

# Professional Ethics

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## **1 Administrivia**

### **Announcements**

Presentations begin in two weeks First up: Maddy and Jessica. Hardcopy of paper due at time of presentation.

### **Assignment**

Read Chapter 9.

Turn in answers to these questions: 1, 4, 9.

### **From Last Time**

Computer reliability.

### **Coming Up**

Work and Wealth.

## 2 Chapter Summary

1. Strongly differentiated professions.
  - (a) Exceptions to ordinary morality by virtue of profession, not position.
  - (b) Role of efficacy.
2. Characteristics of a profession.
  - (a) Mastery of an esoteric body of knowledge.
  - (b) Autonomy, at personal and profession levels.
  - (c) Formal Organization. Sets standards; controls admission.
  - (d) Code of ethics.
  - (e) Social function.
3. Professional relationships:
  - (a) Employer-Employee.
  - (b) Client-Professional.
  - (c) Society-Professional.
  - (d) Professional-Professional.
4. Codes of ethics.

## 3 Discussion Questions

1. Should computing be a profession?

2. What about software engineering?
3. What about other sub-disciplines of computing?
4. Some thorny technical ethics cases:
  - (a) Challenger and Columbia disasters.
  - (b) Therac-25 disaster.
  - (c) e-Voting.
  - (d) RFID technology.
5. Exercises 21—.