

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE -2 (DSE-2) – Information Ethics

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
DSE 2 Information Ethics	4	3	1	Nil	12th Pass	

Learning Objectives

- The course aims to give students a thorough understanding of the primary philosophical concepts and arguments of information ethics.
- Information Ethics deals with the ethical, legal, and social aspects of the use of information and information and communication technology.
- Students will learn the key ethical theories and frameworks that have shaped the field of information ethics. In addition to learning about a variety of ethical theories, students will have the opportunity to explore significant information ethics concerns linked to social justice, surveillance, the digital divide, privacy, and access to information.

Course Learning Outcomes

- This course will enable the students to have a comprehensive understanding of major ethical theories and frameworks that have shaped the field of information ethics.
- Students will get to explore ethical issues related to the design and use of information technology, thereby enabling them to acquire the requisite knowledge, skill, and attitude required for making informed ethical decisions about information production, management, and use.
- Students will also be able to explore and apply a wide range of ethical theories to examine critical ethical issues raised by recent information and communication technology advances.

UNIT 1: Introduction to Information Ethics

(9 hours)

1. Historical root of Information Ethics
2. What is Information Ethics?
3. Nature and scope of information ethics
4. Ethical issues of Information Age

Essential/Recommended Readings

Bynum, T. W. (2010). The Historical Roots of Information and Computer Ethics. In *Cambridge Handbook of Information and Computer Ethics* edited by Luciano Floridi, pp. 20 – 38. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Froehlich, T. (2005). A Brief History of Information Ethics. *National Conference on IT for Silk Industry*, Vol. 28, Issue 12, 11 – 13.

Floridi, L. (2006). Information ethics, its nature and scope. *Acm Sigcas Computers and Society*, 36(3), 21-36.

Mason, R. O. (2017). Four ethical issues of the information age. In *Computer ethics* (pp. 41-48). Routledge.

UNIT 2: Privacy, Accountability, and Surveillance Capitalism

(12 hours)

1. Privacy, Security and Information Ethics
2. Transparency and Information Ethics
3. Surveillance Capitalism

Essential/Recommended Readings

Brey, P. (2007). Ethical Aspects of Information Security and Privacy. *Security, Privacy, and Trust in Modern Data Management*, 21-36

Turilli, M., & Floridi, L. (2009). The Ethics of Information Transparency. *Ethics and Information Technology*, 11(2), 105-112.

Fuchs, Christian. (2016). Information Ethics in the Age of Digital Labour and the Surveillance-Industrial Complex. In *Information Cultures in the Digital Age: A Festschrift in Honor of Rafael Capurro* edited by Matthew Kelly & Jared Bielby, pp. 173 - 190. Springer

UNIT 3: Data, Digital Divide, and Information Ethics

(12 hours)

1. Access to Information
2. Social justice
3. Digital divide

Essential/Recommended Readings

Hongladarom, S. (2005). The digital divide, epistemology and global justice. In *National Conference on IT for Silk Industry*, Vol. 28, Issue 12, 5-6.

Johnson, J. A. (2014). From open data to information justice. *Ethics and Information Technology*, 16(4), 263-274.

Tavani, H. T. (2003). Ethical reflections on the digital divide. *Journal of Information, Communication and Ethics in Society*. MCB UP Ltd, pg 99-108

Floridi, L. (2002). Information ethics: an environmental approach to the digital divide. *Philosophy in the Contemporary World*, 9(1), 39-45.

Webster, F. (2007). Information and democracy: Jürgen Habermas. In *Theories of the Information Society* (pp. 169-210). Routledge.

Unit 4 Plurality in Information Ethics

(12 hours)

1. Global Information Ethics
2. Inter-cultural Information ethics
3. Future of Information Ethics

Essential/Recommended Readings

Ess, C. (2006). Ethical pluralism and global information ethics. *Ethics and Information Technology*, 8(4), 215-226.

Hongladarom, S. (2016). Intercultural information ethics: a pragmatic consideration. In *Information cultures in the digital age* (pp. 191-206). Springer VS, Wiesbaden.

Ess, Charles. (2010). Brave New Worlds? The Once and Future Information Ethics. *International Review of Information Ethics*, Vol 12, 37 - 44.

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC ELECTIVE (DSC-3): Indian Materialism

CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF THE COURSE

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
DSE 3 Indian Materialism	4	3	1	Nil	12th Pass	