

## *Midterm Research Paper* *COEN-288*

As many of you may know, the theme of the University this year is *Globalization* in its many forms. To this end, a major thematic of your *midterm research paper* assignment will be to focus on the “Global” aspects of the Software Patent/Copyright issue.

Over half of the class originates from a country other than the U.S. Those people may choose to investigate the Software Patent/Copyright laws in the country of their origin and discuss how those may affect “Global” issues.

The paper should address the legal issues, but concentrate on the Ethical issues involved in the Global Software Patent/Copyright debate.

You may perhaps pick a particular case, that you are familiar with, and analyze that, or just address the topic in general.

This paper should be an analytical essay, i.e., an in-depth discussion that also defends a particular position. *Defending a particular position* implies looking at the moral issue from a number of different ethical perspectives and providing a reasoned approach for your decision.

This paper must utilize *at least two* high quality academic sources outside of the required readings. The course textbooks and suggested readings will help you identify appropriate sources (e.g., the journals that originally published the articles, footnoted material, and lists of supplementary reading), and may contain non-assigned readings pertinent to your topic.

This paper should be consistent with University guidelines for research papers. Both form and content are important for the success of this assignment. The research paper shall utilize HTML as the presentation medium. Correct spelling, grammar, and citation of sources are expected.

Please see <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~sources/contents.html> for proper methods of citing references. (Please use the *Note* style of endnote, and provide an HTML link for each citation to the endnote).

This paper should be 5-7 pages in length, or if you are concerned about formatting, 2000-2500 words.

**An outline of your paper is to be posted to the website by midnight April 25. The paper is due by midnight May 6.**

N.B. The naming convention for each of these postings is:

<your DC logname>\_MidtermOutline.htm

<your DC logname>\_MidtermPaper.htm

e.g. nquinn\_\_MidtermOutline.htm