CMSC 304

SOCIAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

FALL 2015 / SECTION 02 / HOLLY BUCK

adapted from slides

by Dr. Cynthia Matusek & Dr. Marie DesJardin

TODAY'S CLASS

- Instructor introduction

- Review of syllabus and schedule

- Academic honesty policy

- Expectations

- Team formation

- (If time) Collective definitions

MY RESEARCH TOPICS

Based at Cornell University

…in Development Sociology (How do societies become or fail to be "developed", & what is the role of technology in this process?)

…and Science & Technology Studies (How does technology shape society, and how does society shape technology?)

- Politics of emerging technologies (genetic modification, climate engineering)

- Startup culture & technology adoption in developing countries

- Current grant: public engagement in climate engineering in the Arctic

COURSE SYLLABUS

TA: TBD

My office hours: Tue & Thu 7-8pm, ITE 201A

Piazza / Blackboard:

piazza.com/umbc/fall2015/cmsc30402tuthu530645/home

Coursework & Grading

Late Policy

GRADING

Class participation, attendance, and in-class exercises	30%
Online reading journal	15%
Midterm exam	15%
Ethical analyses	15%
In-class presentation	5%
Final research paper	20%
Extra credit	(3%)

ACADEMIC HONESTY

- Please don't cheat in an ethics course

- If you get an idea for a project, answer, or commentary from some source, then you should cite that source, just as you would do in a research paper.

- If you are using more than two or three words in a row from some source, that is a direct quote; it should be in quotation marks, with a bibliographic citation *at the location of the quote.* Unquoted text is plagiarism, even if the source is listed in a bibliography.

EXPECTATIONS - GENERAL

Join Piazza, if you haven't already!!

- This will be used for online discussions and for announcements

Attend class regularly

- If you will miss class for a good reason (athletic commitment, religious holiday, serious illness), be courteous and drop me an email in advance
- Oversleeping, getting to campus too late to park, having work for another class, or going on a vacation trip are not good reasons

Complete the assigned reading before coming to class

EXPECTATIONS - DISCUSSION

Participate in the online discussion (this is part of your grade!)

• Participate actively in class discussions (as part of your team and as an individual in overall discussions)

• Let other people participate, and listen attentively

• Be respectful and courteous of your instructor and fellow students

EXPECTATIONS - FEEDBACK

Developing this class is an ongoing project. I genuinely value your continual input!

Suggestions/criticisms/complaints/compliments about….?

- Post on Piazza (use the "feedback" tag/folder)
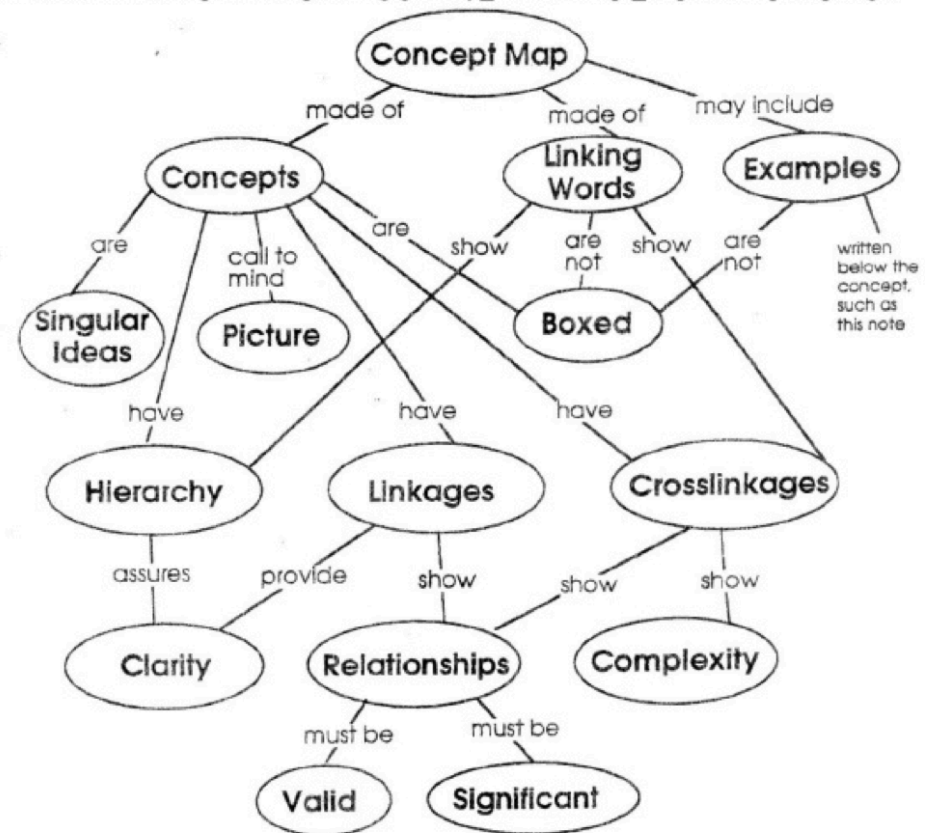
- Email me directly
- Email/talk to your TA

FOR NEXT CLASS

1. Add a topic to Piazza, or comment on someone else's topic – use #topic

2. Fill out the course survey: http://goo.gl/forms/kS8GHCAzny

3. Do Participation Mini-Assignment
   - Dr. dJ's writing guide: http://tiny.cc/DrdJsWritingGuide
   - "It's Time to Raise My Hand": http://tiny.cc/TimeToRaiseMyHand

4. Read Baase 1.2, 1.3 (textbook)

TEAM FORMATION

- Find the others with the same product / idea / service as you

- Together, create a concept map: associations of concepts

- Jot down social and ethical issues that come to mind with this technology

From: http://www.mc.maricopa.edu/dept/d43/glg/Study_Aids/concept_maps/conceptmaps1.gif

COLLECTIVE DEFINITIONS

With your team – and no smartphones or laptops – come up with a one or two sentence definition of your term.

Information – collection of symbols that often times is used to abstract real-world phenomena

Technology – something that makes life easier and entertaining

Information technology – the field of technology dealing with the exchange of data between systems and/or servers

Big data – describes the deluge of information that makes up our networked world

Society – an organized population of people who interact and communicate with each other

Social media – connecting and socializing with people over the Internet

Intellectual property – proprietary knowledge that an individual organization claims ownership of

Sustainability – the ability to maintain a continuous state without a negative effect on its environment

Privacy – the availability or lack thereof of information