COURSE OBJECTIVES

You will study various topics related to the ethical and social impact of computing technology and the responsibilities that engineers and computer scientists have in shaping this technology and its applications. More specifically, you will explore contemporary issues such as privacy, freedom of speech, intellectual property, crime, safety, human needs, and career planning. You will enhance your written and oral communications skills by completing assignments on these and other issues.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES – By the end of the course, you will have demonstrated the following.

1. Knowledge of the principles of ethics and professional ethics and how they guide the practice of computer engineering, computer science, and software engineering.
2. Understanding of social and career issues that stem from applications of computing technology.
3. Ability to write and speak informatively on these issues.

INSTRUCTOR

Bill Carroll, Professor, Computer Science and Engineering
Office: ERB 521   Office Hours: MT 4:00 to 6:00 PM, W 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, or by appt.
Phone: 817-272-3787   Email: carroll@uta.edu
Course web-site: *Blackboard,* https://elearn.uta.edu

TIME AND PLACE – Section 001 – TTh 11:00 am to 12:20 PM, room NH 111

PREREQUISITES – COMS 2302

TEXTBOOK – Sara Baase, *A Gift of Fire*, 4th *Edition*, Prentice Hall, 2013.

SUPPLEMENTAL READING (on 3-hour reserve in the S&E Library)

Professional Practices in Computer Science, Vols 1, 2, and 3, Pearson Learning Solutions, 2010.

HANDOUTS – will be placed on *Blackboard***,** https://elearn.uta.edu

GRADING

A: 100-90, B: 89-80, C: 79-70, D: 69-60, F: 59-0 with points computed as follows.

0.60*Exams + 0.40*Assignments. Students not completing one or more of these requirements may receive an Incomplete grade (I) in the course.   Your point total will be reduced for more than two unexcused absences as described below in the attendance policy.

EXAMINATIONS

There will be three exams including a comprehensive final examination. See the lecture schedule for the dates. Examinations will be closed book and closed notes.

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments will be scheduled throughout the semester and will generally have research, writing, and/or oral presentation components.   Late assignments will generally not be accepted.

POP QUIZZES

Pop quizzes may be given at various times during the semester to gauge your understanding of the lecture and reading materials.

ACTIVE LEARNING

Active learning exercises will be performed in class on a regular basis to help you better understand the topics being covered in the course. These exercises will typically be done in small groups. All students are expected to participate.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Several speakers from industry and/or government agencies will be scheduled throughout the semester. Please see the lecture schedule for details.

POLICIES

1. **Academic Integrity –** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code.

    I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.

    I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.

    UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

2. **Attendance –** You are expected to attend class and attendance will be checked on a regular basis. You are allowed two unexcused absences without penalty. Missing a guest lecture will count as two absences. Each unexcused absence after the first two will result in a five point reduction in your point total before your course letter grade is assigned.

3. **Accommodations –** Should you require accommodation based on disability, please see me in the privacy of my office as soon as possible but no later than August 27, 2014 to make appropriate arrangements. You must bring supporting documentation to the meeting.

4. **Electronic communication –** The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University "MavMail" address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines,

advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/.

5. **Grade appeals** – Should you have a concern about the grade you received on an assignment or exam, you may submit a re-grading request to the instructor in writing within two class days from the day the assignment or exam was returned. Appeal of the final course grade should follow the established UT Arlington policy which begins with a written appeal to the course instructor of record. You can learn more about grade appeals and other academic regulations at http://wweb.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#17.

6. **Make-up work –** Late homework will not be accepted and cannot be made up. Make up of missed examinations and assignments will be handled case-by-case and, generally, be approved only if sufficient justification can be made and documented. Requests for make-up must be made to the instructor within one week of the missed work's due date.

7. **Preparation for class –** You are expected to read the appropriate sections of the textbook and supplemental material prior to each class and/or lab session.

8. **Student feedback –** You will be asked to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS) about the course and how it was taught. Instructions on how to access the SFS system will be sent to you through MavMail approximately ten days before the end of the term. UT Arlington's efforts to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback data is required by state law; your participation in the SFS program is voluntary.

9. **Student support services –** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their studies. These resources include tutoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals to resources, students may contact the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107 or visit www.uta.edu/resources for more information. Engineering Student Services, 242 Nedderman Hall, is another resource for guidance on academic and career questions.

10. **Cell phones and wireless devices** – Please refrain from using during class times. The use of tablets or laptops to view course materials is permitted.

11. **Title IX** – The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

12. **Emergency Exit Procedures** – Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.