

CMPT 320: Implications of a Computerized Society

Final Exam, Part 2

Simon Fraser University

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Instructor: Oliver Schulte

Instructions: This part of the exam consists of 2 pages. You can earn a total of 40 points on this part of the exam. Each question is worth 20 points. **Select two questions.** Some of the questions give you a further choice, indicated with the question. Write your answer in the exam book. Presentation (spelling, grammar) counts in evaluating your answer. If you are showing both your work and the answer, indicate clearly which part of what you have written is the answer to the question. This part of the exam is closed, the only aid is the crib sheet.

Write your name and student number on the exam booklet. *Start your answer with the number of the question or some other way to identify what question you are answering.*

Guide for Answering: The discussion questions invite you to outline your own thoughts and express your own opinion. However, I am looking for evidence that you have understood the course material and can draw on it in arguments. Also, the more your answers are informed by the course material, the better they will be. The ideal answer starts with the course material as a basis and develops your own viewpoint from it. The questions below have some components that are quite open-ended. Your answer does not have to include all the possible considerations. It is better to focus on two or so issues/ideas and discuss them in more depth.

Select 2 parts from the 6 options below.

[Note: In this sample I'm showing only 3 options. The full exam has 6 options for you to choose from.]

1 Anonymity, Privacy, Freedom of Expression

1. Explain how anonymity is important for protecting privacy and freedom of expression on the web. Give 1 example.
2. Explain how anonymity protects some undesirable actions on the web. Give 1 example.
3. Discuss ways to balance the pros and cons of anonymity. You should address the examples you described in the first two answers, but of course you can also bring up other examples if they help illustrate your points. Where applicable, explain how your suggestions are related to current legal decisions and government policy.

2 Copyright

One of the issues about copyright is its duration. Imagine intellectual property with a copyright about to expire (e.g., Disney's Mickey Mouse). Suppose that the current copyright duration is 50 years and the company asks lawmakers to extend copyright length for another 20 years so it can continue to benefit

from the copyright. How would this question be approached by some of the fundamental ethical perspectives that we discussed in class? Specifically, discuss the following questions. (More space on next page.)

1. What are pros and cons of extending the copyright length from a utilitarian point of view?
2. What are pros and cons of extending the copyright length from a rights-based point of view? That is, which important rights would be supported by an extension, and which important rights would be supported by not extending?
3. What are pros and cons of extending the copyright length from a deontic point of view?
4. What are your own conclusions – which arguments carry the most weight?

3 Impact on the Economy

Discuss **one** of the following phenomena from the perspective of the major schools of economics we covered (free market competition--Smith, Marxism, Keynesianism, Schumpeter innovation through entrepreneurship). What are advantages, disadvantages, possible approaches to improvements? Which approaches would you favour and why?

- a) Offshoring **or**
- b) Automation **or**
- c) Copyright Length (e.g., should it be longer like 75 years, shorter like 20 years, or not exist 0 years).