & E-Commerce <i>CyberLaw</i> —Chapter 7 <i>Internet Tax Table—State Level</i> : This table summarizes the state-by-state tax treatment of Internet services and products. To locate it, go to: <a href="http://www.vertexinc.com">http://www.vertexinc.com</a> . From the home page, type “Internet Tax Table” in the site’s search function and from the links that appear, select the one entitled <i>Internet Tax Table-State Level</i> .
	31	Employment Law Course Packet: <i>Smyth v. Pillsbury &amp; Linnen v. A.H. Robins</i>
April	2	Employment Law
	7	<b>EXAM II</b>
	9	Privacy <i>CyberLaw</i> —Chapter 9 <i>Technology Commentaries: The Federal CAN-SPAM Act—New Requirements for Commercial E-Mail</i> . Go to: <a href="http://www.jonesday.com">http://www.jonesday.com</a> . Click on the Publications link and locate the Keyword search box with “Search PDFs” below it. Type CAN SPAM into the box and scroll to locate article.
	14	Privacy
	16	Obscenity <i>CyberLaw</i> —Chapter 10 Course Packet: <i>FCC v. Pacifica Foundation</i> <i>Porn Created Hostile Work Environment</i> . Locate article by typing title into search engine.
	21	<b>Patriot’s Day—UMass Holiday</b>
	23	Obscenity
	28	Defamation <i>CyberLaw</i> —Chapter 11 <i>Weighing the Public Cost of One Man’s Remedy</i> . Locate article by typing title into search engine.
	30	Defamation
May	5	Information Security <i>CyberLaw</i> , Chapter 12
	7	Cyber Crimes <i>CyberLaw</i> , Chapter 13 Course Packet: <i>Oregon v. Schwartz</i>
	12	<b>Exam III</b>