SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
Senate Committee for Undergraduate Studies
NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

Course Number: CMPT 322W-3

Course Title: Professional Responsibility and Ethics
Short Course Title: Responsibility and Ethics

Course vector: 3 lecture

Course Description (for Calendar). Attach a course outline to this proposal.

The theory and practice of computer ethics. The basis for ethical decision-making and the methodology for reaching ethical decisions concerning computing matters will be studied. Writing as a means to understand and reason about complex ethical issues will be emphasized.

Prerequisite: 3 CMPT credits, 45 total credit hours, and any lower-division W course.

Corequisite: none

Course(s) to be dropped if this course is approved: none

Rationale for Introduction of this Course:

This course will be required in the proposed Software Systems program for the Surrey campus.

Scheduling and Registration Information:

Indicate effective **semester/year** course would be first offered and planned **frequency** of offering thereafter.

Fall 2009, initially offered twice annually in Surrey

Waiver required: no

Will this be a required or elective course in the curriculum?

Required in the Software Systems program.

What is the probable enrolment when offered?

40 students.

Which of your present CFL faculty have the expertise to offer this course?

Harinder Khangura, Toby Donaldson, John Edgar, Rob Cameron, Mohamed Hefeeda, Kay Wiese, Robert Hadley

Are there any proposed student fees associated with this course other than tuition fees? (if so, attach mandatory supplementary fee approval form)

no

Resource Implications:
Note: Senate has approved (S.93-11) that no new course should be approved by Senate until funding has been committed for necessary library materials. Each new course proposal must be accompanied by a library report and, if appropriate, confirmation that funding arrangements have been addressed.

Campus where course will be taught:

Surrey.

Library report status

_____

Provide details on how existing instructional resources will be redistributed to accommodate this new course. For instance, will another course be eliminated or will the frequency of offering of other courses be reduced; are there changes in pedagogical style or class sizes that allow for this additional course offering?

See attached Software Systems Curriculum document.

Any outstanding resource issues to be addressed prior to implementation: space, laboratory equipment, etc.

See attached Software Systems Curriculum document.

Approvals

1. **Departmental approval** indicates that the Department has approved the content of the course, and has consulted with other Departments and Faculties regarding proposed course content and overlap issues.

   _____

   Chair, Dept./School Date

Chair, Faculty Curriculum Committee Date

2. **Faculty approval** indicates that all the necessary course content and overlap concerns have been resolved, and that the Faculty/Department commits to providing the required Library funds.

Date:

Dean or Designate

List which other Departments and Faculties have been consulted regarding the proposed course content including overlap issues. *Attach documentary evidence of responses.*

Other Faculties approval indicates that the Dean(s) or designate of other Faculties affected by the proposed new course support(s) the approval of the new course.

Date:

Date:

3. **SCUS approval** indicates that the course has been approved for implementation subject, where appropriate, to financial issues being addressed.

Course approved by SCUS (Chair of SCUS)

Date:

Approval is signified by date and appropriate signature.

Proposed CMPT 322 Course Outline

The theory and practice of computer ethics. The basis for ethical decision-making and the methodology for reaching ethical decisions concerning computing matters will be studied. This course will involve lectures by the instructor, lectures by visiting lecturers, writing assignments, in-class discussion, individual and/or group class presentations, and case analyses. Writing as a means to understand and reason about complex ethical issues will be emphasized.

TOPICS:

- An overview of ethical theories
- Defining the field of computer ethics
- Professional responsibility
- Computers in the workplace
- Computing implications in medicine, education, and the government
- Free speech, privacy, and intellectual property issues
- Implications of artificial intelligence

GRADING:

The grade will be based on three written assignments and at least one individual/group presentation. The approximate contribution of the written assignments will be 10%, 25%, 35%. Class participation will count for 10%. The remaining 20% will be for the individual/group presentation. These percentages are tentative; a final grading scheme will be determined in the first week of classes.

TEXTBOOKS:

Computer Ethics and Professional Responsibility, Terrell Ward Bynum (Editor) and Simon Rogerson (Editor), Wiley, 2003

PREREQUISITES:

A course in Computing Science, 45 semester hours of credit, and any lower-division W course.