Risk and Reward in the Information Society

Winter 2017 S CS280-001

Lectures: ED 315, MWF, 10:30-11:20

January 6 – April 12, inclusive

Instructor: Daryl H. Hepting
Office: College West 308.22

Hours: R: 9:30-12:30; 13:00-16:00

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Website: https://urcourses.uregina.ca/ (URcourses)

Final Exam: April 21, 2017, 09:00-12:00 (location TBD)

Calendar Description:

Social context of computing. Case study: human-computer interfaces and their evaluation. Methods and tools of analysis. Professional and ethical responsibilities. Risks and liabilities of computer-based systems. Intellectual property, privacy and civil liberties. Professional communication. Sustainability. Cybercrime.

Reference:

Blown to Bits: Your Life, Liberty, and Happiness After the Digital Explosion, by Hal Abelson, Ken Ledeen, and Harry Lewis, Addison-Wesley, 2008 (online at http://www.bitsbook.com/)

Expectations:

Technology provides many benefits to enjoy, but there are also risks. This course is an introduction to life in this digital world. At its conclusion, you are expected to have an understanding of these risks and rewards, and the tradeoffs involved. Attendance and participation in all aspects of the course are encouraged. Your attendance will indicate your agreement to be involved and to encourage the involvement of everyone in the class. Communication between instructor and students is essential to ensure a rewarding and enjoyable experience from this course.

Evaluation:

Individual Assignments: 38. % Group Work: 12. % Midterm Exam: 10. %

Final Exam: 35. % (*must* pass final to pass course)

Participation: 5. % Instructor Discretion: +/- 5. %

Research Credit: up to 2. % (bonus)

Total: 100. %