

**Philosophy 2078G
Digital Humanities 2126G**

Ethics for a Digital World

**DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
DIGITAL HUMANITIES
Western University**

**Undergraduate Course Outline Winter 2017
Tuesdays 3:30 4:30, Thursdays 2:30 4:30
Middlesex College, room 105B**

Professor: Dr. Ryan Robb rrobb@uwo.ca

Office: Stevenson Hall, 4126

Office Hours: Tuesdays 4:30 – 5:30, Thursdays 4:30 – 5:30

DESCRIPTION:

We spend a considerable portion of our lives in the digital world. What moral considerations ought to guide our conduct as digital citizens? This class will engage materials that explore the following sorts of questions: What are our rights and responsibilities in the digital world? How is social media changing our relationships? How do we balance copyright claims against demands for open access? How do we trade off anonymity and accountability? What's the relationship between our virtual identities and our physical identities? What constraints, if any, shape our digital identities? Is piracy always wrong? Does a hacker's code of ethics make any sense? Is cyber bullying worse than other forms of bullying? How should we respond to sexism, racism, homophobia and other forms of hate and exclusion in online communities? Where do and don't smart phones belong? Are there constraints on how we edit and present images online?

MATERIALS:

All readings for this course will be made available through OWLSakai

REQUIREMENTS:

In-Class Test: 15%

Two 1250 – 1500 word essays: 60%

Final Exam: 25%

OBJECTIVES:

POLICIES/REGULATIONS:

General – The **Department of Philosophy Policies** which govern the conduct, standards, and expectations for student participation in Philosophy courses is available in the Undergraduate section of the Department of Philosophy website at