

CS 280 Final Exam: D. Hepting
April 21, 2017, 09:00 – 12:00, ED 193

- **Be sure to read ALL the instructions BEFORE writing anything.** This is a closed book exam. You must maintain the confidentiality of your examination; do not provide any opportunity for others to copy any of your work. Electronic devices are NOT permitted during the exam. Please turn off and put away all cell phones and other electronic devices during the exam period.
- **All answers must be written on this exam in the space provided.** You have 180 minutes to complete the exam. Please plan your answers, favour quality over quantity, do not exceed the space provided, and do your best to write legibly. Space **OUTSIDE** the boxes can be used for rough work.
- This exam contributes 35 percent towards your final grade. Recall that you **must pass** this exam to pass the course. Each question is worth **6 marks**. There are 12 questions, from which you must **choose not more than 8** in total and you must choose **at least one** of Q10, Q11, and Q12. Your exam will be marked out of 50 (48 + 2 marks that can earn by putting your name (or initials) on each page).

Name (printed): _____

Signature: _____

Q1. Explain what you understand public interest to be and how you would work to protect it.

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Q2. Reflect on your journey in this course this semester. Do you think that it is the role of a computer professional to ask why? Explain.

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Q3. Jef Raskin, who helped to design the first Apple Macintosh computer, said, "an interface is humane if it is responsive to human needs and considerate of human frailties". Should the interfaces we use be humane? Consider an interface that you have used recently. Was it humane? Why or why not? Why does it matter?

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Q4. Steve McConnell talked about "analysis paralysis" as a common problem amongst computer professionals. Do you agree? How do you propose to improve the computer professionals' capacity for judgement?

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Q5. How do you suggest integrating value-based codes of ethics with value-neutral software development practices?

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Q6. Is it true that "Nothing Goes Away"? Please support your position with an example or more.

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Q7. Describe your position on Tim Berners-Lee's plans to re-decentralize the internet. Is this an important priority? Please explain.

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Q8. Describe the impact of social media on well-informed and thoughtful discourse. Would you suggest any changes? Please explain.

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Q9. Explain how you can be a sustainable practitioner. Why is this important?

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Q10. Was Apple's "courageous move" a sign of courage, or greed, or something else? Will iPhone fans embrace the change? Does it impact the sustainability of the iPhone? Does it impact Apple's reputation for innovation (at any cost)? Please explain

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Q11. Is individualism still alive and well on the internet? Is the promise of the internet betrayed by algorithms and mechanisms that seek to promote a relatively small number of options? Can transparency help? Must we accept that the details of algorithms need to remain secret?

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Q12. Social media sites encourage young people to lie (in order to meet a minimum age requirement) and society has little to say about it. Cellphones discourage interpersonal contact that is not mediated by technology. Is this the familiar complaints of an older generation about a younger generation, or is something fundamentally different with these modern examples? What can or must be done?

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