

Computers and Society

CPSC 430

Lecture 2 – Course Topics

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<https://www.students.cs.ubc.ca/~cs-430/>

Topics (pretty cool stuff, actually 😊)

- Ethics & Argumentation (5 classes)
- Social issues (1 week each):
 - Networked communications
 - Intellectual Property
 - Information Privacy
 - Privacy and the Government
 - Artificial Intelligence
 - Computer & Network Security
 - Computer Reliability
 - Professional Ethics
 - Work & Wealth
- Rest of today:
 - break into 18 groups
 - get assigned a statement and a position for or against
 - develop arguments for your assigned position
 - present your list to the class; we'll discuss briefly
 - everyone votes on the issue (you vote freely)
 - we'll revisit these questions throughout the course. You'll get to see if your opinions change.

Small Groups

Networked Communications “Any social network that employs moderators should be required to make it impossible to share posts flagged as false.” 1: for; 10: against	Intellectual Property “The government should aggressively prosecute intellectual property infringement, particularly including peer-to-peer file sharing.” 2: for; 11: against	Information Privacy “It should be illegal for shopping malls to install cameras for tracking customer behavior.” 3: for; 12: against
Privacy and the Government “It should be illegal to sell a mobile phone that cannot be decrypted by the police if so ordered by a court.” 4: for; 13: against	Computer and Network Security “Canadians should be able to vote online in federal, provincial and municipal elections.” 5: for; 14: against	Computer Reliability “Self-driving cars should be allowed to operate on public roads once they have been shown to be at least slightly safer than the average human driver.” 6: for; 15: against
Professional Ethics “Computer scientists and data scientists should not aid in the development of autonomous weapon systems.” 7: for; 16: against	Work and Wealth “The activity of a company's employees on their computers, such as what applications they have opened and for how long, is private and should never be tracked.” 8: for; 17: against	Artificial Intelligence “Contents generated by artificial intelligence systems (e.g., ChatGPT, DALL-E 2) that require minimal human input should not receive copyright protection.” 9: for; 18: against

Networked Communications

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Intellectual Property

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particularly including peer-to-peer file sharing.”

Information Privacy

“It should be illegal for shopping malls to install cameras for tracking customer behavior.”

Privacy and the Government

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that cannot be decrypted by the police
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Computer and Network Security

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vote online in federal, provincial
and municipal elections.”

Computer Reliability

“Self-driving cars should be allowed to operate on public roads once they have been shown to be at least slightly safer than the average human driver.”

Professional Ethics

“Computer scientists and data scientists should not aid in the development of autonomous weapon systems.”