

Information Security
INF 350E (27195)/385T (27325) – Spring 2018
Friday 0900-1200

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Course Overview

This class will be an overview of the field of information security, including security in information technology systems. It is meant to be an introduction to the topic, with a deliberate industry focus. The course will cover definitions, concepts, and goals that are commonly agreed upon by information security practitioners and industry and certification bodies.

In addition to diving into the lingo and professional activities of enterprise cyber security, the course will take a complementary and critical approach in which we will explore other and alternate conceptions of security and privacy, supplemental readings, and exploratory projects.

Course Objectives

The major areas of learning and course objectives for this class include:

1. Fundamentals of information and IT security
2. How businesses and governments approach enterprise security
3. How society adapts to security, risks, and threats
4. How security overlaps with other domains, including privacy, surveillance, identity, and national security

Assignments

Assignments will include reading and in-class discussions, exercises and writing assignments, and class projects. Depending on the size and composition of the class, these assignments vary and we will discuss them in more detail during the first day we meet.

In general, assignments look like this:

Assigned Readings – We will read several required texts, including books and articles that are assigned during the semester (including by the students themselves.) I expect everyone to have completely read all assignments prior to class and be ready to discuss.

Discussions – Similarly, I expect everyone to participate in class. Actively. This is a graduate level class and that means any classes that turn into lectures by me represent a failure on both our parts. It is incumbent upon all of you to keep me from lecturing.

Practicals and Labs – We will apply a “hands on” approach to security through the use of labs and practical exercises designed to teach specific security-related skills as well as simulating what life is like in an enterprise security program.

Papers and Projects – In order to apply the readings and discussions, I’ll be asking you to undertake papers and projects over the course of the semester. There will be some choice and flexibility involved here. We’ll talk more about these assignments in class the first day and throughout the semester.

Grades

Given that the class only meets once a week, it is critical that you attend each scheduled class session. If you must miss a class you must let me know well ahead of time and arrange with one

of your colleagues to take notes for you or cover any assignments due. I reserve the right to impose grading penalties on students who miss class.

Class Participation – keeping up with the readings, resulting in regular and engaged participation in class discussions, is required and counts for 1/3 of your final grade.

Per University policy, the grading scale for this class is A, B, C, D, and F.

Office Hours: By Appointment

Required Textbooks

There are no required texts for this class. Readings will be selected and assigned around specific topics as the semester progresses.

Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty

Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University. Since such dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. For further information please view the University catalog: <http://catalog.utexas.edu/general-information/the-university/#universitycodeofconduct>

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities may request appropriate academic accommodations from the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, Services for Students with Disabilities, 471-6259.

Calendar:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Activity</u>	
Jan 19	Course Introduction	Review <i>Syllabus</i>
Jan 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Core Concepts• Project Planning	General Concepts
Feb 2	Core Concepts	Confidentiality, Integrity, & Availability
Feb 9	Project	Student led activities
Feb 16	Core Concepts	People, Process, & Technology
Feb 23	Project	Student led activities
Mar 2	OPEN	
Mar 9	Project	Midpoint Project Evaluation
Mar 16	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>	

Mar 23	Core Concepts	Governance, Risk, & Compliance
Mar 30	Project	Student led activities
Apr 6	OPEN	
Apr 13	Project	Student led activities
Apr 20	OPEN	
Apr 27	Project	Final Project Evaluation
May 4	Last Day Close things out	