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Friday 14 May 2010

Final Exam

Social & Ethical Issues

CS 33006

1. In some cases, it may be legal to reproduce a copyrighted work without permission under "fair use". What factors are considered in determining whether or not "fair use" applies? (10 points)

2. Which form(s) of intellectual property protection (i.e., trade secret, trademark, patent, copyright) apply to software? Explain. (10 points)

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3. The Third Amendment to the US Constitution says "No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law". Why was this so important that it needed to be a Constitutional Amendment? (5 points)

- 4. The National Crime Information Center database was established by the FBI in 2000 to aggregate data from other databases.
 - a. What was the motivation for this aggregation? (5 points)

b. What concerns have been expressed about this database? (5 points)

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5.	In what ways has US governmental authority for wiretapping grown over time? (10 points)
6.	Four well-known computer viruses discussed in class were the Brain virus, the Michelangelo virus, the Melissa virus, and the Love Bug virus. Describe one of these viruses and what happened after it was released. (5 points)
7.	What are the concerns about online / electronic voting? (10 points)

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- 8. The class textbook discussed five notable examples of software system failures, including the Patriot missile system, the Ariane 5 launch vehicle, AT&T's long-distance network, NASA's robot mission to Mars, and the automated baggage system at Denver International Airport.
 - a. Choose one of these five software system failures and describe the failure that occurred, why it occurred, and its consequences. (10 points)

b. It is common to reuse code in a software system, but what potential problems can occur when reusing code? (5 points)

c.	Why is it appropriate to consider these software system failures in a class entitled "Social
	and Ethical Issues in Computing"? (5 points)

9. Why are certification and licensing often considered important characteristics of a "profession"? (10 points)

10. How should a professional Code of Ethics be used in conjunction with the ethical tools that we have been studying all semester (e.g., Kantianism, Utilitarianism, and Social Contract Theory)? (10 points)

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