

IS 342 – Management of Information Assurance

NORWICH UNIVERSITY – SPRING 2010

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1 Course Description

This course focuses on management of the information assurance process. Topics include human factors in reducing security breaches, security incident detection and response, remediation, management's role in information assurance, and other considerations in framing and implementing information assurance policies. The final section reviews current topics of particular interest and activity in the field of information assurance. IS342 may be taken before taking IS340.

2 Goals and Outcomes

The goal of the course is to provide a foundation for practical work and further study in information assurance. By the end of the course, students should be able intelligently and usefully to discuss these topics at a management level:

- Fundamentals of intellectual property law
- Software development and quality assurance
- Managing patches and vulnerabilities
- Principles of ethical decision-making in the information technology field.
- Guidelines for effective security policies.
- Effective employment practices relevant to security in conjunction with human resources staff.
- Vulnerabilities assessments
- Suitable operations security controls on production systems.
- Appropriate-use policies for Internet access and e-mail.
- Effective security-awareness programs.
- Social psychology to implement security policies effectively.
- Standards for security products
- Application-program security controls
- Monitoring and control systems
- Audit and control of information systems.
- Cyber investigations
- Computer security incident response team management
- Data backup and recovery procedures to support business continuity and disaster response plans.
- Business continuity plans.
- Disaster recovery plans.
- Collaboration with law enforcement in data gathering, preservation and forensic analysis.
- Modern principles of risk assessment and risk management.
- Management responsibilities for information assurance.
- US legal and regulatory issues
- The role of the CISO
- Developing security policies
- Outsourcing security
- Privacy
- Security in the medical informatics field.
- Censorship and content filtering in the USA and overseas.

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3 Mechanics

3.1 Classes will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:50:03 to 12:04:57 in Dewey 309. Attendance is mandatory; a record of attendance will be kept. More than two unexcused absences will result in expulsion from the course with an F grade. See §5 below for more details.

3.2 Textbook: Bosworth, S., M. E. Kabay, & E. Whyne (2009), eds. *Computer Security Handbook, 5th Edition*. Wiley (New York). ISBN 978-0-471-71652-5. 2040 pp in 2 volumes. Index. AMAZON < <http://www.amazon.com/Computer-Security-Handbook-2-Set/dp/0471716529> > Also available in CD-ROM version. < <http://www.amazon.com/Computer-Security-Handbook-CD-ROM/dp/0471716537> >

3.3 Methods of Assessment

3.3.1 Preliminary Written Assignment: 5% of final grade

Students will write a 750-word research paper on an assigned topic to be submitted by the end of the third week of class. This essay will provide an opportunity for detailed commentary and correction that will support better research and writing of the term paper.

3.3.2 Term paper: 30% of final grade

Students will write a 3,500-4,500 word research paper on a suitable topic to be selected in conjunction with the instructor. The topic is to be approved on or before the end of the 4th week of the course. The outline is to be submitted on or before the 6th week of the course. The first draft is due on or before the 10th week of the course. The final draft is due by the 14th week of the course. Late submissions for any of these steps will result in reduction of grades by 1 point per day from the total score allotted.

3.3.3 Quizzes: 20% of final grade

There will be FOUR in-class, CLOSED-book quizzes involving multiple-choice questions, and short-answer questions to be completed in 10 minutes.

3.3.4 Mid-term exam: 20% of final grade

OPEN-book 75-minute exam on Thursday 4 March 2010 that may include multiple-choice, short-answer, short-essay and blank-paper questions.

3.3.5 Final exam: 20% of final grade

The final exam will be an OPEN-book TAKE-HOME essay exam with three management-level 500-word memoranda responding to realistic questions raised by managers querying a CISO about security issues.

3.4 Term-Paper Presentation: 5% of final grade

Students will present their term-paper topic in class in a short lecture. Time allotted will depend on the number of students in the class. Students may speak with or without audiovisual aids. Grading will include the quality of the content and of the class discussion led by the speaker.

3.5 OPTIONAL Class Presentation: up to maximum of additional 10% of final grade

Students may volunteer to be in charge of one of the class lectures and discussions on a topic selected through discussion with the instructor. Grading will include the depth of knowledge of the speaker and the quality of the class discussion engendered by the student lecturer. One 20 minute lecture will be granted up to 1 additional grade point on the final grade.

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3.5.1 Participation in Moodle Discussions

Students may participate in online discussions in the Moodle classroom devoted to this course. The instructor will assign up to 2 points of extra credit to be added to the overall quiz score for each valuable contribution to the discussions. Good postings include pointers to and analysis of news articles and analytical discussions of topics appropriate to the class.

3.5.2 Extra Written Assignments

Students can submit extra assignments such as book reviews, summaries of interesting articles, and so on. These will contribute points to the total **quiz score** and can compensate for less-than-perfect grades on required assignments, quizzes and exams. No more than one extra-credit assignment per week is permitted but there is no limit to the word-count. The point-score will be calculated using a ratio of up to 1 extra point per 50 words. No extra-credit assignments are accepted in May.

4 Cheating and Plagiarism

Students are graded on an individual basis and must therefore complete their own work. Students are reminded of the University's Policy against cheating and plagiarism < <http://www.norwich.edu/about/policy/academic/appendix1.html> >. Ignorance of the University's Rules is not a valid defense against accusations of academic dishonesty. If in doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism, ask before submitting assignments. Instances of cheating and of plagiarism will be reported to the Academic Integrity Committee. Penalties include expulsion from the University.

5 Attendance Policy – no more than 3 unexcused absences

University regulations stipulate that “Unless stated otherwise, the maximum number of permitted absences is the number of times the course meets per week. When the student has reached the maximum number of permitted absences, the faculty member will warn the student of impending dismissal from class with a grade of ‘F.’ This warning letter will include the course number and section and dates(s) of absence(s). The letter will state that any future unexcused absences may result in recommendation to the Vice President of Academic Affairs through the course School Dean that the student be dismissed from the class with a grade of ‘F.’ A copy of the warning letter will go to the student's academic advisor and to the Commandant and Vice President of Student Affairs.”

6 Additional Notes

- Students are expected to read the assigned readings before coming to class, discuss them in class, and then to review them after the class.
- There will be no *grading on a curve*. There are no predetermined numbers of final letter grades.
- Review questions will be distributed to students throughout the term. These example questions will not limit the scope of actual exam questions, and are merely intended for review and for exam preparation.
- Students are encouraged to study together but may not collaborate during exams. Students are individually responsible for all assigned readings, lecture, and discussion material.

7 About your Instructor < <http://www.mekabay.com/cv> >.

