

PRIVACY, ETHICS AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES (SE-O-05)

AIMS:

There continues to be a growth of databases holding personal and other sensitive information in multiple formats including text, pictures and sound. The scale of data collected, its type and the scale and speed of data exchange have all changed with the advent of information and communication technology (ICT). Whilst the potential to breach privacy continues to increase organisations are subjected to a considerable amount of legislation governing privacy and data protection. This module examines the balance between maintaining business effectiveness, legal compliance and professional practice in the field of IT (Information Technology) / IS (Information Systems).

The module will address the legal, social and technological aspects of privacy and data protection, consider privacy enabling technologies and privacy invasive technologies identify and evaluate the role of the computer professional in providing privacy and data protection, and review privacy and data protection legislation from different countries.

Care will be taken in ensuring perspectives from different cultures and countries are highlighted and considered in the light of global information systems.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this module, the student will be able to:

- define the concepts of privacy and data protection within a multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary context;
- recognise and evaluate current and future threats to privacy;
- outline and evaluate IS professional practice with regard to perceived professional and social responsibilities to employers and data subjects;
- research into an area of privacy and or data protection; integrate complex and sometimes conflicting ideas into a coherent analysis that demonstrates integrative, synoptic and analytical skills.

SYLLABUS CONTENT:

- Ethics: normative frameworks, values, analysis approaches.
- Privacy: concepts of privacy, information privacy, information privacy legislative, privacy - the global perspective / privacy enhancing technologies.
- Trust: concepts and classification of trust; reliability.
- Security: information security, surveillance.
- Access: information access, software piracy.
- Property: intellectual property, ICT espionage.
- Social impact: social impact audit, cultural impact and ethnography, globalization.
- Conduct: professional conduct, codes of conduct, information risk management.
- Case studies.

PREREQUISITES: None

RECOMMENDED ASSESSMENT: Coursework