1. **Title of the module**

COMP6430 (CO643) – Computing Law and Professional Responsibility

COMP6431 (CO643) – Computing Law and Professional Responsibility

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

School of Computing

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 6

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

15 credits (7.5 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn or Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

There are no specific pre-requisites but students are expected to have completed Stage 1 of a relevant programme.

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

BSc Computer Science, and related programmes

Applied Computing Joint Honours and their Year in Industry counterparts.

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Possess an ability to appropriately understand and adopt techniques based on professional codes of practice and codes of practice of accrediting institutions. [A3, A6, A8]
   2. Develop informed judgments about when specific actions are ethical and when legal. [B4, B6]
   3. Have a systematic understanding of basic legal processes. [A8, B6]
   4. Assess the impact of data privacy legislation on institutional activities, as well as being able to explain the basic aspects of computer law as it currently applies to IT in the UK. [A8, B6]
   5. Critically evaluate IT related health and safety issues. [A7, B5, B6]
   6. Possess critical awareness of some of the potential legal and ethical problems of large IT projects. [A9, B1]
2. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Evaluate systems in terms of health and safety issues and legal responsibilities, with an awareness of possible trade-offs. [A4, A7]
   2. Communicate legal and professional issues clearly to specialist audiences. [A10, B9,B10, D2]
   3. Apply relevant codes of conduct and practice. [B8, B9, B10, D6]
   4. Have demonstrated a commitment to being a responsible member of the seminars, forum, groups and teams that they have participated in during the module. [A4, A10, B6, D2]
3. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

The scope of the module is outlined below. Note that topics will not necessarily be delivered in this order:

Professional issues and professional organisations.

Data privacy legislation, and other UK laws relating to the professional use of computer systems.

Criminal law relating to networked computer use, including new Anti-Terrorism legislation; and their application

Intellectual Property Rights, including Copyright, Patent and Contract Law.

Health & Safety issues.

Computer-based Projects, including the vendor-client relationship and professional responsibilities.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Ayres R. (1999). *The Essence of Professional Issues in Computing*. Prentice Hall Europe.

Bynum, TW and Rogerson, S. (2006). *Computer Ethics and Professional Responsibility.* Blackwell Publishing.

Dejoie, R et al. (1991). *Ethical Issues in Information Systems*. Boyd & Fraser.

Bott F et al. (2001). *Professional Issues in Software Engineering*, 3rd Edition (ISBN 0748409513). Taylor & Francis.

Langford, D. (2000). *Internet Ethics*. Pearson/MacMillan.

Spinello, Richard A. (2003) *Case studies in information technology ethics and policy*, 2nd Edition, Prentice Hall.

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours (lectures and seminars): 30 hours

Private study hours: 120 hours

Total study hours: 150 hours.

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

A1 - Seminar performance and Portfolio (30%)

A2 - Group Case Study (20%)

Two hour Examination (50%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

Like for like.

1. ***Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section12) and methods of assessment (section 13)***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | *8.1* | *8.2* | *8.3* | *8.4* | *8.5* | *8.6* | *9.1* | *9.2* | *9.3* | *9.4* |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Private Study** | X | X | X | X |  | X | X | X |  | X |
| *Lectures* | X | X | X | X | X | X |  |  |  |  |
| *Seminars* | X | X |  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *A1 – Seminar performance and portfolio* | X | X |  | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| *A2 – Group case study* | X | X | X | X |  | X | X | X |  | X |
| *Examination* | X | X | X | X |  | X |  |  |  |  |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

The topics addressed by this module relate to a field which is of international importance, given the global role of computers in today's technological innovation. The topics covered by this module are international in nature, being identical worldwide and independent of traditional spoken language.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
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Revised FSO Jan 2018