

Social Implications of a Computerized Society

Simon Fraser University

Spring Term 2022

Tentative Lecture Schedule

last update February 15, 2022

Week	Topic	Assigned Reading	Events
1 Jan 11,13	Introduction to course. Introduction to issues and problems. Benefits of computers.	<i>A Gift of Fire</i> , Chapter 1. Omit 1.2.1 and 1.4.	Syllabus handed out
	Part I: Internet issues: Privacy, Copyright, Anonymity, Social Media		
2 Jan 18, 20	<u>Privacy</u> : new threats and issues. Consumer data and tracking. Government use of and personal data. Surveillance technologies.	AGF Ch 2. Omit: 2.2.3, 2.4.3, 2.4.4, 2.5.3, 2.6.1, "Paying For Consumer Information" From 2.3.3. use only the first section (Searching and Tracking Mobile Devices)	
3 Jan 25, 27	<u>Privacy ctd.</u>	No new readings	
4/5 Feb 1,3	<u>Intro to Ethics and Ad-Blocking.</u>	AGF, Ch 1.4 and 2.5.3.	
5/6 Feb 8,10	<u>Freedom of Speech</u> : Offensive speech, spam, sensitive information media. Anonymity. Web censorship.	AGF Ch. 3. Omit 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.4, 3.7	
6/7 Feb 15,17	<u>Intellectual Property.</u> Copyright and Patents. Music and Video Sharing.	AGF, Ch.4. Omit 4.2.2. 4.2.3, 4.3, 4.4.2	Office Hour Erfaneh
8	<u>Computer Crime.</u>	AGF, Ch.5.	

Mar 1,3		Omit “Hacking Era 1, 2”, .5.2.3., 5.3.3., 5.3.4, “Authenticating websites/users”, “Biometrics”, “Multifactor Authentication”, 5.5.3, 5.6.3, 5.7	
	Part II: Computers in the Economy		
9 Mar 8, 10	Micro-level. Computers and the Workplace. Telecommuting.	AGF, Chapter 6.3.1, 6.5	Midterm March 10 Office Hours Erfaneh, Halley
10 Mar 15,17	Computers and the Workplace. Ctd.		Halley Office Hour
11 Mar 22,24	Introduction to Macro Economics.	slides	Halley Office Hour Term Paper is Due April 6
12 Mar 29,31	Impact on Economy. Automation, offshoring and outsourcing. The productivity paradox. Oligopolies, network effects, path dependency. The Attention Economy.	AGF, Ch. 6.1, 6.2, 6.4, extra readings	
13 April 5,7	Software Responsibility and Computer Error. Final Exam Discussion	AGF, Ch.8.1, 8.2. Omit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Voting Systems” • Sec. 8.1.5 (“healthcare.gov”) • “Attack on a Hospital” 	
	Final Exam Review Office Hour.	Tuesday April 12 4:30 pm on Zoom	
	Final Exam.	April 13 7-10 pm	Final Exam
	Course Review Session (for final exam, term paper)	May 10 10 – 11 am	

April 11: SFU last day of classes

