

## CNS 340: Fundamentals of Information Assurance

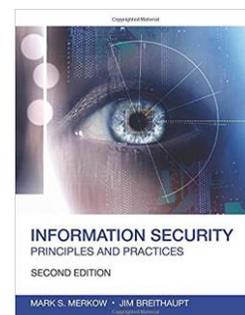
### Course and Instructor Information

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- **Instructor:** Fereshteh Ghahramani, PhD
- **Office:** Rm. 710 CDM
- **Phone:** (312) 362-6420
- **Office Hours:** TuTh, 1:30PM - 2:15PM, by appointment
- **Class Time/Place:** CNS 340-401 / TuTh 11:50AM - 1:20PM / CDM 226 at Loop Campus
- **E-mail:** [fereshteh.ghahramani@depaul.edu](mailto:fereshteh.ghahramani@depaul.edu)
- **Prerequisite:** None
- **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



### Course Description

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This course is a survey of 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; common attack/defense methods; ethical issues.

### Learning Outcomes

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At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

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

Assignment	Value
Quiz 1	5%
Quiz 2	5%
Quiz 3	5%
Quiz 4	5%
Homework 1	10%
Homework 2	10%
Project	20%
Mid-Term Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Extra Credit	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>105%</b>

Percentage Grade	Letter Grade	Manner of Fulfillment
92-100	A	Excellent
90-91	A-	
88-89	B+	Very Good
82-87	B	
80-81	B-	
78-79	C+	Satisfactory
72-77	C	
70-71	C-	
68-69	D+	
62-67	D	Poor
60-61	D-	
0-59	F	

## Week-by-Week (Tentative)

Week	Session	Date	Event	Topic	Extra Credit Events
1	1	6-Sep		Chapter 1 & 3	Self-Intro Due in D2L <b>Sep 9<sup>th</sup> 11:59 p.m.</b>
	2	11-Sep			
2	3	13-Sep		Chapter 2	
	4	18-Sep		Chapter 4	Quiz 1 (Chapters 1-3): <b>Sep 15<sup>th</sup> 11:59 p.m.</b>
3	5	20-Sep		Chapter 5	
	6	25-Sep			
4	7	27-Sep	Homework 1 Due in D2L	Chapter 6	List of Topics Due for HW2: <b>Sep 30<sup>th</sup> 6 p.m.</b>
	8	2-Oct		Chapter 7	
5	9	4-Oct		Chapter 8	Quiz 2 (Chapters 4-8): <b>Oct 6<sup>th</sup> 11:59 p.m.</b>
	10	9-Oct	Mid-Term Exam Review		
6	11	11-Oct	Mid-Term Exam (Chapters 1-8)		
	12	16-Oct	Homework 2 Due in D2L	Chapter 9	
7	13	18-Oct		Chapter 10	
	14	23-Oct	Project (Phase 1) Due in D2L	Chapter 11	
8	15	25-Oct		Chapter 12	Quiz 3 (Chapters 9-11): <b>Oct 27<sup>th</sup> 11:59 p.m.</b>
	16	30-Oct	Project (Phase 2) Due in D2L		
9	17	1-Nov		Chapter 13	
	18	6-Nov		Chapter 14	
10	19	8-Nov	Final Exam Review		Quiz 4 (Chapters 12-14): <b>Nov 10<sup>th</sup> 11:59 p.m.</b>
	20	13-Nov	Project (Phase 3) Due in D2L		
11		15-Nov			
	21	20-Nov	Final Exam (11:30am-1:45pm)		

Other Important Days are available at <https://academics.depaul.edu/calendar/Pages/default.aspx>.

## Assignments

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- **Exams:**

- Both mid-term and final exam will be closed book, closed notes.
- The exams will include materials from both the textbook and from the topics covered in the lectures. Some of the lecture materials may not be found in the book. Therefore, it is very important to attend class regularly.
- Exams will be in the form of multiple choice and True/False questions.
- Instructor reserves the right to assign seating for test periods.
- Students are required to take tests at the scheduled time.
- There will be NO MAKEUP EXAM. If you miss the test without a valid excuse, then your grade on that will be zero. If you miss the mid-term test with a valid excuse and provide proper documentation along with the “Student Absence Notification Form” to the instructor, your final exam grade will be used as the grade for the missed exam. Documentations must be given to your instructor no later than 1 week following the exam. Detail instructions can be find in this link: <https://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/support-services/academic/Pages/absence-notification.aspx> .
- If you have any question concerning a grade you receive in an exam, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor within 1 week of the exam. Grades will not be discussed after that time.
- Laptops, cell phones, pagers and other electronic devices should be turned off and be kept in your bag during exams. If you are caught sending text messages, accessing e-mail or the Internet, talking on your cell phone or to another individual, etc.; your test will be ended/taken up, you will receive a zero for that examination, and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with University Policy.

- **Homework and Project:**

- You will have two homework and a project, which will be completed in teams of 5 to 6 students. Each team member is required to contribute his/her fair share of work for each deliverable that requires teamwork. The instructor reserves the right to ask for percentage of work contribution by each team member for all deliverables.
- Detailed instructions will be posted in D2L.
- All assignments are due by 11:59 p.m. on the date specified in the course schedule. Assignments are considered on time only if they are submitted on the due date as per the submission guidelines.
- Late work is **not** accepted. You should plan beforehand properly. No excuses will be accepted. Please do NOT wait for the last minute to deliver your assignments and DO plan for possible computer or network problems.
- Hand-written work will be refused and will earn no credit.
- For individual or group deliverables, any instance of copying, cheating or plagiarism will be penalized. Students (or groups) handing in similar work will both receive a 0 in the assignment and will face disciplinary actions.

- **Quizzes:**

- You will have four quizzes which will be conducted online in D2L.
- All the quizzes are individual work.
- All quizzes will be open 12:01 a.m. and are due by 11:59 p.m. on the date specified in the course schedule.
- You have five questions per chapter and two attempts for each quiz.
- If you miss a quiz, there will be no makeups—no exceptions.

## Extra Credit Opportunities

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- **Participation:**

Students are highly encouraged to ask questions and offer comments relevant to the day's topic. Participation allows the instructor to "hear" the student's voice when grading papers. Participation grade reflects the effort students put into the class by participating in the in-class and online discussions. Your class participation grade will depend on the substantive contributions and insights you bring to the discussion.

In order to have an effective in-class communication, a web-based application (named Socrative) will be used to conduct class discussions and reviews. Students can use either of the following options to connect to the class discussion board: (1) Install student version of Socrative app on their phone (2) Use any web browser to connect to socrative.com using laptops or tablets. This application is free, and there is no cost associated with it for students. Additional information will be provided by the instructor.

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

- **Competitions:**

Winners of the in-class competition(s) and individuals submitting the best group project will receive an award in the form of extra credit.

## Course Policies

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### **Supplemental Material**

Syllabus, assignments, rubrics, and announcements will be posted on D2L. You are expected to check the course website and your DePaul 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 are unable to attend class. Three absences for any reason, whether excused or not, may constitute failure for the course. Attendance rolls will be given each class for that purpose. Any evidence of cheating in the attendance sign on sheet will be handled according to the academic integrity guidelines established by DePaul.

### **Attitude**

A professional and academic attitude is expected throughout this course. Measurable examples of non-academic or unprofessional attitude include but are not limited to: talking to others when the instructor is speaking, mocking another's opinion, cell phones ringing, emailing, texting or using the internet whether on

a phone or computer. If any issues arise a student may be asked to leave the classroom. 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, both 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 ability to be successful in the course. The professor will partner with the Dean of Students Office to assist in managing such issues.

### **Cell Phones/On Call**

If you bring a cell phone to class, it must be off or set to a silent mode. Should you need to answer a call during class, students must leave the room in an undistruptive 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 during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be thoroughly addressed during class, posted under Announcements in D2L and sent via email.

### **Online Course Evaluations**

Evaluations are a way for students to provide valuable feedback regarding their instructor and the course. Detailed feedback will enable the instructor to continuously tailor teaching methods and course content to meet the learning goals of the course and the academic needs of the students. They are a requirement of the course and are key to continue to provide you with the highest quality of teaching. The evaluations are anonymous; the instructor and administration do not track who entered what responses. 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 see <https://resources.depaul.edu/teaching-commons/teaching/Pages/online-teaching-evaluations.aspx> for additional information.

### **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism**

This course will be subject to the university's academic integrity policy. More information can be found at <https://resources.depaul.edu/teaching-commons/teaching/academic-integrity/Pages/default.aspx>.

### **Academic Policies**

All students are required to manage their class schedules each term in accordance with the deadlines for enrolling and withdrawing as indicated in the [University Academic Calendar](#). Information on enrollment, withdrawal, grading and incompletes can be found at: <http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Current%20Students/Pages/PoliciesandProcedures.aspx>.

### **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.

All incomplete requests must be approved by the instructor of the course and a CDM Associate Dean. Only exceptions cases will receive such approval. Information about the Incomplete Grades policy can be found at <http://www.cdm.depaul.edu/Current%20Students/Pages/Grading-Policies.aspx>.

**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 Dr. Gergory Moorhead, Director of the Center, privately to discuss how he may assist in facilitating 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 see <https://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/about/departments/Pages/csd.aspx> for Services and Contact Information.