

# CLASS 2: TOPIC SELECTION

**FALL 2015 / SECTION 02 / HOLLY BUCK**

*adapted from slides*

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# TODAY'S CLASS

- Turn in:
  - Participation mini-assignment (BB)
  - Survey (Google forms)
  - Piazza topic post
- Ethical Analysis
- Topic selection – Teamwork
- Discussion!

# SURVEY CONCERNS...

- Group work / Training or practice for working life
- Are ethical concerns meaningful in the real world?
- Fact & evidence base for discussions?

## Debate / Tone

- "I think that my main concern is that when you choose the wrong side in a discussion about ethics, you don't look like a particularly good person."
- "being dedicated to one "safe" answer of ethics ... attempting to protect peoples feelings."
- This can be a safe space without being restricted to "safe" answers
- Suggest to look at it more like exploration than "debate"; college is about trying out new ideas
- People at differing points in their college career
  - But you don't need to have taken the most difficult programming classes to have ideas about ethics...
- Writing

# ON WRITING

## Writing Center

- A writing session usually lasts between 30-60 minutes
- Tutors do NOT just proofread or correct papers
  1. Bring the assignment sheet for the paper,
  2. Bring two copies of a printed draft
  3. Allow time to revise your paper after the session
- Tutors do NOT just proofread or correct papers
- This is *explicitly encouraged* for this class.
- Cite or mention their help as appropriate – it will help you!

# ON READING ACADEMIC PAPERS

1. Meta information: Who wrote it; what year; what journal?
2. High-level pass:
  - Read intro and conclusion / results
    - Skim the rest; pay attention to subheaders; use a dictionary; make yourself a glossary
3. Detailed pass: make notes, identify questions, highlight
4. Reflect and summarize: what was new, what works or theories is it in conversation with, what critique do you have of it?

# READING JOURNAL EXPECTATIONS

raise a concern, make a comment, summarize a point that's missing from the discussion thus far, ask a question, respond to someone else's concern or question (informatively), even run a poll

- *At least a substantive paragraph that contributes something new*
- Go beyond "I agree... I disagree"

<http://www.csee.umbc.edu/~hbuck1/Week2/AboutReadingJournals.html>

# ETHICAL ANALYSIS

You will identify and analyze:

- relevant facts,
- policies, decision centers, influences, potential outcomes
- principles and values,
- consequences,
- laws,
- social norms,
- social / cultural / economic / political contexts,
- tradeoffs,
- professional codes of ethics

...while applying relevant ethical theories; drawing and justifying a conclusion

# TOPIC SELECTION

- Look at the list of questions about topics (first page)
- Discuss, discuss, discuss!
- Make a prioritized list
- We will go down each group's list, round-robin.
- Keep it polite!

On the second page you'll find a list of possibilities....



# FOR NEXT CLASS

Review the list of selected topics (Will be posted tonight)

- Turn in suggestions for readings by **9pm Saturday**

Submission form for readings is posted to schedule and Piazza

- Do Winner reading
- Do Reading Journal 1 (Piazza), non-anonymously, by **12pm Thursday - #rj1**

Remember: read other entries and try to post something that adds to the discussion.