

Computers and Society

CPSC 430

Lecture 2 – Course Topics

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Topics (pretty cool stuff, actually 😊)

- History of computing, storage, networking (next 3 classes)
- Ethics & Argumentation (5 classes)
- Social issues (1 week each):
 - Networked communications
 - Intellectual Property
 - Information Privacy
 - Privacy and the Government
 - Artificial Intelligence
 - Computer & Network Security
 - Computer Reliability
 - Professional Ethics
 - Work & Wealth
- Rest of today:
 - break into 18 groups
 - get assigned a statement and a position for or against
 - develop arguments for your assigned position
 - present your list to the class; we'll discuss briefly
 - everyone votes on the issue (you vote freely)
 - we'll revisit these questions throughout the course. You'll get to see if your opinions change.

Small Groups

<p>Networked Communications</p> <p>“Any social network that employs moderators should be required to make it impossible to share posts flagged as false.”</p> <p>1: for; 10: against</p>	<p>Intellectual Property</p> <p>“The government should aggressively prosecute intellectual property infringement, particularly including peer-to-peer file sharing.”</p> <p>2: for; 11: against</p>	<p>Information Privacy</p> <p>“It should be illegal for shopping malls to install cameras for tracking customer behavior.”</p> <p>3: for; 12: against</p>
<p>Privacy and the Government</p> <p>“It should be illegal to sell a mobile phone that cannot be decrypted by the police if so ordered by a court.”</p> <p>4: for; 13: against</p>	<p>Computer and Network Security</p> <p>“Canadians should be able to vote online in federal, provincial and municipal elections.”</p> <p>5: for; 14: against</p>	<p>Computer Reliability</p> <p>“Self-driving cars should be allowed to operate on public roads once they have been shown to be at least slightly safer than the average human driver.”</p> <p>6: for; 15: against</p>
<p>Professional Ethics</p> <p>“Computer scientists and data scientists should not aid in the development of autonomous weapon systems.”</p> <p>7: for; 16: against</p>	<p>Work and Wealth</p> <p>“The activity of a company's employees on their computers, such as what applications they have opened and for how long, is private and should never be tracked.”</p> <p>8: for; 17: against</p>	<p>Artificial Intelligence</p> <p>“Images generated by artificial intelligence systems (e.g., DALL-E 2) that require minimal human input should not receive copyright protection.”</p> <p>9: for; 18: against</p>

Networked Communications

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Intellectual Property

“The government should aggressively prosecute intellectual property infringement,
particularly including peer-to-peer file sharing.”

Information Privacy

“It should be illegal for shopping malls to install cameras for tracking customer behavior.”