CIS 303: CYBERSECURITY AND SOCIETY

Class Schedule:	Monday, Wednesday 2pm to 3:50pm
Instructor:	Chad Johnson
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Office hours:	Mondays and Wednesdays, 11am to 1:50pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course presents the principles of applied sociology that account for the human factors in security systems. Topics include an examination of the human role in cybersecurity, the role of security in the context of an organization, the mutually influential relationships between technology and society, and a special focus on human-vector attacks and their mitigation strategies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the end of this course, students will be able to:
- Understand cybersecurity policies that are effective and ethical.
- Analyze security systems and solutions for weaknesses related to human interaction.
- Develop and implement effective security awareness training programs.
- Recognize the role of information assurance and security in the context of a larger organization.
- Explain the impact and influence of technology on human behavior, with emphasis on privacy and compliance.
- Develop appropriate identity and access managements policies and recognize access control models.

TEXTS/LEARNING RESOURCES

- The Hacker and the State: Cyber Attacks and the New Normal of Geopolitics. Ben Buchanan. ISBN: 9780674987555
- Social Theory After the Internet: Media, Technology, and Globalization. Ralph Schroeder. ISBN: 9781787351226 (https://www.uclpress.co.uk/products/95132) (Open-Access PDF)
- Recommended, not required:
    - Cyberethics: Morality and Law in Cyberspace. ISBN: 9781284081398.

COURSE GRADING:

Grades will be assessed using a variety of methods to include:
- 2 exams (mid-term and final) – 15% each (30%)
- 1 term paper (2000-4000 words) – 20%
- 5 writing assignments – 10% each (50%)

GRADE SCALE:

A: score >= 90	A-: 87 <= score < 90	
B+: 83 <= score < 87	B: 80 <= score < 83	B-: 77 <= score < 80
C+: 73 <= score < 77	C: 70 <= score < 73	C-: 65 <= score < 70
D: 60 <= score < 65		
F: score < 60		

EXAMS:

• Paper exams taken in class are closed book and no-computers/phones, but open-notes – whatever you can write onto the front and back of a single 3" x 5" standard index card. If you print this, use 14pt Times New Roman font, and be double-spaced. I do not often give paper exams these days, but I might so I leave this here.

• Exams taken on Canvas are open-book, and you are free to use all resources at your disposal to complete the exam. Plagiarism and cheating, however, will not be tolerated. NO collaboration is allowed on exams.

• Final exam is NOT comprehensive.

• In general, any test or exam CANNOT be made up.

• If you miss a test or exam due to unavoidable circumstances (e.g., health), you must inform the instructor as soon as possible. A written explanation along with the supporting documents must be submitted to the instructor upon request.

ASSIGNMENTS AND DEADLINES:

• Each assignment must be submitted by 11:59pm on the day it is due. Late submissions must be submitted to the Late Submissions dropbox. They will be considered in my own time for reduced points.

• You must submit your assignments online through Canvas. I will not take submissions in email, unless the university verifies that Canvas was malfunctioning or unavailable.

• All sources should be parenthetically cited and included in a Works Cited list at the end of each paper. Use APA citation. Uncited sources will reduce your grade. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Case law citations should be done in italics (i.e. *U.S. v. Lopez*).

• All papers should use 1" margins, 12pt Times New Roman font, and be double-spaced.

Assignment	Description
Writing Assignments	I will provide you with a prompt/topic. You will write a paper on that topic, supported with citations that are appropriate for university-level work. Your paper should contain a complete and well-reasoned response that focuses on the contextual and substantive elements of the prompt. Your analysis should focus on identifying the ways technology influences human behavior – particularly the role security plays in organizations or society. These are 2-5 pages.
Term Paper	This is a short term-paper on topic of your choice related to the course. Suggested topics are technology as it relates to: Inequality, public and social capital, political participation, the economy, cultural participation. You are not limited to these topics. This paper will be between about 2000-4000 words long.
Exams	Exams are open book. It will consist of questions randomly selected from a bank. Formats are multiple-choice, multi-select, and true/false. You will get two attempts. All exams are curved.

WHAT IS A SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS?

• You will take stance and provide your own thoughts on the topic. You are not restating or explaining a problem. Each idea presented in your analysis and your conclusions in the response should be logical.

• Your analysis should show that you can understand the topic and can formulate your own hypothesis. Be sure that you have not misconstrued the topic, nor ignored any potential concerns or biases inherent in your response.

• A substantive analysis will not provide a recount of the contents of the subject, but demonstrate an understanding of the subject's argument.

• The submissions should include analysis from the perspective of technology's influence and interaction with human behaviors, and the role security plays in an organization or society. For example, an article about vehicle safety features like crash avoidance should not contain an analysis from the perspective of the competitive market advantage new features provide a manufacturer. An analysis on how crash avoidance technology might influence the behavior of drivers or how such technology might fit into the risk management strategy of a trucking company would be appropriate.

WHAT IS A CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS?

• You place the subject within context, demonstrating an understanding of the subject as a whole or reflecting additional research outside of the subject itself.

• Your contextual analysis should include temporal qualities of the topic:

  o Your contextual analysis includes acknowledgement of the historical trends in the discipline that led to the subject's creation. For example, an article about cryptocurrency would have to include some mention of the reason cryptocurrency was created to begin with.

  o You should identify why the subject exists and where it fits within the current discourse on the topic. What is the message and why was it created? For example, an analysis of *Miranda v. Arizona* that identifies the legacy of Miranda warnings issued by police without demonstrating understanding of the purpose of such warnings.

  o Your analysis should also include some discussion of the apparent future of the topic should trends hold. For example, if you are analyzing an article written about AI, you should include mention of the ways that technology could influence society.

• The key here is to demonstrate that you understand the topic, not to restate the article itself. The prompts only serve as a tool to help you begin to explore the topic not a definitive beginning and end of your analysis.

CANVAS:

The Canvas URL is https://canvas.uwsp.edu. Use your UWSP NetID and password to login. We use Canvas for announcements, assignments, and exams. You will need to use it.

REGRADES:

Scores of Assignments, Forensic Challenge, and Exams will be posted in Canvas, and announcements will be made in Canvas. After the scores are announced, you have 7 days to request for regrading by contacting the instructor (office hours or email). Your grade will be final after 7 days.

OFFICE HOURS POLICY:

• I prefer that you contact me via email.
• However, you are still welcome to my office to ask me any questions at any other times.
• I fear the phone.
• For online courses, standing Zoom meetings will be held. You can join them anytime to speak with me. I essentially sit there in the meeting during these times just to be available to students. If I do not let you into the meeting right away, be patient – that means I'm with another student. I will let you into the meeting as soon as I'm free.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

The university cannot and will not tolerate any form of academic dishonesty by its students. This includes, but is not limited to cheating on examinations, plagiarism, or collusion. **Any form of academic dishonesty may lead to an F grade for this course. I assure you I take this extremely seriously.**

STUDENTS IN NEED OF ACCOMODATIONS:

If you require accommodation based on disability, please let me know. I am willing to provide any reasonable accommodation you require. The sooner you inform me the better.

RECORDED LECTURES:

I may record lectures and post them online. I do this as a convenience for students, not as an obligation. Online postings aren't a substitute for regular attendance of class, and I make no guarantee that they will be complete or available.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Week	Lecture Topics	Assignment
1	The Role Technology Plays in Society	
2	Introduction to Social Theory	Assignment 1
3	Hackers – Modern and Ancient	
4	Data, Information, Knowledge, and Wisdom	Assignment 2
5	Social Engineering – Hacking Humans	
6	Misinformation, Disinformation, and Propaganda	Assignment 3
7	Cyber-Warfare	
8	Digital Citizenship in the Information Age	Mid-Term Exam
9	Civil Transgressions in a Digital Medium	
10	What is Big Data?	Assignment 4
11	How Big Data Shapes Everyday Life	
12	'Murica and the Internet – Constitutional Law	Assignment 5
13	Privacy as a Right in the Big Data Era	
14	Hacktivism, Activism, and Social Change	
15	The Future of Cybersecurity	Term-Paper Due
16	Final Exam	