



## Syllabus

### ENG 113 - Technical Ethics

#### General Information

---

**Date** May 9th, 2023

**Author** Charlotte Cline

**Department** Humanities

**Course Prefix** ENG

**Course Number** 113

**Course Title** Technical Ethics

#### Course Information

---

**Catalog Description** In this writing and research-based course with a technical ethics theme, students in technical programs (e.g. Computing Sciences and Engineering Science) will examine the general relationship between ethical considerations and professional life and the particular consequences of ethical choices. This course prepares students for ethical issues in their technical fields as well as higher-level writing enhancement.

**Credit Hours** 3

**Lecture Contact Hours** 3

**Lab Contact Hours** 0

**Other Contact Hours** 0

**Grading Scheme** Letter

#### Prerequisites

---

ENG 101

#### Co-requisites

---

None

## First Year Experience/Capstone Designation

---

This course **DOES NOT** satisfy the outcomes applicable for status as a FYE or Capstone.

## SUNY General Education

---

This course is designated as satisfying a requirement in the following SUNY Gen Ed categories

Communication - Written and Humanities

## FLCC Values

---

### Institutional Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course

Vitality, Inquiry, and Interconnectedness

## Course Learning Outcomes

---

### Course Learning Outcomes

1. Read a variety of logical and ethical arguments to analyze the rhetorical situation (i.e. purpose, audience, genre, and context) of the texts.
2. Synthesize researched information using logical and ethical argumentation and reasoning.
3. Use writing and research processes adapted to professional genres of computing sciences and technology.
4. Apply professional conventions of the technological fields for written communication and documentation (e.g. grammar, punctuation, paragraphing, tone, mechanics, and attribution).

## Outline of Topics Covered

---

- I. **Technology & Values**
  - a. **The meaning of technology**
  - b. **Social impact of technology and interface with ethics and morality**
  - c. **Codes of ethics for technological professionals**
  - d. **Developing a personal ethic of technology**
- II. **Technology and Life Quality**
  - a. **Ethical and moral questions raised by globalization (e.g. nudge theory, choice architecture, etc)**
  - b. **Ethical questions about human technological interactions**
- III. **Use, Abuse, and Consequences: The morality of technological piracy**

- a. **Ethical questions surrounding hacking and viruses**
  - b. **Developing an ethical argument**
  - c. **Privacy invasion questions**
  - d. **Impact of the use and misuse of technology**
- IV. Evolving Technology & Ethical Questions**
- a. **Moral significance of design choice**
  - b. **Moral use of algorithms**
  - c. **Significance of artificial intelligence**
  - d. **Online communities and virtual reality**

Minimum Standard Requirements:

- I.** Annotated Bibliographies totaling at least 2k as process work.
- II.** An argumentative Essay of at least 2500 words that integrates at least six sources.
- III.** A reflection essay totaling 750-1k words.
- IV.** Students should expect to generate 10-15 pages of polished work that has undergone a significant revision process.