

Title (Units): COMP7570 IT Laws and Ethics (3,3,0)

Course Aims: The objective of this course is to study the legal issues arising from information technology (IT), and the ethical implication of IT in society. On completion of the course, students should: (i) understand privacy, intellectual property rights, contracts & licenses as well as common criminal issues, (ii) understand the legal obligations of a computer professional, (iii) understand computer ethics and the importance of professional codes of conduct, and (iv) be able to derive and justify a personal position on moral and ethical matters related to computers in society.

Prerequisite: Nil

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs):

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)
	Knowledge
1	Describe the common legal issues related to privacy and intellectual properties rights
2	Describe facts and terms on contracts and licenses
3	Explain computer crime and frauds and describe professional behaviour and ethical issues in the information technology field
	Professional Skill
4	Evaluate current issues, analyze, and present case studies in the information technology field
	Attitude
5	Develop professional attitude in face of cyber laws and ethics

Calendar Description: This course examines legal and ethical issues in the use of information technology. On completion of the course, students should: (i) understand privacy, intellectual property rights, contracts & licenses as well as common criminal issues, (ii) understand the legal obligations of a computer professional, (iii) understand computer ethics and the importance of professional codes of conduct, and (iv) be able to derive and justify a personal position on moral and ethical matters related to computers in society.

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs):

CILOs	Type of TLA
1-5	Students will learn about common criminal and civil legal issues via lectures, and discussion.
1-5	Student will acquire the skill to evaluate current issues, and analyze case studies both in face of cyber laws & ethics and throughout the information technology fields via presentations and discussion & written assignment.

Assessment:

No.	Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
1	Continuous Assessment	40%	1-5	Term paper and presentation to test how well student can acquire, understand in-dept, organize information and knowledge, and present their views on some particular issue in cyber laws and ethics.
2	Examination	60%	1-4	Final examination questions are to test learning outcomes in the knowledge domain. Questions are to test student's ability in giving critical conceptual analyses of IT laws and ethics and how they are applied in the real world.

Assessment Rubrics:

	Excellent (A)	Good (B)	Satisfactory (C)	Fail (F)
Describe the various issues and factors on privacy, intellectual property rights, contracts & licenses	Fully understand all the issues and factors on privacy, intellectual property rights, contracts & licenses	Understand most of the issues and factors on privacy, intellectual property rights, contracts & licenses	Sufficiently understand the issues and factors on privacy, intellectual property rights, contracts & licenses	Do not understand most of the issues and factors on privacy, intellectual property rights, contracts & licenses
Explain computer crime and frauds and describe professional behaviour and ethical issues in the information technology field	Fully understand computer crime and frauds and capable to describe professional behaviour and ethical issues in the information technology field	Understand most of the cases in computer crime and frauds and capable to describe professional behaviour and ethical issues in the information technology field	Sufficiently understand the cases in computer crime and frauds and capable to describe professional behaviour and ethical issues in the information technology field	Do not understand computer crime and frauds and not capable to describe professional behaviour and ethical issues in the information technology field

Course Content and CILOs Mapping:

Content		CILO No.
I	Privacy	1,5
II	Intellectual Property Issues	1,5
III	Contracts and Licenses	2, 5
IV	Computer Crime and Frauds	3, 5
V	Ethical Issues	3, 5
VI	Case Studies	4, 5

References:

- Online resources including www.infosec.gov.hk (Computer Crime), www.pcpd.org.hk (Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance), www.ipd.gov.hk (Copyright Ordinance), www.ogcio.gov.hk (Electronic Transaction Ordinance), www.hkcs.org.hk (IT Professional: Code of Ethics)
- Selected articles from Legal and IT professional related journals
- Online search for articles and information on current issues and case studies

Course Content:

Topic

- I. Privacy
 - A. Personal data protection principles
 - B. Exemptions
 - C. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
 - D. Privacy considerations for clouds, mobile apps and big data

- II. Intellectual Property Issues
 - A. Intellectual property rights
 - B. Copyrights
 - C. Patents
 - D. Trademarks
 - E. Designs

- III. Contracts and Licenses
 - A. On-line contracts
 - B. Software licenses
 - C. Management responsibilities and liabilities
 - D. Electronic transactions

- IV. Computer Crime and Frauds
 - A. Hacking and unauthorized use of computers
 - B. Control of obscene and indecent publications
 - C. Computer virus and spamming
 - D. Jurisdiction issues in cyberspace

- V. Ethical Issues
 - A. Computer Ethics
 - B. Cyberstalking
 - C. Employee monitoring
 - D. Professional responsibilities & practice and code of ethics
 - E. Ethical considerations in artificial intelligence

- VI. Case Studies