

**Politeness is the flower of Humanity. Joseph Joubert**

**SYLLABUS COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**Course Title: Online Civility in The Age of Social Media: Are We more Connected or Disconnected?**

**Course Description:** The aim of this course is to create an awareness about the concepts “**Online Civility and Incivility**” in the age of Social Media. As Humans we are all bonding with social norms and values that strengthen our interconnectedness via all channels of communication including Social Media. The social norms and values can bind human to human, people to people, intercultural communities at large together and promote collective good manners or netiquettes based on the principles of civility. The social norms and values can have a significant impact on everyday life of people in the Digital Age. Netiquette is the correct or acceptable way of communicating on the internet.

**General Objective:** This special class is primarily designed for all potential enrolled to have a constructive understanding and conversation about these two key questions and brainstorm on them together during the five consecutive sessions. The two main questions are : (1) Why is civility declining in society in the age of Social Media? (2) Are we more connected or disconnected?

**Instructor :** Antoine Laguerre, Ed.D.

**VA:** Virtual Assistant

**Key Concepts:** Online Civility, Decency, Politeness, Mutual respect, Incivility, Social norms, Social values, Human values, Communication, Social values, Phishing or Scam email, Spam, Misinformation, Disinformation, Fake News, Defamation, malware and multiple types of viruses that could damage all our electronic devices, etc.

**Number of Sessions : 5**                      **Semester:** Spring 2025

**Day of the Week:** Monday                      **Time :** 2:30-3:45 pm..

**Site:** UD OLLI ONLINE/ UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

**FIVE SESSIONS**

<b>Sessions &amp; Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Learning Objectives</b>	<b>Teaching Strategies</b>
Session #1 March 31, 2025	Civility Introduction & Civility Characteristics in the social system	The Lifelong Learners will be able to share their understanding about this concept	Discussion & Active Learning
Session #2 April 7, 2025	Social Norms and values in the Digital Age. Are we more connected or disconnected?	The Lifelong Learners will be able to reflect on social norms and values in the Digital Age	Discussion & Active Learning
Session #3 April 14, 2025	Is Technology making us less social or reasonable?	The Lifelong Learners will express their emotions about technology including about A.I Artificial Intelligence	Discussion and Active Learning
Session # 4 April 28, 2025	Is Technology taking over or protecting our privacy? Illustrate with experiences	The Lifelong Learners will be able to share their own experiences with the use of technology over the years	Discussion and Active Learning
Session #5 May 2, 2025	Civility in the Social Media Age. Analyzing the Rules of Netiquette based on Online Civility.	The Lifelong Learners will be able to increase their knowledge about Online civility based on the rules of Netiquette	Discussion and Active Learning