

CS492 - Social Implications of Computing Spring 2020

Prof. Robin Cohen

Time and location: (MWF 830-920am(sec1), 930-1020am(sec2))

This message is dated April 8, 2020.

It clarifies how we will be using sections and groups during the now required online delivery of the course for the upcoming Spring 2020 term. The course is discussion-oriented and the aim is to manage discussions with a smaller subset of students, each time we have a discussion of a topic. As was the case with the in-person delivery of the course, there will be a timetable for the term, with specific discussions being managed on specific dates of the term. While we will encourage students to be online at the same time (the designated class time) for a more valued discussion experience, we will also allow students to join the discussion-of-the-day at a later hour the same day, and not be penalized whatsoever for their class participation grade. Discussions will happen on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, beginning May 11 and continuing until July 29 (holidays excepted).

All students will be assigned to either Section1 or Section2 as they are registered and will be required to join the discussion board of their section ONLY. When we form groups for groupwork, students will be working with peers in their Section of the course ONLY as well.

In order to make the discussions even more manageable, if the class numbers are sufficiently high, we will also split each section into two groups: one group will discuss on Mondays (and not Wednesdays) while the other will discuss on Wednesdays (and not Mondays) whenever we have a topic-of-the-week. A majority of the Fridays (and some of the weeks when there is no topic-of-the-week) will be used to run role playing exercises. For these dates, students continue to remain in their section to discuss but there is no splitting of students into smaller groups.