ICT 205: Issues in Information and Communication Technology Policy

Instructor
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Preferred method of contact: email

Office Hours
• Tuesday & Thursday, 2-4PM
• Email for appointment
• Will respond within 24 hours

Class Information
• Tuesday & Thursday, 11:00am-12:15pm
• Room 311 Little Library

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

Learning Outcomes:
Students completing the course will be able to:
• Define and describe relevant aspects of ICT policy
• Understand how systems of shared values influence the creation of laws, policies, and regulations.
• Recognize, evaluate and determine emerging policy issues and how it impacts the ICT landscape.
• Identify stakeholders impacted by ICT policy development
• Critically consider Constitutional Sections, Amendments, Acts, laws and court decisions governing information and communication technologies in the United States and abroad.
• 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 Methodology
Each week, students will be expected to:
1. Review the week's learning objectives.
2. Complete all assigned readings.
3. Read and understand any additional supplementary material that may be provided from time to time.
4. Participate in class discussion.
5. Complete and submit all assignments and quizzes by their due dates.

Required Reading
All class readings will be made available online or through UK Libraries Course Reserve.

STUDENT EVALUATION

Grading Scale
[90% – 100%] = A (Exceptional Achievement)
[80% – 89%] = B (High Achievement)
[70% – 79%] = C (Average Achievement)
[60% – 69%] = D (Below Average Achievement)
[0% – 59%] = Fail

Grading Parameters
Terms and Conditions Project: 35%
Case Briefs (4): 15%
Exams (3): 30%
Class Participation: 10%
Weekly Quizzes: 10%

Quizzes
Weekly quizzes will be administered on Canvas. These quizzes represent 10% of your overall course grade and may include multiple choice, true/false, matching, short answer, and essay questions. Quizzes will cover material discussed in class and assigned reading and research and must be completed before class time each Tuesday.

Examinations
Students will be responsible for all of the information contained in the readings, lectures and other presentations. Examinations generally will consist of multiple choice, short answer and essay questions in which it will be necessary for students to spot the issue in the facts provided and, using what we have discussed in class, analyze and answer the question. The professor reserves the right to alter the examination format. Exams are worth 30% of your grade.

Students are expected to be present and on time for each scheduled examination. Only in instances where there is an excused absence will a make-up be given. A student seeking to be excused must...
present to the professor written evidence of an excusable absence such as personal illness or death in the family. Other excuses must be analyzed on a case-by-case basis. Except during periods of extreme weather conditions, no extra time will be given to examination latecomers.

Case Briefs
Three times during the semester, each student will be required to complete and submit a case brief of an assigned case reading. The case for briefing will be indicated on the weekly assignment list. Briefs must be submitted before class time on the due date. Case briefs are worth 15% of your grade.

Terms and Conditions Project
This group project is worth 35% of your grade. Students will be placed into groups to analyze the organizational policy, the terms and conditions, or other policy, for a particular ICT. Students groups will choose which ICT organization to study. Each group will then analyze the organization’s current policy within the context of class readings and consider whether the current text complies with global policy. Students will then make recommendations for how organizations may amend current policy for compliance. (More information to be distributed in class)

Class Participation
Participation is not simply attending class. Students are expected to fully participate in class. This means having completed all assigned readings prior to class and arriving prepared to discuss the topics for that class period. All students participating in class discussions are expected to provide relevant discussion insight, be respectful of other classmates and their opinions and share any relevant personal experience that may add to the topic at hand.

This course follows the University of Kentucky policy on class attendance: If a student misses more than one-fifth of the course contact hours, he/she cannot receive credit for the course. For a course meeting twice a week, students must withdraw or receive a grade of E upon the sixth absence. This policy will be strictly enforced.

Excused Absences (S.R. 5.2.4.2)
Summarized from Senate Regulation 5.2.4.2: A student shall not be penalized for an excused absence. The following are defined as excused absences:

- Significant illness of the student or serious illness of a member of the student's household (permanent or campus) or immediate family.

- The death of a member of the student's household (permanent or campus) or immediate family.

- Trips for members of student organizations sponsored by an educational unit, trips for University classes, and trips for participation in intercollegiate athletic events, including club sports registered with the university as well as varsity sports. Prior notification is required.

- Major religious holidays. Prior notification is required.

- Any other circumstances which the Instructor of Record finds reasonable cause for absence.

Students missing any graded work due to an excused absence bear the responsibility of informing the Instructor of Record about their excused absence within one week following the period of the excused
absence (except where prior notification is required), and of making up the missed work. The Instructor of Record shall give the student an opportunity to make up the work and/or the exams missed due to an excused absence, and shall do so, if feasible, during the semester in which the absence occurred.

Excused absences’ effect on grading: Summarized from Senate Regulation 5.2.4.2: If attendance is required by the class policies elaborated in the syllabus or serves as a criterion for a grade in a course, and if a student has excused absences in excess of one-fifth of the class contact hours for that course, a student shall have the right to petition for a "W", and the Instructor of Record may require the student to petition for a "W" or take an "I" in the course. If a student has an excused absence on a day when a quiz is given, the instructor may not deny permission for a makeup exam and simply calculate the student’s grade on the basis of the remaining requirements.

Verification of Absences
Faculty have the right to request appropriate verification when students miss class due to illness or death in the family. Any absence for University related travel should be provided prior to the absence.

Submission of Assignments
Assignments are due on the day listed or set in consultation with the instructor. Computer failures will not be accepted as valid excuses for late work. If you have a situation arise that will impact your ability to turn in your work on a timely basis, make the instructor aware of it as soon as possible.

Academic Integrity, Cheating & Plagiarism
According to Senate Regulation 6.3.1: “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.” For specific information regarding the University’s code and regulations on plagiarism and cheating, visit:

http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/
http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html

Group Work & Student Collaboration
Unless otherwise noted, all assignments ust to be completed by the individual student. Students are only allowed to collaborate on assignments when explicitly allowed by the instructor or syllabus.

Incompletes
Student requests for an Incomplete (an I grade) will be considered within University guidelines and only in extreme circumstances. See section 5.1.3.2 http://www.uky.edu/StudentAffairs/Code/part2.html.

Academic accommodations due to disability
If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754, email address jkarnes@email.uky.edu) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.
TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION & RESOURCES

Students must have regular access a computer with a reliable Internet connection and audio capabilities. Internet Explorer 7 (IE) or Firefox 2.x are the recommended browsers for those using a Windows-based PC. Those using Firefox 3.x may encounter problems with assignment uploads. Those using an Apple computer with MAC OS X (10.5.x) may use Firefox 3.x or Safari 3.x.

Please be certain that your computer and/or browser allow you to view Adobe Reader documents (.pdf). Microsoft Office and other software products are free for students: [https://iweb.uky.edu/MSDownload/](https://iweb.uky.edu/MSDownload/).

As your instructor, I am your first go-to person for technology problems. If you need more immediate assistance, please contact TASC or UKIT.

**Teaching and Learning Services Center (TASC)**
[http://www.uky.edu/TASC/](http://www.uky.edu/TASC/); 859-257-8272

**Information Technology Customer Service Center (UKIT)**
[http://www.uky.edu/UKIT/](http://www.uky.edu/UKIT/); 859-257-1300

**Course Reserves**

GENERAL COURSE POLICIES

Policies concerning academic integrity, excused absences and academic accommodations due to disability are available online at: [http://www.uky.edu/CIS/SLIS/academics/policies.pdf](http://www.uky.edu/CIS/SLIS/academics/policies.pdf)
# Course Calendar

## Module 0: Intro to the U.S. System

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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| Week 2     | Foundations U.S. Courts | • Connelly, *The sources of law.*  
• United States Courts, “Federal Court Basics” and “Supreme Court of the United States” (all sections for both).  
• American Bar Association, “Steps in a Trial” (all sections except: Pretrial Procedures in Criminal Cases, Arrest Procedures, Bail, Plea Bargaining, and Sentencing) |

## Module 1: Expression

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<th>Readings</th>
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• The First Amendment  
• *FCC v. Pacifica Foundation* <in Canvas shell> Brief it! Due Jan. 29. |
• *Reno v. ACLU* <in Canvas shell> |
| Week 5     | The Internet                   | • Scenario Review                                                        |

***Exam 1 Feb. 12***  
Bring your laptop to class

## Module 2: Access

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• *New York v. Harris* |
• Google Spain v. Agencia Española de Protección de Datos <in Canvas shell> Brief it! Due March 5. |
| Week 9     | RtbF con’t                   | • Scenario Review                                                        |
### Module 3: Control

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<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 10</strong></td>
<td>Mar. 17 – 19</td>
<td><strong>Spring Break!</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Week 11</strong></td>
<td>Mar. 24 - 26</td>
<td><strong>Copyright</strong></td>
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<td>• WIPO, “What is IP?”</td>
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<td>• 17 USC §§ 102, 103, 106, 107, 117 (definitions of works eligible for copyright; all links HTML)</td>
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<td>• Cartoon Network LP, LLLP v. CSC Holdings, Inc.</td>
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<td><strong>Week 12</strong></td>
<td>Mar. 31 - April 2</td>
<td><strong>Fair Use and Safe Harbors</strong></td>
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<td>• Sony v. Universal &lt;in the Canvas shell&gt; Brief it! Due April 2.</td>
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<td>• Viacom v. Youtube &lt;in the Canvas shell&gt;</td>
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<td><strong>Week 13</strong></td>
<td>April 7 - 9</td>
<td><strong>Trademark and Patent</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>• International and comparative law of patents</td>
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<td>• USPTO, “Protecting Your Trademark”</td>
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<td>• WIPO Intellectual Property Handbook, “Technological and Legal Developments in IP”</td>
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<td><strong>Week 14</strong></td>
<td>April 14 - 16</td>
<td><strong>Patent con’t</strong></td>
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<td>• Scenario Review</td>
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<td><strong>Exam 3 April 16</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 15</strong></td>
<td>April 21 – 23</td>
<td><strong>Policy and Innovation</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Week 16</strong></td>
<td>April 28 – 30</td>
<td><strong>Group Presentations</strong></td>
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<td><strong><strong>Come to class prepared!</strong></strong></td>
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