

# Ethics Assignment

## 31272 Project Management and the Professional

**Marks:** 20 marks (20%)

**Submission Due:** 23:59 Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2025

**Report Submission:** Canvas (softcopy) **Maximum Length:** 2500 words (of body) **Anticipated**

**Commitment:** 10 hours per student **Group work:** This is an individual assignment.

**Further information:** It is essential to complete the Ethics Report as further assessments rely on the content.

*As a professional, you will often be asked about the ethical considerations of what you are doing. In this semester's case study there are several ethical questions that could be asked, for example the expansion of tourism into an ecologically fragile space, the possibility of a native title claim, will people (both staff and guests) be open to exploitation? Advances in automation, surveillance and communications have allowed a wide range of options for tracking people's activities. This has many potential applications from ensuring the safety of those at risk through to monitoring of people*

### 1 Background

See the semester case study. The Board is aware that some of the proposed features may cause an ethical issue. They are particularly concerned about the public perceptions of land use, security and data collection features. They would like to have a report on what may be considered unethical and why.

### 2 Tasks and Assessment

Using the case study supplied, identify 3 potential ethical considerations. Align these to the ACS code of ethics together with 2 other industry codes of ethics. You are expected to conceptualise the problem/issue, find relevant references for context, facts, theory and examples and come up with appropriate points of view. Your positions should be supported with argument and citations as appropriate. Marks will also be awarded for presentation and professionalism of the response.

#### 2.1 Scope (3 marks)

Like many projects, the case study can be interpreted in different ways. What is in the scope of your report, what is outside the scope. What problem are you attempting to solve with your report? Please provide a SMART scope statement (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Time bound). Definitions of terms should be cited with the associated references.

## 2.2 Three ethical considerations (3 marks)

What 3 ethical considerations associated with the case study do you see as important? Give a brief explanation of each ethical consideration and state why you see it as important.

## 2.3 International Codes of Conduct / Codes of Ethics (9 marks)

Research the Codes of Conduct and Codes of Ethics for **Information Technology** industry bodies representing Australia (i.e. Australian Computer Society (ACS)) plus **two** other national or international groups (e.g. Association for Computer Machinery (ACM), Project Management Institute (PMI), Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), British Computer Society (BCS), Computer Society of India (CSI), Institute of IT Professionals New Zealand (IITP) ,etc.).

Note: we expect you to use the 2023 version of the ACS Code of Professional ethics.

Answer the following in detail:

- a) In your opinion, and supplying reasoning, what evaluation would each Industry Code most likely give regarding each of the issues discussed in section 2.2
- b) Examine and compare the Codes of Conduct/Ethics for the three industry bodies. What are the major differences and similarities between the codes you have examined in regard to the case study subject matter? Why do you believe that these differences, similarities or areas of conflict are present?

Justify answers with **specific** references to items within the case study and within the Codes themselves.

## 2.4 Report Professionalism and Communication (5 marks)

The report should be written as if meant for a professional audience and not just as an attempt to satisfy an academic course requirement. It should communicate clearly, exhibit attention to detail and present itself to a high standard, including:

- a) Good document presentation and structure including:
  - FEIT coversheet
  - Title page (student name/number, tutor name, tutorial number, title, submission date)
  - Table of contents and page numbers
  - Executive summary
  - Report introduction
  - Numbered headings for each section
  - Report conclusion
  - Reference list page
  - Conforms to UTS Style Guide (page 2 of the FEIT cover sheet)
  - Complete ethical codes are NOT included.
- b) Clarity and insight
  - suitable word count (not counting title page, table of contents, Executive summary, appendices, reference list, etc.),
  - deals properly with each topic without verbosity,
  - shows a depth of analysis,
  - good English expression (including punctuation and spelling).

- c) Appropriate use of quotes, statistics and diagrams (where applicable) backed by properly cited sources (in-text). All references should be noted in the reference list at end of your report and employ correct APA style. All citations should be referenced and all references should be cited at least once.
- d) An appendix stating when and how Generative AI was used, or, if not used, why you chose not to use it (see section 3.4 below).

## 3 Report Submission

### 3.1 Submission Requirements

Assignments are required to be submitted to Turnitin via the 'Assignments' tab of Canvas for grading and plagiarism checking. Assignments are expected to be assessed and graded by Week 9.

### 3.2 Late Penalty

Overdue assignments will attract a late penalty per the Subject Outline. Any special consideration for late submission must be arranged with the Subject Coordinator well before the deadline.

### 3.3 Referencing Standards

All material derived from other works must be acknowledged and referenced appropriately using the UTS APA Referencing Style. For more information see:

<https://www.lib.uts.edu.au/help/referencing/apa-referencing-guide>

### 3.4 Use of AI technologies

For this assignment:

You are permitted to use AI technologies in an ethical and transparent manner to generate materials for background research and self-study. Only assistive use is permitted. Content generated by AI technologies or other sources and presented as your own work is academic misconduct as per the UTS Student Rules on misconduct.

1. Any use of generative AI tools must be acknowledged by citing their use through referencing in the assignment
2. Students must provide all interactions with the generative AI tool, including prompts and responses, as an Appendix to the assignment
3. If **no Generative AI is used**, then an appendix should be provided stating why you chose not to include Generative AI

It is your responsibility to check and verify the accuracy and integrity of the information used, and to rewrite any text provided by AI or other sources in your own words.

GenAI guidelines can be found at  
<https://studyguides.lib.uts.edu.au/genai>

### 3.5 Originality of Submitted Work

Students are reminded of the principles laid down in the "Statement of Good Practice and Ethics in Informal Assessment" (in the Faculty Handbook). Unless otherwise stated in a specific handout, all assessment tasks in this subject should be your own original work. Any collaboration with another student (or group) should be limited to those matters described in "Acceptable Behaviour" section of the Handbook. For essay questions, students should pay particular attention to the recognition of "Plagiarism" as described in that section of the Handbook. Any infringement by a student will be considered a breach of discipline and will be dealt with in accordance with Rules and By-Laws of the University. Penalties such as zero marks for assignments or subjects may be imposed.

### 3.6 Improve Your Academic and English Language Skills

HELPS (Higher Education Language and Presentation Support) Service provides assistance with English proficiency and academic language. Students needing to develop their written and/or spoken English can make use of the free services offered by HELPS, including academic language workshops, vacation courses, drop-in consultations and individual appointments (<https://www.uts.edu.au/current-students/support/helps>).

## 4 Useful Hints for This Assignment

*This task includes a milestone assessment component that evaluates your academic and professional communication. You may be guided to further language support after the completion of this subject if your results in this milestone task indicate you need more help with your language skills.*

The 2023 ACS code of ethics can be found at:

[https://www.acs.org.au/content/dam/acs/ACSimages/ethicsdiscipline/CodeOfProfessionalEthics\\_Mar\\_2023.pdf](https://www.acs.org.au/content/dam/acs/ACSimages/ethicsdiscipline/CodeOfProfessionalEthics_Mar_2023.pdf)

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