

CSEC 340: Fundamentals of Information Assurance

Winter 2022-2023 / Section 501



Course and Instructor Information

Instructor: Brian Greenberg

Office: Daley 200B or online

Office Hours: T/R 10:00-10:45am, by appointment.

Class Time/Place: T/R 11:50-1:20pm @ Lewis Center, 25 E. Jackson Blvd Rm. 1217

E-mail: brian.greenberg@depaul.edu



About Your Instructor

I have over 30 years of experience in the field of information systems and technology, including managing teams at companies of various sizes ranging from the Fortune 100 to startups. I'm a [Forbes contributor](#) and a member of the Forbes Technology Council. I have also lived and worked internationally in Japan and Europe. My areas of expertise include digital transformation, automation, turnaround management, product development, cybersecurity, data storage, and data protection. In addition to being an Adjunct Professor in the College of Computing and Digital Media at DePaul University, I also occasionally guest lecture at Loyola and Roosevelt Universities and have previously served as an Adjunct Professor of Philosophy at William Rainey Harper College. I hold a B.S. in Philosophy & Applied Computer Science from Illinois State University and an M.A. in Whole Systems Design & Systemic Philosophical Praxis from Antioch University, Seattle. Systems theory, thinking, and design are my passions. In my free time, I enjoy hiking, kayaking, reading, drinking coffee, writing comedy, telling stories, and performing as an actor and improviser in Chicago's comedy community. You can find a detailed work history on my [LinkedIn profile](#). Feel free to connect with me online for updates and commentary on the tech industry. I look forward to an exciting quarter together.

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Textbook

Merkow & Breithaupt (2014). *Information Security: Principles and Practices*. 2nd Edition. Pearson IT Certification. ISBN 13: 9780789753250

Available at:

- <http://www.informit.com/store/information-security-principles-and-practices-9780789753250>
- Amazon
- DePaul Bookstore (price matches Amazon)
- Barnes & Noble

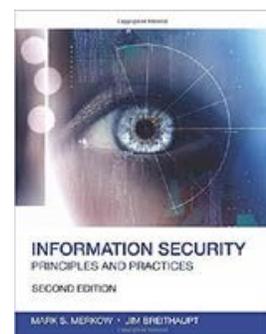


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Course Description

This lecture/discussion course surveys the fundamental elements of computer security and information assurance. Topics may include confidentiality, integrity, and availability; security policies; authentication; access control; risk management; threat and vulnerability assessment; standard attack/defense methods; and ethical issues.

Prerequisite: None

Learning Outcomes

After the course, you will be able to:

- Understand and contextualize the principles of information security in complex systems and organizations
- Understand, develop, and implement cybersecurity controls, security policies, procedures, and programs
- Perform threat, vulnerability, and risk assessments
- Plan security awareness, training, and education activities
- Confidently respond to new cybersecurity exploits, campaigns, and challenges
- Think critically about the role of a cybersecurity expert
- Think critically about the broader set of factors affecting information security management

Grading

Assignment	Value	Percentage Grade	Letter Grade	Manner of Fulfillment
Quiz 1	10%	92-100	A	Excellent
Quiz 2	10%	90-91	A-	
Quiz 3	10%	88-89	B+	Very Good
Quiz 4	10%	82-87	B	
Participation	20%	80-81	B-	Satisfactory
Mid-Term Exam	20%	78-79	C+	
Final Exam	20%	72-77	C	
		70-71	C-	
Total	100%	68-69	D+	Poor
		62-67	D	
		60-61	D-	
		0-59	F	

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Week-by-Week (Tentative)

Week	Week of	Event	Chapters
1	1/3	Introductions, expectations, assumptions, and diving into the first two chapters.	Chapter 1 Chapter 2
2	1/10	Quiz 1 (Chapters 1-4)	Chapter 3 Chapter 4
3	1/17		Chapter 5 Chapter 6
4	1/24	Quiz 2 (Chapters 5-7)	Chapter 7
5	1/31	Mid-Term Exam (Chapters 1-7)	Chapter 8
6	2/7		Chapter 9 Chapter 10
7	2/14	Quiz 3 (Chapters 8-10)	Chapter 11
8	2/21		Chapter 12
9	2/28	Quiz 4 (Chapters 11-14)	Chapter 13 Chapter 14
10	3/7		
Finals Week	3/14	Final Exam	

Coursework

Assignments

- Detailed instructions will be posted in D2L.
- All assignments are due by 11:30 p.m. on the date specified. Assignments are considered on time only if submitted on the due date as per the submission guidelines.
- Late work is **only** accepted up to 24 hours after the due date for a deduction of 50%. No work will be accepted after that. It will help if you plan ahead of time. No excuses will be accepted. Please do NOT wait until the last minute to deliver assignments and DO plan for a possible computer or network problems.
- Any instance of copying, cheating, or plagiarism will be penalized for any deliverables. Students handing in similar work will receive a zero on the assignment and face disciplinary actions. All assignments will be checked for plagiarism. Assignments with higher than 20% similarity will not be graded (will receive zero credit).

Quizzes, Exams, and Tests

- You will have four quizzes which will be conducted online in D2L.
- The tests may include materials from both the textbook and the topics covered in the lectures. Some of the lecture materials may not be found in the book. Therefore, attending class regularly and viewing and participating in all online activities is essential.
- All quizzes and exams are individual work.
- Mid-term and final exams will be online in D2L, similar to the quizzes. More information will be posted in D2L.
- Tests will be in the form of multiple-choice and True/False questions.
- Students are required to take tests at the scheduled time.
- There will be NO MAKEUP TEST. If you miss a test without a valid excuse, then your grade on that will be zero. If you miss a test with a valid reason and provide proper documentation along with the “Student Absence Notification Form” to the instructor, your test grade will be used as the grade for the missed exam. Documentation must be given to your instructor no later than one week following the exam. Detailed instructions can be found at [this link](#).
- If you have any questions concerning a grade you receive on an exam, it is your responsibility to inform me within one week of the exam. Grades will not be discussed after that time.

Participation

I expect you to attend each class, log in to D2L and consume all materials and comments regularly; it is the essential action you can take to master the course objectives. You are responsible for all material covered, assignments delivered or received, and announcements made in class sessions that you miss. I expect you to watch all video recordings; in particular, you will complete your participation requirements by responding to prompts given during class. I will ask that you post on any forums responding to the prompt.

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Class participation provides the opportunity to practice speaking/writing and persuasive skills and the ability to listen/read. Comments that are vague, repetitive, unrelated to the current topic, disrespectful of others, or without sufficient foundation will be evaluated negatively. What matters is the quality of one's contributions to the class discussion, not the number of times one speaks. Your performance in class/on the forum will count significantly toward your participation grade. You will be judged based on the quality of your comments and forum postings. Students must come to class with a recent news story to discuss. I will randomly choose one or two students to provide stories for discussion. You'll get notified in advance to send links to their stories.

Students are highly encouraged to ask questions and offer comments relevant to the day's topic. Participation allows me to "hear" your voice when grading papers and participating online.

The participation grade reflects the effort you put into the class by participating in discussions, completing assignments, and writing papers. Your class participation grade will depend on the substantive contributions and insights you bring to the discussion.

If you miss a participation assignment, there will be no makeups—no exceptions.

Extra Credit Opportunities

You will have the option of extra credit assignments.

Podcasts / Articles / Case Studies

Cybersecurity-related suggestions may be announced weekly in class, and your suggestions are welcomed.

Course Policies

Supplemental Material

The syllabus, assignments, rubrics, and announcements will be posted on D2L. You are expected to check the course website and your email at least twice a week.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend each class and to remain for the duration. Coming 15 minutes late or leaving 15 minutes early constitutes an absence for the student. You will be responsible for all material covered in class and for knowledge of any announcements or changes to the schedule made in class, even if you cannot attend class. Three absences for any reason, whether excused or not, may constitute failure of the course.

Communication

Communications to your professor must come from your DePaul email address only. There is no guarantee that emails from a non-DePaul account will be received nor acted upon. All university communications must take place with your BlueM@il email address, the official email address in Campus Connect. This ensures more reliable deliverability of important university messages. Student email accounts are hosted by Microsoft as part of the Office 365 for

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Education program. To access your DePaul student email, go to <https://office365.depaul.edu> and log in using your username@depaul.edu email address and BlueKey password (formerly your Campus Connect password). You can learn more about student email and university communications [here](#).

Ways to check email (use your DePaul login credentials):

- Outlook web app: Go to office365.depaul.edu and select the Outlook icon.
- Outlook desktop app: Go to office365.depaul.edu and download Office 365, including Outlook.
- Outlook mobile app: Download the Outlook mobile app on [iPhone](#) or [Android](#).

For questions about student email, login issues, and accessing email, please see the [Student Email and University Communications article](#) in the Knowledge Base.

Attitude

This class is much a training ground for cybersecurity as it is your professional life. You're expected to comport yourself as if you were in a meeting at your job with your boss and peers. A professional and academic attitude is expected throughout this course. Measurable examples of nonacademic or unprofessional attitudes include but are not limited to: mocking another's opinion. A student may be asked to leave the classroom if any issues arise. The professor will work with the Dean of Students Office to navigate such student issues.

Civil Discourse

DePaul University is a community that thrives on open discourse that challenges students intellectually and personally to be socially responsible leaders. It is the expectation that all dialogue in this course is civil and respectful of the dignity of each student. Any instances of disrespect or hostility can jeopardize a student's success in the class. The professor will partner with the Dean of Students Office to manage such issues.

Cell Phones/On-Call

If you bring a cell phone to class, it must be off or set to silent mode. Should you need to answer a call during class, students must leave the room in a non-disruptive manner. Out of respect to fellow students and the professor, texting is never allowable in class. If you are required to be on call as part of your job, please advise me at the start of the course.

Changes to Syllabus

This syllabus is subject to change as necessary to better meet the needs of the students. Significant changes are unlikely and will be thoroughly addressed in class. Minor changes, especially to the agenda, are possible at any time. You will be informed of all such changes.

Online Course Evaluations

Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable me to continuously tailor teaching methods and

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course content to meet the course's learning goals and your academic needs. They are a requirement of the course and are essential to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous. A program is used to check if the student completed the evaluations, but the evaluation is completely separate from the student's identity. Since 100% participation is our goal, students are sent periodic reminders over three weeks. Students do not receive reminders once they complete the evaluation. Please click [this link](#) for additional information.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found [here](#).

Academic Policies

All students must manage their class schedules each term by the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the University Academic Calendar. Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading, and incomplete's can be found [here](#).

Incomplete Grades

An incomplete grade is a special, temporary grade that may be assigned by an instructor when unforeseeable circumstances prevent a student from completing course requirements by the end of the term and when otherwise the student had a record of satisfactory progress in the course.

The instructor and a CDM Associate Dean must approve all incomplete requests of the course. Only exceptions cases will receive such approval. Information about the Incomplete Grades policy can be found [here](#).

Students with Disabilities

Students seeking disability-related accommodations are required to register with DePaul's Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD), enabling them to access accommodations and support services to assist with their success. There are two office locations:

- Loop Campus – Lewis Center #1420 – (312) 362-8002
- Lincoln Park Campus – Student Center #370 – (773) 325-1677

Students who register with the Center for Students with Disabilities are also invited to contact the Director of the Center privately to discuss how they may facilitate the accommodations to be used in a course. This is best done early in the term. The conversation will remain confidential to the extent possible.

Please click [here](#) for Services and Contact Information.

Critical Dates

Students seeking to adjust their courses, including drop dates, should see the current academic calendar [here](#).