Course: ICT 205-001
Title: Issues in Information and Communication Tech Policy

Term: Fall 2022
Credit hours: 3
Meeting days/time/location:
Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30-1:45pm, Lucille Caudill Little Library (LCLI) 311

Instructor Information
Name: Professor Meghan Dowell
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Office building and room number: Lucille Caudill Little Library (LCLI) 328
Office phone: (859) 562-0671
Office hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 2-3pm and Wednesday 2-4pm, or by appointment.
Preferred method of communication: Email. Please put course number in subject line. I try my best to respond within 48 hours.

Course Description
This course introduces students to the legal, political, and ethical issues confronting today's information professionals and the subsequent impact of these issues on information and communication technology (ICT) policy and law development. The rapidly evolving ICT infrastructure and the global shift to an information society will provide the context for the course. Emphasis will be placed on: policy development, information ethics, computer ethics, freedom of speech and expression online, information filtering, intellectual property, cyber law, and pertinent legal and political acts related to the present information and communication infrastructure. All of these issues are examined with respect to the global cultures from which they develop.

Course Prerequisites
None.

Required Materials
There is no required text for this class. All class readings will be made available online on Canvas.

Student Learning Outcomes
Students completing the course will be able to:

1. Define and describe relevant aspects of ICT policy.
2. Understand how systems of shared values influence the creation of laws, policies, and regulations.
3. Recognize, evaluate, and determine emerging policy issues and how they impact the ICT landscape.
4. Identify stakeholders impacted by ICT policy development.
5. Critically consider Constitutional Sections, Amendments, Acts, laws and court decisions governing information and communication technologies in the United States and abroad.
6. Critically consider specific national and global policy issues governing information, communication, and technology professions, particularly in regard to freedom of speech, information equity, and standards of moral and ethical conduct.

Course Details

Course Objectives

1. To examine the ways in which culture influences the creation and maintenance of law, policy, and regulation
2. To examine the implications of current issues and trends in the global ICT infrastructure on policy development and maintenance.
3. To evaluate the methodologies and tools for the development of contemporary ICT law and policy.
4. To analyze key issues in ICT policy related to government and private sector information, intellectual property, censorship, information equity, and information security.
5. To discuss the ethical aspects of ICT policy and law in global civil society.

Tentative Course Schedule

Date	Topic
Week 1 (August 23/25)	Defining Policy
Week 2 (August 30/September 1)	Policy Framework in the U.S.
Week 3 (September 6/8) *Monday, September 5 - Labor Day*	International Policy Frameworks, Code and Policy
Week 4 (September 13/15)	Policy, Impact, and Technological Change
Week 5 (September 20/22)	ICTs and Free Speech
Week 6 (September 27/29)	Privacy & Surveillance
Week 7 (October 4/6)	Intellectual Property: Copyright & Fair Use
News Brief 1 Due Thursday, October 6, 2022 before 12:30 pm	
Week 8 (October 11/13)	Intellectual Property: Patents
Week 9 (October 18/20)	Open Government

Week 10 (October 25/27) *October 24-25 - Fall Break*	e-Government & Freedom of Information
Week 11 (November 1/3)	Digital Divides
Week 12 (November 8/10)	Hacking, Hacktivism, Leaking, & Whistleblowing
Week 13 (November 15/17)	Information Warfare & ICTs in Conflict
Week 14 (November 22/24) *Thanksgiving Break - November 23-25*	Terrorism Online
Week 15 (November 29/December 1)	ICT Policy & You
News Brief 2 Due Thursday, December 1, 2021 before 12:30 pm	
Week 16 (December 6)	Review
Final Exam Tuesday, December 13 - 10:30am-12:30pm Comprehensive Final Exam	

Course Activities and Exams
Class Participation
This course applies reading and discussion-based learning approaches, as well as investigative learning approaches, to information policy. The readings, activities, and discussions presented in class provide opportunities to apply abstract theories and concepts to real-world information policy challenges.

Each week you will be asked to reflect on the course readings and in-class activities for that week. I will provide clear expectations for each weekly reflection on Canvas. Please plan to reflect using course materials, your own experiences, and applicable outside resources when completing activities.

News Briefs
Students will be required to complete two (2) more extensive assignments based on news coverage of different ICT policy issue. More instructions regarding these assignments will be provided in Canvas prior

to the submission deadlines. Students must submit each assignment on Canvas by Sunday at 11:59 p.m on the days indicated.

Written Assignment Guidelines
Written assignments are to be submitted as a Word, Google Doc, or PDF format if not submitted as a text entry. Papers are to be double-spaced using a 12-point kerned font such as Times New Roman with 1 to 1.25 inch margins. You may not resubmit work that has already been used in fulfillment of the requirement of this or any other course. Rules of academic conduct require that you not use the work of others without clearly indicating it as such.

Academic misconduct may result in a lowered grade, no credit for a given assignment, or removal from the course.
It is expected students will both consult and appropriately cite the academic and primary source literature where needed. It is imperative that students employ a variety of scholarly and primary sources on which to build their arguments. As such, you should search bibliographies in the material we are reading, use library databases, and conduct library searches to identify material on their chosen topic. Please rely on a commonly used style manual for your submissions (e.g. APA, MLA or Chicago). These are available in the Library or may be purchased through online book vendors. If you are uncertain about how to cite electronic sources, consult one of the many electronic guides to citing electronic sources available on the net. Minimal reference content includes: author (if known), date (if given), title, URL, and date accessed.

Weekly Quizzes
There will be weekly comprehension quizzes. These are worth a total of 20% of your final grade. More details about the quizzes will be made available on Canvas.

Final Exam
The final exam is 15% of your final grade. More details about the final will be made available in class, however, it will be a cumulative test.

Grading Scale

Course Activities and Assignments
Class Participation – 35%
News Briefs – 30% (2 @ 15% each)
Weekly Quizzes – 20%
Final Exam – 15%

Grading Scale
90 – 100% = A
80 – 89% = B
70 – 79% = C
60 – 69% = D
Below 60% = E

Mid-term Grades

For undergraduates, midterm grades will be posted in myUK by the deadline established by the University Senate and published in the Academic Calendar. (http://www.uky.edu/registrar/content/academic-calendar)

Discussing Grades

Students who have grade or exam concerns must request an appointment with the instructor. Questions related to individual grades should not be posed through Canvas.

Students who wish to discuss grades or scores earned have one week from the date grades are posted to do so. Grades will not be addressed after this time period has expired. Students need to contact the professor for an appointment to discuss the issue. Students must provide a written explanation of their dispute when requesting the appointment. If the matter is unresolved after meeting with the instructor, students need to contact the director of School of Information Science. Students that do not fulfill these requirements will not be addressed and the original grades will be final.

Assignment Policies

Assignment Submissions

Assignments are to be submitted online on Canvas.

Late Assignments

I am generally able to grant a 48-hour extension on assignments. The extension must be requested prior to the due date.

If you submit a piece of coursework after the deadline but within 24 hours of the deadline, your grade will be reduced by 10 percent. If you submit a piece of course work more than 24 hours after the deadline, but less than 48 hours, your grade will be reduced by 20 percent. Assignments will not be accepted after 48 hours of the deadline.

Academic Policy Statements

Excused Absences

Senate Rules 5.2.5.2.1 defines the following as acceptable reasons for excused absences: (a) significant illness, (b) death of a family member, (c) trips for members of student organizations sponsored by an educational unit, trips for University classes, and trips for participation in intercollegiate athletic events, (d) major religious holidays, (e) interviews for graduate/professional school or full-time employment post-graduation, and (f) other circumstances found to fit "reasonable cause for nonattendance" by the instructor of record. Students should notify the professor of absences prior to class when possible.

Attendance Policy/Acceptable Documentation

Attendance is necessary to receive participation and quiz scores. I understand that you are a human and things happen. Please email me prior to class if you will not be in attendance and we can coordinate appropriate make-up work.

Accommodations Due to Disability

In accordance with federal law, if you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please inform your instructor as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in a course, you must provide your instructor with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (DRC). The DRC coordinates campus disability

services available to students with disabilities. It is located on the corner of Rose Street and Huguelet Drive in the Multidisciplinary Science Building, Suite 407. You can reach them via phone at (859) 257-2754, via email (drc@uky.edu) or visit their website(uky.edu/DisabilityResourceCenter). DRC accommodations are not retroactive and should therefore be established with the DRC as early in the semester as is feasible.

All of the Senate's Academic Policy Statements can be read here: (https://www.uky.edu/universitysenate/acadpolicy)

Academic Offenses (Cheating, Plagiarism, and Falsification or Misuse of Academic Records)

Per University policy, students shall not plagiarize, cheat, or falsify or misuse academic records. Students are expected to adhere to University policy on cheating and plagiarism in all courses. The minimum penalty for a first offense is a zero on the assignment on which the offense occurred. If the offense is considered severe or the student has other academic offenses on their record, more serious penalties, up to suspension from the University may be imposed. Plagiarism and cheating are serious breaches of academic conduct. Each student is advised to become familiar with the various forms of academic dishonesty as explained in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Complete information can be found at the following website: http://www.uky.edu/Ombud. A plea of ignorance is not acceptable as a defense against the charge of academic dishonesty. It is important that you review this information as all ideas borrowed from others need to be properly credited.

Senate Rules 6.3.1 (see http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/ for the current set of *Senate Rules*) states that all academic work, written or otherwise, submitted by students to their instructors or other academic supervisors, is expected to be the result of their own thought, research, or self-expression. In cases where students feel unsure about a question of plagiarism involving their work, they are obliged to consult their instructors on the matter before submission.

When students submit work purporting to be their own, but which in any way borrows ideas, organization, wording, or content from another source without appropriate acknowledgment of the fact, the students are guilty of plagiarism.

Plagiarism includes reproducing someone else's work (including, but not limited to a published article, a book, a website, computer code, or a paper from a friend) without clear attribution. Plagiarism also includes the practice of employing or allowing another person to alter or revise the work, which a student submits as his/her own, whoever that other person may be. Students may discuss assignments among themselves or with an instructor or tutor, but when the actual work is done, it must be done by the student, and the student alone.

When a student's assignment involves research in outside sources or information, the student must carefully acknowledge exactly what, where and how he/she has employed them. If the words of someone else are used, the student must put quotation marks around the passage in question and add an appropriate indication of its origin. Making simple changes while leaving the organization, content, and phraseology intact is plagiaristic. However, nothing in these Rules shall apply to those ideas, which are so generally and freely circulated as to be a part of the public domain.

Please note: Any assignment you turn in may be submitted to an electronic database to check for plagiarism.

Resources
[UK Libraries](link) provide space to study, research assistance, citation help, and many items to check out (even board games).

There are many [tutoring and coaching resources](link) for students specific to discipline (math, physics, engineering, etc), project (presentations, infographics, research), and writing.

The [Big Blue Pantry](link) is the free, on-campus student food pantry. We are open to all students - all you need is an active UK Student ID! Check the website for current hours.

The University offers a variety of resources to students. Visit the University Senate's [Resources Available to Students](link) to access that list (https://www.uky.edu/universitysenate/student-resources).

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
The University of Kentucky is committed to our core values of diversity and inclusion, mutual respect and human dignity, and a sense of community ([Governing Regulations XIV](link)). We acknowledge and respect the seen and unseen diverse identities and experiences of all members of the university community (https://www.uky.edu/regs/gr14). These identities include but are not limited to those based on race, ethnicity, gender identity and expressions, ideas and perspectives, religious and cultural beliefs, sexual orientation, national origin, age, ability, and socioeconomic status. We are committed to equity and justice and providing a learning and engaging community in which every member is engaged, heard, and valued.

We strive to rectify and change behavior that is inconsistent with our principles and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. If students encounter such behavior in a course, they are encouraged to speak with the instructor of record and/or the [Office of Institutional Equity and Equal Opportunity](link). Students may also contact a faculty member within the department, program director, the director of undergraduate or graduate studies, the department chair, any college administrator, or the dean. All of these individuals are mandatory reporters under University policies.

Classroom Behavior Policies
To help facilitate a positive and productive learning atmosphere for everyone in class, I encourage you to participate in classroom discussions. There may be situations in the class where you disagree about the kinds of policies that should exist. Constructive discussion about the merits of different approaches is an important part of the policy making process. Remember, however, to ensure you are respectful of your peers at all times as you contribute.