

**Computer and the Law a/k/a Intellectual Property for Computer Scientists**  
**University of Missouri Science & Technology**  
**Spring 2017**  
**Randy L. Canis**

## **Course Syllabus**

**Tuesday: 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.**

<http://www.mst.edu/~canisr/computersandthelaw>

### **Notice to Students with Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, you are strongly encouraged to meet with me early in the semester. You will need to request that the Disability Services staff send a letter to me verifying your disability and specifying the accommodation you will need before I can arrange your accommodation. More information is available here: <http://dss.mst.edu>

### **Prerequisites**

Senior or graduate standing.

### **Course Description**

A presentation between the law of intellectual property and computer science. Topics include the application of copyright principles to computer programs, protection of computer programs through patents and trade secret law, the effect of trademark law on Internet domain name disputes, and the interpretation of various agreements that are frequently encountered by the computer scientist.

### **Course Textbook**

None. All course materials to be available via the course website.

### **Contact Information**

As the course will be taught via video teleconference, I will have no formal office hours. However, subject to the availability of the video conferencing equipment, I will be available before and after class to answer questions.

I am available at my office (314) 684-6616, at home (636) 728-1187, and through email at [canisr@mst.edu](mailto:canisr@mst.edu).

## **Class Format**

This class will have three types of students; ECC students that are physically in the classroom, Campus students that are participating with two-way video in a classroom at the Rolla campus and Internet students that will view the class using real-time streaming video delivered over the Internet. These students will also participate in class discussions and presentations by toll-free telephone connections and/or WebEx.

## **Important Links**

**Class Website:** <http://www.mst.edu/~canisr/computersandthelaw>

All of the reading materials and course assignments will be posted on the class website.

## **Important Phone Numbers**

**Tel: 314-684-6616** -- My office phone number

**Tel: 636-728-1187** -- My home phone number

## **Class Preparation**

Before we meet each Tuesday evening, you should download and print out the handouts. You should also regularly check the class website for updates to the schedule and handouts. Finally, have the reading and lecture materials in front of you during the lectures to follow along and take notes.

## **Course Grading**

<b>Weight</b>	<b>Graded Work</b>
25%	Examination 1
25%	Examination 2
30%	Final Examination
10%	Attendance, Participation, and Oral Presentation
10%	Book Report

I reserve the right to curve final grades higher on an individual and classroom basis. Please note that the Academic Alert system may be used to issue a warning when warranted. More information about the system is available here: <http://academicalert.mst.edu/>

## **Reading Assignments**

Course readings are listed per day on the schedule link of the above course website. Make sure to read the material prior to the start of class.

## **Examinations**

All examinations are mandatory and will be posted on the class website. Late examinations may be penalized ten percent (10%) per day, unless prior arrangements have been made.

## **Book Report**

Ten percent (10%) of the final grade will be based on a book report. Students will be required to read a book from the acceptable book list and submit a book report on it. Format for the book report will be provided on the course website.

## **Course Project**

None.

## **Oral Presentation**

Format for the oral presentation will be discussed during class.

## **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic Dishonesty is subject to the rules in the Academic Regulations available at <http://registrar.mst.edu/academicregs/>.

## **Participation**

I cannot possibly listen to myself talk for 2½ hours. Thus, I will have active and lively classroom discussions. I will not only ask you about facts and rules, but we will often ask your thoughts on cases and issues.

## **Course Schedule**

The topic and their respective dates are posted on the course website but are subject to change. Please check the scheduling section for the most up to date information.

Last Updated: November 13, 2016