Instructions: Complete this assignment in your group and submit it by email by 11:00 pm on April 30. Use the ASCE Code of Ethics at https://www.asce.org/inside/codeofethics.cfm.

15. (Story adapted from ASCE News) An engineering firm hired another engineer as a subconsultant to study the soil types at a site. The engineer’s report stated that the soil consisted of “gravel, sandstone, brown coarse sand, and light brown well graded sand”. However, after a contractor raised concerns that the report did not match conditions at the site, a member of the firm investigated and found no evidence of soil borings—that is, no evidence that the subconsultant tested the soil. Furthermore, the entire site consisted of volcanic rock. Briefly discuss whether the subconsultant acted ethically. Cite relevant portions (i.e., canons and subparagraphs) of the ASCE Code of Ethics.

16. Suppose you know of an engineer in another firm who falsifies traffic studies to save the client some money by reducing the number of lanes required. Briefly discuss whether you have an ethical obligation to act. Cite relevant portions (i.e., canons and subparagraphs) of the ASCE Code of Ethics.

17. You eventually gain enough experience that you can start your own engineering firm. If the mayor and city council appoint you to be city engineer, then your firm will be responsible for completing the municipal engineering work for your city as well as reviewing plans for private projects in your city that other engineers have prepared. City elections are approaching, and you are considering whether your firm should contribute to campaigns of candidates. Briefly discuss whether contributing as a firm to the campaign of a particular candidate is ethical. Cite relevant portions (i.e., canons and subparagraphs) of the ASCE Code of Ethics.

18. (True story, unfortunately) A female ISU student attended a trade show in construction engineering with several other ISU students. When she approached one booth, the man representing the company said to her, “Take off your top.” That is, he asked her to undress.

   a. Briefly discuss whether this man acted ethically according to the ASCE Code of Ethics. Cite relevant portions of the Code.
   b. How should the targeted student (or the students accompanying her) respond to this situation?
   c. Regardless of how you answered part a, would the man’s behavior be acceptable for a civil engineer educated at ISU? [Hint: No.]