Important Welcome Information About This Course A↓

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Welcome to IS 350.

Important information, including a letter from the professor and the components of the course syllabus, along with some major policies on assignment submissions and deadlines, are included and reviewed below.

I. Introduction

Dear IS 350 students:

As the professor for the online section of IS 350 Computers, Society, and Ethics, I would like to welcome you to what I hope will be an exciting and rewarding semester in our "Virtual Classroom".

We will be using Canvas for our interaction in this course. Canvas is a Learning Management System that includes features to support teaching and learning. All pertinent class information will be posted there. Detailed information for this course is provided in the course syllabus. Please email me in Canvas or at **de63@njit.edu (mailto:de63@njit.edu)** if you have any questions or concerns.

By now, many of you have already taken online classes before, but some may still be wondering how this learning experience is going to be different from others. In the traditional face-to-face class, we have an instructor taking a lead in communicating course material while students listen, take notes, ask questions, and get answers. Often, due to time limitations and other factors, many students never get to asking or answering questions. Furthermore, some students may be uncomfortable participating in class discussions. In the Virtual Classroom, the content as well as questions and their answers are entered into the learning management system. All questions/answers/comments can be seen by the instructor and classmates. There are no time constraints on when the class starts or ends, and you can fit the coursework whenever you have time during the week, 24 hours a day. However, you must submit the work by the stated due dates.

There will be electronic homework due every week, and you will be expected to log into "Canvas" at least **twice a week** during the semester to review current/new activities. This is an attendance

You are currently logged into Student View

Resetting the test student will clear all history for this student, allowing you to view the course as a brand new student.

Reset Student

Leave Student View

I would like to wish you good luck in this semester and especially in this course. I hope that you will find it an exciting experience.

Sincerely,

David Eisenberg

II. Important Course Details

The IS 350 course follows the latest NJIT guidelines on course delivery. There are a total of 14 modules in this course, one per instructional week. Each module is organized within a Summary Page that contains all we need to learn and everything we need to do that week. Starting with some "Opening Remarks" regarding the module's subject matter and ending with "Reminders" on important deliverables that are coming up or due, each module has three main sections: "I. Readings", "II. Lectures", and "III. Assignments". Also, I have provided a ppt presentation as the first item within the Summary Page that gives a Concise Guide to what we will learn and what is required of you each week.

It is important to use the links of the summary pages or the concise guides so you do not miss information you need to do the work correctly. This format is to help you complete the requirements on time and the course successfully.

Please read and familiarize yourself with additional course details below.

- **Course Description** (https://njit.instructure.com/courses/33826/pages/course-description-is350)
- **Course Textbook** (https://njit.instructure.com/courses/33826/pages/course-info-pre-requisites-and-textbook)
- **Grading and Attendance** (https://njit.instructure.com/courses/33826/pages/grading-policy)
- **Grade Rebuttal** (https://njit.instructure.com/courses/33826/pages/grade-rebuttal-procedure)
- **Office Hours - David Eisenberg** (https://njit.instructure.com/courses/33826/pages/about-your-instructor-david-eisenberg)

III. A Word About Our Discussion Forum

The discussion forum is an important vehicle for our learning in this class and serves as a repository for our interactions. You will be making weekly entries in this forum that are part of your grade. Please keep the following guidance in mind when you write in the forum.

Your posts should:

- stay on topic,
- show understanding of assigned material by using its content appropriately.

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Your replies to other students' posts should:

- be substantive and reflect understanding of the writing of the persons you are replying to,
- show respect to others' opinions,
- provide constructive criticism to other students regarding their work,
- contribute new ideas and/or build upon the ideas of others, and
- move the conversation forward, or offer answers to questions raised by the persons you are replying to.

IV. A Note About The Content Of The Discussion Forum

There is an important point that I wish to remind you of, specifically that the central theme of this course is "ethics". This is relevant to both the course topics and practice. As such, I would like to draw your attention to two readings in Week 1: The NJIT Policy on Plagiarism and Some Tips on How to Avoid Plagiarism - Citing Sources, as well as a quiz on the subject in Week 2.

An emerging related issue impacting all of us is the use of AI language models to generate new content, for example ChatGPT. The recommendation for this class on this subject is consistent with existing university policy on academic integrity.

It is fine to use AI-assisted tools for learning responsibly alongside your own critical thinking and writing skills. Such tools must not write your entire essays or assignments though. This kind of behavior is considered cheating and can result in serious consequences, including failing the assignment or the course, or even being expelled from the university.

Use generated content as a starting point to inform your work, brainstorm ideas, and prepare notes for your writings just as you do with your textbooks, library resources, and web materials. Also, there are instances when it may be necessary and appropriate to use text as written by others, including technology, which is acceptable when you include it within quotation marks and cite these sources in your work.

Finally, remember that these tools will provide the same or comparable content to you and others with similar requests. More importantly, there already exists technology that can detect AI-assisted/generated writings.