



University
of Regina



Faculty of
Science

CS 280 – RISK AND REWARD IN THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

Territorial acknowledgement: The University of Regina is situated on the territories of the nêhiyawak, Anihšînāpēk, Dakota, Lakota, and Nakoda, and the homeland of the Métis/Michif Nation. The Regina campus is on Treaty 4 lands, and Saskatoon classes are on Treaty 6 lands.

Instructor:	Daryl Hepting
Format:	In-Person
Lecture:	CL 110 Tuesdays and Thursdays, 14:30 – 15:45 UTC -0600 January 9, 2024 – April 11, 2024
Office Hours:	Monday and Wednesday, 13:00 – 16:00 UTC -0600 (in-person in the CS Department and remotely through Zoom)
Websites:	https://urcourses.uregina.ca/ https://www2.cs.uregina.ca/~hepting/teaching/CS-280/202410/
Contact:	using UR Courses e-mail

Course description:

Social context of computing. Case study: human-computer interfaces and their evaluation. Methods and tools of analysis. Professional and ethical responsibilities. Risks and liabilities of computer-based systems. Intellectual property, privacy and civil liberties. Professional communication. Sustainability. Cybercrime.

Expectations:

Technology provides many benefits to enjoy, but there are also risks. This course is an introduction to life in this digital world. At the conclusion of this course, you are expected to understand these risks and rewards, and the trade-offs involved. Attendance and participation in all aspects of the course are encouraged. Your attendance will indicate your agreement to be involved and to encourage the involvement of everyone in the class.

Prerequisites: ENGL 100 and CS 110

References:

- *Blown to Bits: Your Life, Liberty, and Happiness After the Digital Explosion, 2nd Edition* by Hal Abelson, Ken Ledeen, Harry Lewis, and Wendy Seltzer, Addison-Wesley, 2020 (online at <https://www.bitsbook.com/>)
- Various online sources

Grading :

- Responses to Meetings 10%
- Quizzes before Meetings 10%
- Assignments 40%
- Midterm Exam 10%
- Final exam 30%

Students must pass the final exam to pass this course. A failing grade in the final exam may result in that grade being posted as the final grade in this course.

Lecture syllabus: all dates and topics are subject to change, as necessitated by illness, closures, or other unforeseen circumstances.

Week of	Topics	Notes
January 8	Welcome, Social Context	First meeting January 9
January 15	Social Context	
January 22	Methods for Ethical Analysis	
January 29	Professional Ethics	
February 5	Intellectual Property	
February 12	Privacy and Civil Liberties	
February 19	Reading break – no classes	
February 26	Communication	Midterm exam February 29
March 4	Sustainability	
March 11	History	
March 18	Human Computer Interaction	
March 25	Economies of Computing	
April 1	Security Policies, Laws, and Computer Crimes	
April 8	Equity, Diversity and Inclusion	Final exam Tuesday, 16 April 2024, 14:00 – 17:00

Late assignments/missed exam policy:

Late assignments will be penalized by a percentage of the assigned grade. If the midterm exam is missed for approved reasons, extra weight will be placed on the final exam. If you miss the final exam, you will receive an NP as your final grade.

Attendance policy: Attendance at course meetings is expected. Students are encouraged to record their attendance on UR Courses.

Academic integrity: Academic integrity requires students be honest. Assignments and exams are to help students learn; grades show how fully this goal is attained. Thus, all work and grades should result from a student's own understanding and effort.

Acts of academic misconduct violate academic integrity, and are considered serious offences by the University. Examples include, but are not limited to, cheating on tests or exams, plagiarizing, copying from others, and submitting the work of others as your own. Instances of academic misconduct will be reported to the Associate Dean Academic for investigation. Full details are provided in the [Undergraduate academic calendar](#). Students are encouraged to understand your obligations as a student, as well as your rights.

Accommodations: The Centre for Student Accessibility upholds the University's commitment to a diverse and inclusive learning environment by providing services and supports for students based on disability, religion, family status, and gender identity. Students who require these services are encouraged to contact the Centre for Student Accessibility to discuss the possibility of academic accommodations and other supports as early as possible. For further information, please email accessibility@uregina.ca.