CSE 303:
Concepts and Tools for Software Development

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Overview of "Short Paper" on Societal Implications of Computing

Requirements

- 2–3 typed, single-spaced pages (4 okay...)

- Do *NOT* plagiarize (ask if you have questions)

- You may show me a draft; I will provide some sort of example

- 0–5 sources okay

- Approx. 1/2 *description* of issue raised in class and 1/2 informed, rational *opinion*

Example topics from last time

- Using 3rd-party libraries in an application

- Computers that should never be put on the Internet

- Whether code should indicate the "expertise" of the writer

- How could one be "negligent" when writing software

- ...

Grading

Looking for *crisp*, *dense*, *rational* writing

- Make every sentence count.

- Have a point and make it.

- Writing computer-science text has similarities with writing code.

(Of course), it does not matter whether I agree with you.

But you should agree with you; write something you care about.

Writing Example

Terrible:

There are a lot of issues related to bad software and where it comes from. I will discuss some of these issues. For example, one issue is whether software comes from a for-profit company or if instead it comes from just one individual like you or me. Another issue is how much the consumer pays for software, a little or a lot.

Good:

When considering the source of bad software, we should consider the entity creating the software (e.g., a for-profity compnay or an individual hobbyist) and the cost (if any) of the software.