Do NOT begin the exam until you are instructed to do so
You’ll be given prompts for five questions. For each question write a few sentences to a few paragraphs addressing the question. Respond to the prompt below each question. There are two extra pages at the end if you need more room to write. Please do not write a brain-dump of everything you know about a question, respond to the prompt.
Each answer will be graded on a 0-3 scale: skipped, fair, good, excellent. Your midterm grade will be 12-15=A-range, 8-11=B-range, 4-7=C-range, 1-3=D-range, 0=F.

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1
PROBLEM 1:  (*IP man*)

The passage/quote below appears in one of the first background readings for this course (*A virtual counter-revolution*, The Economist from Sept 2, 2010).

Many media companies have already gone one step further. They use another part of the internet’s address system, the “IP numbers” that identify computers on the network, to block access to content if consumers are not in certain countries. Try viewing a television show on Hulu, a popular American video service, from Europe and it will tell you: “We’re sorry, currently our video library can only be streamed within the United States.” Similarly, Spotify, a popular European music-streaming service, cannot be reached from America.

Early in the semester this course was called *IP²*; explain in roughly a paragraph how both the Internet Protocol and Intellectual Property relate to this passage. In your response explain the meanings of both terms and how access is blocked using “IP numbers”.
PROBLEM 2:  (Number 9, Number 9, ...)

In the book *The Next Digital Decade: Essays on the Future of the Internet* (2010, eds: Szoka and Marcus) Tim Wu writes an article titled *Is Internet Exceptionalism Dead?* in which he says:

Looking at at the Internet, its founding and its development, we can find the same pattern [as in the founding of the United States] of a revolution, an ideology, and many “special causes.” While much of it was purely technical, there were deeply revolutionary ideas, even by technological standards, at the heart of the Internet, even if sometimes they were arrived at in accidental fashion or for pragmatic reasons.

Write roughly a paragraph in which you explain what Tim Wu means in this paragraph in using the words “revolution” and “ideology”. Concentrate more on the development of the Internet rather than its founding. You should relate your response to the entire passage quoted above; for full credit you should reference the roles of the IETF and the end-to-end architecture of the Internet.
Catholic open-source advocates have founded a group called El` eutheros to encourage the church to endorse such software. Its manifesto refers to “strong ideal affinities between Christianity, the philosophy of free software, and the adoption of open formats and protocols”. Marco Fioretti, co-founder of the group, says open-source software teaches the “practical dimension of community and service to others that is already in the church message”. There are also legal motivations. Commercial software such as Microsoft Word is widely pirated in many parts of the world, by Catholics as well as others. Mr Fioretti advocates the use of open-source software instead, because he doesn’t want people “to violate a law without any real reason, just to open a church document”.

Discuss what Marco Fioretti means in each of the three quotes of his given above. In explaining the meaning of these quotes be sure you demonstrate an understanding of free and open source software and the legal, pragmatic, and ethical dimensions of such software.
PROBLEM 4:  (The Concord Flies Again)

The passage below is from a Huffington Post article from September 9, 2011 titled YouTube Copyright Take-down Targets Punk Bands. The passage explains why songs made by punk bands that are not represented by the company SST records were taken down by YouTube in response to a request made by SST records. SST records represents other punk bands than the ones whose songs were taken down.

If YouTube's content identifying software is at fault for false DMCAs, then those using it should definitely alert YouTube about the glitches since it looks pretty creepy and bad to take down videos for which you do not own the copyrights. However, if people are purposefully DMCA-ing videos out of spite, and have a long record of false claims, perhaps YouTube should treat them with the same vigorous enforcement they show to copyright abusers.

YouTube’s PR person did not respond to my email questions about the accuracy of the Content ID software, however she did say:

“Unfortunately, in some cases, individuals abuse our notification process by submitting fraudulent claims. When we become aware of this, we take action by reinstating the videos and/or accounts affected, and taking appropriate action against the individual responsible.”

Write roughly a paragraph in which you explain the meaning of the verb “DMCA-ing” in the quote above as well as the noun phrase “false DMCAs”. You should provide an explanation and justification for why you think SST is asking for take-down notices. Include in your explanation what the term “content identifying software” is in the quote above.
The passage below is part of an online article that appeared in February 2010.

As for the next app, Wang confirmed that Smule is working on another title, but that “I can’t tell you what we’re making, because to be honest we don’t fully know.” Whatever it ends up becoming, Wang says there will likely be ties to social integration. “We’re looking to deep dive on the social – the community angle is very big. We want to truly reach kind of a next level of critical mass users, but also connections between users.” We’ll look forward to that for sure.

Write roughly a paragraph in which you explain the relevance of the quote above in the context of Compsci 82. In your response you should mention who Wang is, what Smule is, what “deep dive on the social” means and what the connection is to the title of this course “technical and social foundations of the Internet”.

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Name _________________________________ and NetID ____________