

Here are the items that the paper will be graded on:

20 points for references (how many references, the quality of those references)

25 points for organization (how the paper is divided into sections and the general flow of the content)

35 points for the reasoning presented (The papers will be about topics in cyber ethics and each student will argue for particular ways to make decisions about issues).

20 points for presentation (This is a catchall for clarity, good use of transitions, grammar and spelling).

I think that the first, second, and last are self explanatory. For the third item, "reasoning presented," you will need to show how you could apply at least 2 ethical theories to the situation your paper addresses. For example, you might discuss how Kant's philosophy could be applied or how Aristotle's virtue ethics could be applied, or any other ethical theory.

If, for example, your topic happened to be "Chat Room Ethics," you could develop a set of recommended behavior rules based on a chosen ethical theory, and explain how that choice of rules would affect chat room behavior.

Another thing you want to include in your paper is how the situation you are addressing does or does not confirm that cyberspace really is substantially different from ordinary situations when it comes to ethical issues. One of the most important questions we raised at the beginning of the course is whether we need new ethical theories for cyberspace or whether existing theories can be applied as usual.

So, using that same example, Chat Rooms, you might argue that the application of typical ethical theories is sufficient to cover how people should behave when participating in a chat or you might argue that you see a "policy vacuum" and explain why you think that chat rooms require new ways to think about ethics.

I encourage you to prepare an outline and/or write a draft before doing the final version. I will be happy to read your outline or draft and give you feedback on it this week. If you want to meet with me, just let me know.

The associated talks will be 7 minutes.