

ENSC 406-2

Engineering Ethics &

Professional Practice

Introduction

January 8, 2004

Topics

- Professional practice
- Professional responsibilities
- Engineering ethics
- Engineering law
- Sustainable development/environmental impacts
- Social implications of technology
- Globalization

ENSC 406: Tripartite structure

- Guest Lectures (Syllabus)
 - Professional practice, engineering law, etc.
- Ethics Seminars (Web site)
- Group Projects (WebCT)

Expectations

- Regular attendance
- On time
- Fully prepared
- Active participant
- Team player
- Professional conduct

Housekeeping Issues

- Ok to use 1st edition of textbook; 2nd edition on 4-hour loan
- Can *occasionally* attend other seminars with permission
- Audio tapes of guest lectures in library
- Graded course
- Using WebCT
- Turnitin.com???

Group Projects

- Assigned groups
- Virtual teams (WebCT discussion groups)
- Grade combines project assessment and personal contributions
- Practical assignment with a real-world purpose
- Short report or equivalent document + reference list + in-class activity + group assessment

Group Projects, cont.

- Project topics closely related to course topics
- Web-based research to facilitate sharing
- Where possible, include Canadian perspective

Some possible projects

- An opinion piece on IEEE publishing restrictions on researchers from Iran, Cuba, etc.
- A code of academic honesty for ENSC
- A piece addressing the public's fears or misconceptions of an emerging technology such as nanotechnology
- A back-page piece on the (double?) meaning of "engineering sustainability"

Other general topic ideas

- Planned obsolescence and sustainability
- Engineers as employers and employees
- Environmental ethics
- Engineering ethics across borders
- Legal and ethical issues of . . .

Your suggestions?

Project housekeeping issues

- Submit topic suggestions to main WebCT discussion forum
 - Suggest general topics, leaving teams to decide on approach
 - Feel free to include discussion, resources, suggestions
- Groups will be assigned based on interest in topics
 - Everyone will list top 3 choices
 - Please base choices on genuine interest

Ethics seminars (tutorials)

- Preparation instructions for ethics seminars are on course web site

<http://www.sfu.ca/~stevenso/ENSC406>

- For first seminar, read chapters 1 &2 of *Engineering Ethics* and do first two weeks of prep

Questions?