INTRO TO ETHICS
CS391 H

Goal

You need to become familiar with:

- Workable vs. non-workable ethical theories
- Consequentialist vs. non-consequentialist ethical theories
- How to apply these to decision-making and discussions/conflict resolution
- Where what kinds of rules shine, and where they fall flat
- Morality of breaking the law
Theories covered

- Subjective and cultural relativism
- Divine command theory
- Kantianism
- Utilitarianism
- Social contract theory

What is Ethics

**Ethics** (also known as *moral philosophy*) is a branch of philosophy which seeks to address questions about morality; that is, about concepts such as good and bad, the noble and the ignoble, right and wrong, justice, and virtue.

- Wikipedia
Why Cover Ethics

Not everyone can do what they want at any time
Why Cover Ethics

- Do you consider yourself an Ethical person?

- Have you ever:
  - Cheated on a test
  - Illegally downloaded copyrighted material
  - Broken speed limit
  - Parked illegally
  - Driven under influence
  - Lied to an officer of the law
  - Cheated on your taxes
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• How do you reconcile this with being an ethical person?

Why Study Ethics?

• Ethics: A way to decide the right thing to do

• New problems accompany new technologies

• “Common wisdom” not always adequate
3 papers - pick from:

- Internet addiction *required
- Emerging issues in IP
- Challenges in moderation of social media
- Role and limits of hacktivism today
- Role and responsibility of tech companies in job displacement
Video Links

- Argument clinic: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpAvcGcEc0k
- Philosophers song: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PtgKki[J0Pw&t=14s
- Philosopher soccer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXOKsJViHtY
- Philosopher game-show: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZ9myHhpS9s