CS 4873 Computers, Society, and Professionalism

Spring 2021

**Section Discussion Guide**

Week 1

Topics

* Welcome & Overview

I. Introductions

* Everyone in the group introduces themselves including:
* Major
	+ Threads, if relevant
* Year
* An ethical issue about technology and society that interests them

II. Explain section discussion expectations

* Come to each section with a question about the lecture or readings that you find interesting
	+ Bring something relevant from current news where applicable
* Read the section guide before section
* Tone of discussion
	+ Remember that we represent many views
		- Everyone should feel welcome and respected
		- It’s OK to ask, “Why do you believe that?”
		- It’s OK to answer, “I don’t know--I need to think about it.”
	+ Try not to dominate the discussion
		- It’s OK to occasionally have a two-person back and forth focused discussion
		- But most of the time try to let at least two other people speak before you speak again
	+ Sections are small--you are expected to speak multiple times every meeting

III. Questions

* What are the important questions to each person related to computing, ethics, and society? Examples that are currently timely include
	+ Big questions raised during the election (“section 230”, censorship and free speech, online hate and harassment, etc)
	+ Issues raised by the pandemic such as invasive video-based proctoring
	+ Racial profiling with AI
	+ Sensing and privacy, and responsibility for accidents, related to self-driving cars
	+ Others?
* Any further questions about the class?

IV. Introduce the readings for next week