CYBR-205 – Ethics, Culture, and Professional Practice in IT

Technology

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2027
Course Outline Review Date: 2032-03-01

Program Area: Information Technology

Description:

This course examines ethical, legal, cultural, and professional issues relevant to information technology and cybersecurity practice. Students explore ethical decision-making, professional standards, privacy and data protection requirements, and the responsibilities of technology professionals. In addition to practicing professional conduct, communication, inclusion, accessibility, and the societal impacts of technology, students will evaluate ethical challenges and develop strategies for responsible and accountable decision-making in contemporary IT environments.

Program Information:

This course is required for the Second Year of the Cybersecurity Operations program.

Delivery Methods: Hybrid – On-campus (Face-to-Face) and Online

Credit Type: College of the Rockies Credits

Credits: 3

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	60
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	

Practicum/Field Experience	
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	
Total	60

Course Requisites:

Prior Learning and Recognition: Yes

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, work-based assessment or a combination of assessments that is appropriate to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) or contact an education advisor for more information.

Course Transfer Credit:

For information about receiving transfer credit for courses taken at either British Columbia or Alberta institutions, please see https://www.bctransferguide.ca/ or https://transferalberta.alberta.ca . For more transfer credit information, please visit https://www.cotr.bc.ca/Transfer

All requests for course transfer credit from institutions in British Columbia or elsewhere should go to the College of the Rockies Enrollment Service office.

Textbook Resources:

Textbook selection varies by instructor and may change from year to year. At the Course Outline Effective Date the following textbooks were in use:

Please see the instructor's syllabus or check COTR's online text calculator https://textbook.cotr.bc.ca/ for a complete list of the currently required textbooks.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- explain ethical principles, professional standards, and codes of conduct relevant to information technology and cybersecurity practice;

- interpret legal, regulatory, and organizational requirements related to privacy, data protection, intellectual property, and cybersecurity;
- apply ethical decision-making frameworks to analyze and address ethical issues in information technology and cybersecurity environments;
- evaluate the influence of culture, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility on technology design, workplace practices, and user experiences;
- demonstrate professional communication, collaboration, accountability, and conduct within team-based technology environments; and
- assess the ethical, societal, and professional implications of emerging technologies and their impact on individuals, organizations, and communities.

Course Topics:

- Ethics and Professional Responsibility in Information Technology
- Legal, Regulatory, and Compliance Requirements
- Privacy, Data Protection, and Digital Rights
- Professional Standards and Codes of Conduct
- Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in Technology
- Workplace Culture and Professional Communication
- Ethical Decision-Making Frameworks
- Emerging Technologies and Ethical Challenges
- Professional Development and Lifelong Learning

See instructor's syllabus for the detailed outline of weekly readings, activities and assignments

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Evaluation and Assessments

Assessment Type: On-Campus (face-to-face) and Online, or Hybrid

Assessment Type	% of Total Grade
Assignments / Case Studies	40%
Midterm	20%
Reflection or Discussion Activities	10%
Final Ethics Analysis Project	30%
Total	100%

Grade Scheme

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
>=90	89-85	84-80	79-76	75-72	71-68	67-64	63-60	59-55	54-50	<50

Evaluation Notes: A grade of “D” grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Evaluation Notes Comments:

Please see the instructor’s syllabus for specific classroom policies related to this course, such as details of evaluation, penalties for late assignments and use of electronic aids.

Exam Attendance:

Students must attend all scheduled exams at the appointed time and place. Instructors may approve an alternate exam to accommodate an illness or personal crisis. Department heads will consider other written requests. Any student who misses a scheduled exam without prior approval will receive a “0” on the exam.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/ and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
- Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
- Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
- Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
- Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
- Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Course Changes:

The College of the Rockies updates course outlines regularly to meet changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The instructor will notify students in writing of any updates to this outline during the semester. The instructor reserves the right to revise, add or delete material while meeting the learning outcomes of this course outline.