CS 377 – Communication and Ethical Issues in Computing   Spring 2017

Instructor:	Pat Troy	(312) 996-8521	troy AT uic . edu

Office Hours:	12:30 – 2:00 or by appointment	Tuesday & Thursday	919 SEO

Class Times:	12:00 – 12:50	Wednesday & Friday	204 TH

Texts:	Blown to Bits, by Abelson, Ledeen, Lewis, Addison-Wesley Publishing, ISBN-13: 978-0-13-713559-2, ISBN-10: 0-13-713559-9

Web Page:	http://www.cs.uic.edu/CS377

Catalog Description	Communication skills for computing professionals: presentation organization, visual aides, delivery techniques, argument support. Ethical and societal issues in computing: privacy, intellectual property and ownership, crime.

Prerequisites:	CS 251: Data Structure

Course Work (Tentative):

Quizzes	30%
Postings of Contemporary Events	10%
Group Presentations	35%
Speeches and Lab Activity	20%
Speech Feedback	5%

Grading:	100% - 90.0%	Grade A
	89.9% - 80.0%	Grade B
	79.9% - 70.0%	Grade C
	69.9% - 60.0%	Grade D
	59.9% - 0%	Grade E

Goals:

By the end of this course, students will:

- Posses an understanding of professional, ethical, legal, security and social issues and responsibilities.

- Be able to analyze the local and global impact of computing on individuals, organizations, and society.

- Be able to communicate effectively with a range of audiences.

You will be assigned one or two partners from the list of classmates, forming groups of 2-3 for your class presentations. This list will be posted on the course web site at the bottom of the course schedule page which has the presentation dates for each group. Topic selection is first-come first-served, and must be approved by me. My approval will be indicated by me replying to your Piazza post.

You may have one unexcused absence from lab without penalty. **Each unexcused absence after that will result in your final course grade being lowered by 5 percentage points.**

Letter grades are assigned on a curve at the end of the semester. If your grade is right on the borderline of the next highest grade, we will consider whether or not you were a "good citizen" on the discussion boards and the extent of your current events contributions.

Make sure that you are on the class email list. We will be sending class email to your UIC email, so if you read your mail somewhere else be sure to forward your email. Please send email to me requesting to be added to the list if you do not receive an email from us by the beginning of the second week of class. We're assuming students check email every day. All critical announcements, changes to assignments, etc. will be distributed via email.

If you register late for the course you will be assigned the class average of all grades which have already been given.

You will be given the opportunity to take a make-up exam or assignment only in cases of medical or personal emergencies, which must be verified. If such an emergency occurs, call us or leave a note (or phone message) with the department secretary as soon as possible. If you will be out of town when an exam is scheduled, we must be told in advance and may require you to take the exam early. Otherwise, if you miss an exam you will receive 0 points.

You are responsible for all information (handouts, announcements, notes, etc.) covered during class. You should look at any online copies of notes and ask fellow classmates for missed information (not the instructor!!)

No extra work or extra credit will be given. No grades of "Incomplete" will be given for poor performance in the course. An incomplete can only be given if there are extenuating circumstances *and* the student has at least a 'C' average in the course.

If you feel that you deserve more points than you have been given on a quiz, assignment, or test, you must see the instructor about this *within one week* of the time the work in question is first returned to the class. After this deadline, no claims will be considered, justifiable or not.

Be sure to check the course web page for further information and handouts.

Academic Dishonesty

Any student caught cheating on any assignment will automatically fail *the course* and be referred to the department chair and/or dean for additional discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion from UIC. The same penalty would apply if you were to use someone else's iClicker to give them credit when they are not there.

Posting of contemporary events on Piazza

For full credit you must post at least 2 of these, one every 5 weeks during the first 10 weeks of the course. During the first 5 weeks post as a response to the "Current Events 1" topic, and *also* choose a topic tag to accompany it. Do the same during weeks 6-10 in the "Current Events 2" topic. Each post must have a title, link, and a summary along with a few thoughts of your own about it.

 Group Presentation:

5%   Topic selection submitted on Piazza (in the "topic_selection" folder) and approved by Monday of 3rd week

5%   Full-sentences outline and sources submitted on Piazza (in the "topic_outline" folder) by Monday of 4th week

5%   Conference with Cody. Before this conference, you must have (1 point each):
   - The bulk of your research completed
   - Presentation materials should be at least 80% finished
   - An outline of what your group has gotten done so far
   - An individual summary from each of you on what percent each team member has contributed on the above outline items, which you communicate to Cody.
   - Know who is doing what as part of the presentation

20%   In-class presentation, further broken down as 4% each for:

1.   Interesting. Engages the class and stimulates discussion. Well thought-out questions for the class.

2.   Communicates verbally effectively. (Argues convincingly for debates) Everyone in your group must participate evenly in the presentation.

3.   Use of visual aids (overheads, board, web, handouts, etc.)

4.   Understands the issues; Knows the facts, main points, uses supporting cases/scenarios/questions.

5.   Well-prepared; Knows exactly who is doing what in the group; Uses appropriate amount of time, including 5 minutes at the end for interaction with class.

By the end of the day you give your presentation you must post on Piazza a link to your final presentation. By the end of the day each group member must also indicate who in your group did what in your preparation. To do this you must:

- Together with your group members make a list of *what* was done (e.g. research copyright terms, find graphics, make presentation, edit video)
- Individually make a table indicating what percent of each of those items *each group member* (including you) did.
- Create an private post in Piazza (which I can see but the rest of the class can't), where the table has the list of *what* was done is going down the left side, and your group member names (including your own) going across the top. Each cell in the chart should have the percent each person in the group did, with each row adding up to 100%. If your numbers are evenly divided between everyone I will not accept it and will ask you to redo it. This should be in the Piazza "presentation_who_did_what" folder.

- Post a link on Piazza to your final presentation (in the "presentation_final_link" folder)

If **by the end of the day of your presentation** you have not done **both** the *Piazza posting of a link* to your presentation as well as the *Piazza private post of who did what*, you can lose 4 points (of the 20).