

University of North Texas at Dallas

Fall 2025

Syllabus for Distance Learning

CSCE 4010 – SOCIAL ISSUES IN COMPUTING (3hrs)	
School	Business
Department	Information Technology
Instructor name	Dr. Muhammad Adeel
Office Location	FH 261
Office Phone	TBD
Email Address	Muhammad.Adeel@untdallas.edu
Office Hours	Tuesdays: 8:30 AM to 9:50 AM Face-to-Face 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM Online on Zoom (by appointment) Thursdays: 8:30 AM to 9:50 AM & 1:00 PM to 2:20 PM Face-to-Face 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM Online on Zoom (by appointment)
Course Format/Structure	Online
Classroom Location	Online
Class Meeting Days & Times	Online
Course Catalog Description	The effect of computer science and engineering on the home and workplace, with emphasis on the role of computer professionals in modern society.
Prerequisites	Junior Standing
Corequisites	
Required Text	Ethics in Information Technology, 6th Edition, George Reynolds. ISBN: 9781337405874.
Recommended Texts and References	
Access to Learning Resources	UNT Dallas Library: Phone: (972) 338-1616; Website URL: http://www.untdallas.edu/library UNT Dallas Bookstore: Phone: (972) 780-3652; Website URL: http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore Email: untdallas@bkstr.com
Canvas Resources Supported Browsers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chrome 67 & 68• Firefox 60 & 61• Flash 29, 30 (for audio/video)• Respondus Lockdown Browser	Getting Help with Canvas: Canvas 24/7 Phone Support for Students: 1-833-668-8634 Canvas Help Resources: Canvas Student Guide - https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safari 10, 11 <p>Supported Devices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iPhone • Android • Chromebook <p><i>Note: Tablet users can use the Canvas app</i></p> <p>Screen Readers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voice Over (Safari) • JAWS (Internet Explorer) • NVDA (Firefox) <p><i>Note: There is no screen reader support for Canvas in Chrome</i></p>	<p>For additional assistance, contact Distance Learning:</p> <p>DAL1, Ste 150 Phone: 972-338-5580 Email: distancelearning@untDallas.edu</p> <p>If you are working with Canvas 24/7 Support to resolve a technical issue, please keep me updated on the troubleshooting progress.</p> <p>If you have a course-related issue (e.g., course content, assignment trouble, quiz difficulties), please contact me by Canvas messaging or email (only if you don't have access to Canvas messaging).</p>
<p>Course Goals:</p>	
<p>This course provides a strong understanding of the legal, ethical, and societal implications of information technology. It examines issues associated with the professional code of ethics, cyberattacks and cybersecurity, security risk assessment, privacy, electronic surveillance, freedom of expression, censorship, protection and infringement of intellectual property, development of high-quality software systems, the impact of IT on society, social networking, and the ethics of IT corporations.</p>	
<p>Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:</p>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyze social, legal, and ethical implications of information technology. 2. Examine professional code of ethics for IT profession (professionals, corporations, and users) 3. Analyze various aspects of cyber security (cyber threats and attacks, cybercrimes, mitigation strategies, and risk assessment). 4. Synthesize argument (for and against) on issues such as privacy, freedom of speech, and intellectual property. 5. Analyze strategies for ethical software development 6. Analyze the (social, ethical, and legal) implications of using social networking platforms. 	

Online/Hybrid Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class or via class email or Canvas announcement. Additional readings and activities may be added, these will be noted in the Readings and Activities/Assignments sections.

Weeks	Topics	Reference in the Text	Activities	Deliverables and Deadlines
Week 1 (8/25) & Week 2 (9/1)	Ch 1: An Overview of Ethics	Chapter 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Study PowerPoint Slides for Chapter 1• Study Chapter 1 of the textbook.• Complete Quiz 1• Participate in Discussion Chapter 1	Quiz 1, Discussion Post 1 & Reply Please check the relevant module on Canvas for the deadlines.
Week 3 (9/8) & Week 4 (9/15)	Ch 2: Ethics for IT Professionals and IT Users	Chapter 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Study PowerPoint Slides for Chapter 2• Study Chapter 2 of the textbook.• Complete Quiz 2• Participate in Discussion Chapter 2	Quiz 2, Discussion Post 2 & Reply Please check the relevant module on Canvas for the deadlines.
	Ch 3: Computer and Internet Crime	Chapter 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Study PowerPoint Slides for Chapter 3• Study Chapter 3 of the textbook.• Complete Quiz 3• Participate in Discussion Chapter 3	Quiz 3, Discussion Post 3 & Reply Please check the relevant module on Canvas for the deadlines.
Week 5 (9/22) & Week 6 (9/29)	Ch 4: Privacy	Chapter 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Study PowerPoint Slides for Chapter 4• Study Chapter 4 of the textbook.• Complete Quiz 4• Participate in Discussion Chapter 4	Quiz 4, Discussion Post 4 & Reply Please check the relevant module on Canvas for the deadlines.
Week 7 (10/6) & Week 8 (10/13)	Ch 5: Freedom of Expression	Chapter 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Study PowerPoint Slides for Chapter 5	Quiz 5, Discussion Post 5

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Chapter 5 of the textbook. • Complete Quiz 5 • Participate in Discussion Chapter 5 	& Reply Please check the relevant module on Canvas for the deadlines.
	Review and Exam 1			Exam 1 Online Please check the relevant module on Canvas for the deadlines.
Week 9 (10/20) & Week 10 (10/27)	Ch 6: Intellectual Property	Chapter 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study PowerPoint Slides for Chapter 6 • Study Chapter 6 of the textbook. • Complete Quiz 6 • Participate in Discussion Chapter 6 	Quiz 6, Discussion Post 6 & Reply Please check the relevant module on Canvas for the deadlines.
Week 11 (11/3) & Week 12 (11/10)	Ch 7: Ethical Decisions in Software Development	Chapter 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study PowerPoint Slides for Chapter 7 • Study Chapter 7 of the textbook. • Complete Quiz 7 • Participate in Discussion Chapter 7 	Quiz 7, Discussion Post 7 & Reply Please check the relevant module on Canvas for the deadlines.
	Ch 8: The Impact of Information Technology on Society	Chapter 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study PowerPoint Slides for Chapter 8 • Study Chapter 8 of the textbook. • Complete Quiz 8 • Participate in Discussion Chapter 8 	Quiz 8, Discussion Post 8 & Reply Please check the relevant module on Canvas for the deadlines.
Week 13 (11/17) & Week 14 (11/24) FALL BREAK (TBD): 12/27-12/28	Ch 9: Social Media	Chapter 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study PowerPoint Slides for Chapter 8 • Study Chapter 9 of the textbook. • Complete Quiz 9 	Quiz 9, Discussion Post 9 & Reply Please check the relevant module

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in Discussion Chapter 9 	on Canvas for the deadlines.
Week 15 (12/1) & Week 16 (12/8)	Ch 10: Ethics of IT Organization	Chapter 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study PowerPoint Slides for Chapter 10 Study Chapter 10 of the textbook. Complete Quiz 10 Participate in Discussion Chapter 10 	Quiz 10, Discussion Post 10 & Reply Please check the relevant module on Canvas for the deadlines.
	Review & Exam 2			Exam 2: Online Please check the relevant module on Canvas for the deadlines.

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

- Quizzes
- Discussion Posts
- Exams

Grading Matrix

Assessment method	Total	Points Per Item	Total	Total %
Quizzes	10	3	30	30%
Discussion Posts	10	4	40	40%
Exam 1	1	15	15	15%
Exam 2	1	15	15	15%
Total:				100%

Grade Determination

The following standard grading scale will be used to determine your final letter grade:

A = 90% or better

B = 80 – 89 %

C = 70 – 79 %

D = 60 – 69 %
F = Less than 60%

Incomplete Policy

In order to receive an incomplete in this course, the Grade of Incomplete Form posted on the Registrar forms site must be completed, signed, and returned to the Office of the Registrar by the deadline posted in the Academic Calendar. For other questions related to the grade of incomplete, contact Dr. Dawn Sales, Assistant Provost, at dawan.sales@untDallas.edu. The deadline to file for an incomplete for the course is the last day in which there is regular instruction for the session (not including finals).

Course-Specific Policies

Attendance and Participation:

An **instructor is required to report students' attendance and participation throughout the semester** to the relevant departments of the university. Please see the section "University Policies and Procedures" below for details.

Assignment Policy:

All assignments are due on the due dates stated on the assignments. No late assignments will be accepted, except for documented emergencies. All assignments are to be done individually unless stated otherwise on the assignment.

Quiz and Exam Policy:

Quizzes and Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at <https://www.untDallas.edu/hr/upol>).

Communication with Instructor:

Only use Canvas messaging/Canvas inbox to contact the instructor. In circumstances where students don't have access to Canvas messaging or there are other technical hurdles in accessing Canvas messaging/inbox, students can use their university email account to contact the instructor. Students should check their Canvas inbox/university email account every day as they are responsible for all information that is sent out. Due to privacy issues, the instructor will not discuss grades over the phone and will only reply to student communications from their Canvas inbox/university email account.

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Disabilities Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodation at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delays in implementation. Note that a student must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untDallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDisability@untDallas.edu on the first floor of the Student Center.

Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring that online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. The Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement is provided at <https://www.canvaslms.com/accessibility>.

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Course Evaluations:

Student evaluations of teaching effectiveness are a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester via your campus email, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I (as the instructor) will not have access to the results of the evaluations until after final grades have been posted. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the UNT Dallas Academic Integrity Policy in the appropriate Catalog at <http://dallascatalog.unt.edu>.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

Classroom etiquette:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate (UNTD Policy 7.001 found at <https://untsystem.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=1278&public=true>).

Classroom Disruption:

Students are expected to always engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absence for that class period and any other classes the student misses because of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences, and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (**UNTD Policy 7.001** found at <https://untsystem.policytech.com/dotNet/documents/?docid=1278&public=true>) describes disruption

as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.

Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Intimate Partner Violence and Stalking:

UNT Dallas is committed to creating a safe learning environment for all members of our community, free from gender and sex-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, in accordance with Title IX, Texas laws and University Policies. Please note that all employees are mandated reporters and must report all instances of sexual misconduct, dating violence, sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has experienced any form of sex or gender-based discrimination or violence and wish to speak to the Title IX Coordinator, you can email them at titleix@untDallas.edu or file a report [here](#).

Pregnancy, Pregnancy Related Conditions and Parenting Modifications Under Title IX:

UNT Dallas is committed to compliance with Title IX, and to supporting the academic success of pregnant and parenting students and students with pregnancy related conditions. If you are a pregnant, have pregnant related conditions or a parenting student (child under one-year needs documented medical care) who wishes to request reasonable related modifications from the University under Title IX, please email the Title IX Coordinator at titleix@untDallas.edu. The Title IX Coordinator will work with your professors and academic unit to provide reasonable modifications needed to be supportive of your education while pregnant or as a parent under Title IX.

Online Attendance and Participation:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance in the Canvas classroom and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience, and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in the discussion board. Online presence and participation in all class discussions is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency.

Attendance for this online or hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Canvas, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to [Registrar's Office](#) for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it

is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course.

Inclement Weather and Online Classes:

Online classes may or may not be affected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Online "Netiquette":

In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, discussion board forum threads and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks)).

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the [Student Code of Student Rights Responsibilities and Conduct](#) Code 7.001. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate.

Technology Assistance:

To successfully access the materials in Canvas, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus.

If you have trouble accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor.

If the problem is still not resolved, call Distance Learning at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups.

For more information see:

- UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10721>
- Canvas Instructure Support & Unsupported Operating Systems: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10720>