

Pratt

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Spring 2009: LIS 611: Information Policy

Course syllabus

Last updated: 01/07/09

Class hours: Tuesday 6:30-9 p.m. *PMC 612*

Office hours: room 604B: Wed 5-6 p.m., or by appointment.

Course description

The course will provide an overview and discussion of the range and scope of information policies as they affect the information society today, among them freedom of information, intellectual property, privacy, and government information. We will try and understand how tensions between conflicting laws and policies are resolved on a legal and pragmatic level. The course will be concerned primarily with access to and dissemination of information.

Course reading will rely on both primary and secondary materials, and will include statutes, case law, law reviews, scholarly journal articles, books and popular press.

Course Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Understand and define information policy
- Recognize and discuss the ways in which information policies control the flow of information in government and organizations at all levels
- Identify stakeholders in the development of information policy
- Identify key information policies and related legislation and case law

Course textbook:

There is no textbook for this course. A reading list is included here and will be updated as necessary. It includes articles and book chapters.

Several chapter of the following book are assigned, you may therefore consider purchasing them. The books is also available at PMC (Pratt Manhattan Library)

McDermott, Patrice (2007). *Who needs to know: The state of public access to federal government information*. Lanham, MD: Bernan Press.

Moore, Adam D. (ed.) (2005). *Information ethics: Privacy property and power*. Seattle: University of Washington Press.

It is highly recommended that you subscribe to the print edition of the New York Times. At about \$18 a month for students this will probably be the best spent investment

towards your education. While online access is available the paper edition will allow you to scan item more easily for your week-in-review assignment.

Since you will be writing a term paper, it is recommended that you have a copy of:

Publication manual of the American Psychological Association. Washington, DC : American Psychological Association, c2001. c2001. 5th Edition (commonly known as *APA Style Manual* .) Please use only the **5th Edition**. While online guides to APA exist, they are not nearly as complete as the print edition.

NOTE: please refer to the APA supplement for citing electronic sources. This supplement, published in 2007, is available on reserve in the Pratt-Manhattan library, and can be purchased directly from APA <http://books.apa.org/books.cfm?id=4210509> for \$11.95.

Communicating with your professor

E-mail is the best way. Please use drabina@pratt.edu

In the subject line please write "611 firstname lastname"

Moodle

Pratt uses Moodle, a learning management system, to enhance classroom learning. All students enrolled in the course have access to course materials on Moodle. Please make sure you know how to access and use Moodle.

Also, please note that Moodle facilitates communication using Pratt e-mail only. If you do not use your Pratt account, please have the Pratt e-mail forwarded to the account that you do use (you can do this through web-mail)

Course Format

The class will be structured as a lecture/seminar. While the professor will clarify main points of a topic, particularly the legal and logistic details, the main part of class will be devoted to discussion on the readings assigned for that week. Students will bring their own ideas, experience and interpretations to class and will learn from sharing and hearing others. Active participation is therefore an important part of the class and contributes significantly to your grade

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Writing Requirement:

Hard copies only (do not e-mail attachments except by prior arrangement)

Double space

Number pages

Style: Unless otherwise indicated write your papers in third person.

Proofread!

Spelling, grammar and punctuation matter.

All citations must follow APA style.

Grading

(For more details about grades see “grading policies” on my web site.)

All assignments must be completed to receive a passing grade in the course.

GRADING:

Grades will be calculated as follows:

Superior work:	A 4.0 (96-100)	A- 3.7 (90-95)	
Very good work:	B+ 3.3 (87-89)	B 3.0 (83-86)	B-2.7 (80-82)
Marginally satisfactory:	C+ 2.3 (77-79)	C 2.0 (70-76)	
Failed:	F 0.0 (0-69)		

Timeliness Requirement:

Late papers will receive a grade but no comments.

Late papers will receive a reduced grade.

Breakup of requirements

Participation and attendance	10%
Theoretical frameworks for policy studies	15%
Policy current events	35%
Term paper	40%

PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE (10%)

Participation: Success in the course will depend on reading, Web work, thinking about the material, participating in discussions, planning for the major projects and completing them in a professional manner. Take responsibility for staying current with the reading and the other work in the course.

Students are expected to actively participate and thoughtfully contribute to classroom discussion. Failure to do so will result in a reduced grade.

Students with 3 absences (for any reason, including documented medical reasons) can not expect to receive an A in the course, and, in accordance with Pratt Institute policy, may be asked to drop the course.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK FOR POLICY STUIDES (15%)

See separate handout for further instructions

Length: 5-7 pages

Due date: Feb. 17.

POLICY CURRENT EVENTS (25%)

IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TO WORK WITH A PARTNER ON THIS ASSIGNMENT

For the duration of the semester you will follow read, review, scan, analyze, summarize, quantify and qualify new stories from the United States and the world that relate to information policy.

Source include, but are not limited to, the New York Times, the Economist, listservs and web sources of your choice, and in any case no less than four news sources.

The New York Times is required

Your paper will include a quantitative (preferably with a table) and qualitative section as well as the discussion of current policy issues with a supporting theoretical foundation or implication analysis.

Further discussion will follow in class

Length: 12-15 pages

Due date: April 14

TERM PAPER (25%)

You are requested to write a term paper on a topic of your choice.

See separate handout for further instructions

Due date: April 25

Length: 15-20 pages

Information Policy – Spring 2009

Date	Topic	Reading & Assignment
1. Jan 20	President's Obama inaugural speech: Information policy implications	Overman & Cahill The U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights
2. Jan 27	Introduction & overview of course Information policy and values Theoretical frameworks for policy studies	Moore, chap. 1 McDermott chap. 2 Optional: Reidenberg, Pinker
3. Feb 3	Theoretical frameworks for policy studies The U.S. Constitution The US Federal court system	Discussion on week 1&2 readings continues. Optional: Toobin chap 1
4. Feb 10	Freedom of and access to information	McDermott chap. 3, <i>Due: Paper topic</i>
5. Feb 17	Intellectual property rights	Samuels, Moore Chap 6 & 10 & Cases p. 207 <i>Due: Theoretical framework paper</i>
6. Feb 24	Intellectual property in art & museum libraries Guest speaker: Barbara Hoffman, editor of <i>Art and Cultural Heritage: Law policy and practice</i>	Hoffman chap 8, 20, 54
7. March 3	A. Copyright in the digital age B. Digital Rights Management	A. Mazzone, , Pratt's image use chart, Pratt IP policy, Optional (& very short): Ramsey, Kennedy B. Bailey, Coyle <i>Due: Initial bibliography</i>
8. March 10	Freedom of speech in cyberspace and by the press	Toobin, Nunziato, Volokh, Moore cases p. 373
Wed. March 18 10:30 am	Spring break FOI day at SIBL Speaker: Rashmi Vasish, publicity/public relations department of the NY State Attorney, will talk about the Sunshine Law / Project Sunlight.	Attendance optional
9. March 24	Information Privacy The Privacy Act of 1974	Adams, Moore chap. 11
10. March 31	Freedom of Speech and Privacy Rights of children & students	Etzioni, Educause, Shappard <i>Due: Paper sections</i>
11. April 7	The Patriot Act and national security	Jaeger, Kitrosser,
12. April 14	Analyzing the 9/11 Commission report	9/11 report
13. April 21	Cybercrime, Computer security, data mining & hacking	Cain, Seifert, GAO report, Optional: Keefe, Ornstein,
14. April 28	Globalization and transborder data flow	Rabina, Chen, Regan, <i>Due: Term paper</i>
15. May 5	Student presentations	

- 9/11 commission report. Chapters 3, 6, 8, 11, 13
(<http://www.9-11commission.gov/report/index.htm>)
- Adams, Helen R. et al (2005). *Privacy in the 21st century*. Libraries Unlimited, Westport, CT. Chapters 1-2
Available from Moodle reserves
- Bailey, Charles (2006). Strong copyright + DRM + weak net neutrality = digital dystopia? (Preprint: <http://www.digital-scholarship.com/cwb/DigitalDystopia.pdf>)
- Cain, Mark (2003). Cybertheft, network security and the library without walls. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 29(4) 245-8.
Available from Moodle reserves
- Chen, Cindy (2004). United States and European Union approaches to internet Jurisdiction and their impact on e-commerce. *25 University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Economic Law* 423-454.
Available from Moodle reserves
- Coyle, Karen. (2007, Oct. 3). The role of digital rights management in library lending. http://www.indicare.org/tiki-read_article.php?articleId=95 (accessed 01/05/07)
- Educause. Privacy and the handling of student information in the electronic networked environments of colleges and universities
(<http://www.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/PUB3102.pdf>)
- Etzioni, Amitai (2004). Do children have the same First Amendment rights as adults? : On protecting children from speech. *79 Chicago-Kent Law Review* 3-53.
<http://dspace.wrlc.org/bitstream/1961/152/1/A316.pdf>
- GAO (2007, June). Personal information: Report to Congress. GAO 07-737.
<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d07737.pdf>
- Hoffman, Barbara T. (ed.) (2006). *Art and cultural heritage*. New York: Cambridge University Press
PMC 344.09 A784
Available on Moodle reserves
- Jaeger, Paul T. Bertot, John Carlo, McClure, Charles R. (2003). The impact of the USA Patriot Act on collection and analysis of personal information under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. *Government Information Quarterly* 20(3), 295-314.
(available from Library Literature)
- Keffe, Patrick Radden (2006, March 12), Can network theory thwart terrorists? *The New York Times*.
http://www.nytimes.com/2006/03/12/magazine/312wwln_essay.html
- Kennedy, Randy. (2007, Dec 7). If the copy is the artwork, then what's the Original? *The New York Times*

- Kitrosser, Heidi. (2007). Congressional Oversight of National Security Activities: Improving Information Funnels. *Cardozo Law Review* 29 (accessed 01/05/08 <http://ssrn.com/abstract=995014>)
- Mazzone, Jason (2006). "Copyfraud" . Brooklyn Law School, Legal Studies Paper No. 40 Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=787244>
- McDermott, Patrice (2007). *Who needs to know: The state of public access to federal government information*. Lanham, MD: Bernan Press.
PMC 323.445.1428
- Moore, Adam D. (2005). Information ethics: Privacy property and power. Seattle: University of Washington Press.
PMC 323.445 1428
- Nunziato, Dawn C. (2005). The death of the public forum in cyberspace. *20 Berkeley Tech. Law Journal* 1115-1171.
- Ornstein, Stephan J. (2005). The Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003. *The Journal of Structured Finance* 11(1) 27-39.
(available Library Lit.)
- Overman, E. Sam, Cahill, Anthony G. (1990). Information policy: A study of values in the policy process. *Policy Studies Review* 9 (4): 803-818.
Available from Moodle reserves
- Pinker, Steven (2008, Jan. 13) The Moral Instinct. *The New York Times Magazine*.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/13/magazine/13Psychology-t.html>
- Pratt Institute. Intellectual Property Policy. (2008)
http://www.pratt.edu/newsite/backgroundOpt/provost/1198250023_Final_Approved_by_BOT_Effective_01-01-08.pdf
- Pratt's image use chart.
- Rabina, Debbie L. & Johnston, Scott (2009). European Union Information Policy. *Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science*
Preprint available from Moodle reserves
- Ramsey, Nancy (2005, Oct. 16). The hidden cost of documentaries. *The New York Times*.
- Regan, Pricillia M. (2003). Safe Harbors or Free Frontiers? Privacy and transborder data flow. *Journal of Social Issues* 59(2) 263-282.
Available from Moodle reserves
- Reidenberg, Joel R. (1998) Lex Informatica: The formulation of information policy rules through technology. *Texas Law Review* 76, 552-584.

Available from http://reidenberg.home.sprynet.com/lex_informatica.pdf

Samuels, Edward (2000). *The illustrated story of copyright*. New York: Thomas Dunne Books.

Seifert, Jeffrey W. (2004). Data mining and the search for security: Challenges for connecting the dots and databases. *Government Information Quarterly* 21(4) 461-80.
(Library Literature)

Sheppard, Steve (2005) Children and the First Amendment. *Michigan State Law Review*, 809-842.
Available on Moodle reserves

Toobin, Jeffrey (2006, Jan. 16) Name that source: Why are the courts leaning on journalists? *The New Yorker* (accessed 01/05/08
http://www.newyorker.com/archive/2006/01/16/060116fa_fact)

Toobin, Jeffrey (2007). *The nine: Inside the secret world of the supreme court*. New York: Doubleday
Available on Moodle reserves

Volokh, Eugene (2005). Deterring speech: When is it "McCarthyism"? When is it proper?. *93 California Law Review* 1413-1453
<http://www.law.ucla.edu/volokh/mccarthyism.pdf>