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.