

  
**AMOU UNIVERSITY**  
**“A Vehicle for Peace and Development”**  
**AMOU UNIVERSITY**



**FACULTY OF COMPUTING AND ICT**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMME**

**ACADEMIC YEAR 2015/ 2016**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

|  |  |
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| <b>BIT 427</b>                                     | <b>Social and Professional Issues in IT</b>  |
| Contact Hours                                      | 39   |
| Pre-requisite                                      | N/A  |
| Purpose/Aim  | This course presents the principles of good professional practice in computer systems development and use. It also discusses ethical and legal issues that impact upon computer systems.   |
| Course Objective<br>(Indicative Learning Outcomes) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By the end of the unit the learner should understand the structure and role of professional institutions and codes of conduct and practice appropriate to IS professionals</li> <li>• The learner can understand the nature and legal standing of a range of organizations</li> <li>• The learner can understand the range of functions that exist in an organization, the need for organizational structure and the characteristics of various types of structures</li> <li>• The learner can understand the ethical and principle legislation that applies to the systems profession and recognize situations to which they are relevant</li> </ul> |
| Course Content                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional issues in information technology</li> <li>• Professional societies and codes of ethics / professional practice</li> <li>• Ethical issues in information technology</li> <li>• Health and safety issues in ICT</li> <li>• Social structures, their boundaries and interdependencies</li> <li>• Computers in human systems: home, school, factory automation,</li> </ul>   |



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|-----------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|
|                                   | offices; banks, shops and hospitals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computers labour and the organization of work</li> <li>• Computer Crime</li> <li>• Legal issues of Internet, E-commerce and computers</li> <li>• Intellectual property issues and laws</li> <li>• Data security and privacy issues</li> <li>• Information technology and globalization</li> <li>• Challenging application areas: Artificial intelligence, virtual reality, firm ware and defense applications.</li> </ul> |   |                                      |
| Learning & Teaching Methodologies | Lectures, tutorials and classroom discussions   |   |                                      |
| Instructional Materials/Equipment | Classroom with audio visual aids  |   |                                      |
| Course Assessment                 | <b>Type</b>   |   | <b>Weighting (%)</b>                 |
|                                   | Final Examination   |   | 60                                   |
|                                   | Mid Term Examination  |   | 20                                   |
|                                   | Assignment  |   | 10                                   |
|                                   | Attendance  |   | 10                                   |
|                                   | Total   |   | 100                                  |
| Recommended Reading               | <b>Title</b>  | <b>Author</b>   | <b>Publisher</b>                     |
|                                   | Professional Issues in Information Technology   | Frank Bott  | <b>BCS 2005</b>                      |
|                                   | Business Law: The Ethical, Global, and E-Commerce Environment with PowerWeb and Student DVD   | Jane P. Mallor, A. James Barnes, L. Thomas Bowers, Arlen W Langvardt, Jane Mallor, A. James Barnes, L. Thomas Bowers, Arlen Langvardt | McGraw-Hill/Irwin; 12 edition (2003) |
| Additional Reading                | Science and Technology Ethics (Professional Ethics)   | R. Spier, Raymond E. Spier  | Routledge; 1 edition (2001)          |
| Other Support Material            | A variety of multimedia systems and electronic information resources as prescribed by the lecturer. Various application manuals and articles, URL search and journals.  |   |                                      |