

Sam Houston State University

Department of Digital Forensics

DF 534: Digital Security

3 Semester Credit Hours

Fall 2007

General Information

Classroom Location: WH 114
Class Time: Wednesday 6-9 as scheduled
Instructor: Dr. Karon Murff
Office: WH 108
Phone: 294 1075
Email: knm002@shsu.edu

Office Hours

Tuesday 2 – 5 pm

Wednesday 2 – 5 pm

- And by appointment

The most effective way of contacting me is by email:

Course Title: Digital Security

Course Description

This course introduces the student to basic security needs. The course will include, but not be limited to examination of individual vs. government privacy issues, federal encryption standards, the different layers of security currently available, cryptography, Steganography, and strategies for evaluation and selection of security methods.

Course Objectives

On completion of this course, students will:

1. Have an appreciation of the need for a multilayered approach to digital security
2. Have an understanding of the business and law contexts in which digital security resides
3. Have an understanding of the limitations and potential of security policies and procedures in protecting digital resources.
4. Be able to evaluate and recommend appropriate encryption, authentication and steganographic resources in a commercial context.

Required Texts

The Art of Intrusion by Kevin D. Mitnick & William L. Simon
ISBN 0-7645-6959-7

Tangled Web, Tales of Digital Crime from the Shadows of Cyberspace by Richard Power
ISBN 0-7897-2443-X

Secrets and Lies Digital Security in a Networked World by Bruce Schneier
ISBN 0-471-25311-1

A Devil's Triangle by Peter Brookes
ISBN 0-7425-4852-6

Other Texts as assigned.

Required Supplies

None at this time

Optional Texts, References or Supplies

CD's or other data storage materials

Attendance Requirements

This course will be largely internet based. Student attendance is mandatory for all class sessions. Absence from any and each class period will result in no grade for the class missed. Documented medical related absences are exempt from this policy.

Assignments

Assignment are expected to be turned in on or prior to the due date. Late assignments will not be accepted.

On-line discussion will be a large part of your grade. Reading assignments will be posted to Blackboard. Each student will be required to read the assignment by the due date and post to the on-line discussion on Blackboard. Each student will be required to post for each reading assignment comments and critiques on the subject matter just read. Comments and discussion are required from other students. Do NOT repeat back a synopsis of the reading assignment. Comments and discussion are to be based on original thoughts. Every Friday each student is to critique the thoughts and comments of the other students on the roster. Each classmate is to be rated from highest to lowest. DO NOT post the critique to Blackboard. Email this critique directly to me by midnight each Friday. Your grade will be based on critiques by classmates and instructor review. No harassment or profanity will be allowed. Please treat each and every classmate with respect.

Labs

There will be 3 lab cases assigned. Students may complete the lab work in the digital forensic labs.

Exams

The course grading system includes three tests and a final examination. Each of the tests will consist of 10 short answer (1 – 2 paragraphs) questions. The final examination will consist of 15 short answer questions. The final will be comprehensive. No make up tests/examinations will be allowed save for documented medical emergencies.

Research/Writing Assignment

The research assignment will consist of a research paper to be written in APA style. There should be no less than 15 references. The research paper will be presented to the class at the end of the semester.

Grading Criteria

Each test will be worth 100 points.

Labs will each be worth 100 points.

The research paper will be worth 100 points.

Discussion participation will be worth 300 points.

A = 90%

B = 80%

C = 70%

Academic Dishonesty: Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. A complete detail of the policy may be found at: <http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

Classroom Rules of Conduct: Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. Students are to turn off all cell phones while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination. Students may tape record lectures provided they do not disturb other students in the process.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days: Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf

Students with Disabilities Policy: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

http://www.shsu.edu/%7Evaf_www/aps/811006.html

Visitors in the Classroom: Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.