

# CSEC 340: Fundamentals of Information Assurance

Winter 2021-2022 / Sections 501, 510



## Course and Instructor Information

**Instructor:** Brian Greenberg  
**Office:** Daley 200B & Zoom  
**Office Hours:** T/R 1:30-2:15pm, by appointment  
**Class Time/Place:** Section 501: Lewis 1216 / Section 510: Online Async  
**E-mail:** [brian.greenberg@depaul.edu](mailto:brian.greenberg@depaul.edu)



## About Your Instructor

I'm looking forward to an exciting quarter with you. For over 30 years, I've been working in information systems and technology and managing teams at companies of all sizes, from the Fortune 100 to startups. I have international experience living and working in Japan and Europe. I'm a technology and product leader, Forbes contributor, and a member of the Forbes Technology Council.

In addition to being an Adjunct Professor in the College of Computing and Digital Media at DePaul University, I'm an occasional guest lecturer at Loyola and Roosevelt Universities, as well as a former Adjunct Professor of Philosophy at William Rainey Harper College.

I earned 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 passion.

I have expertise in digital transformation, automation, turnaround management, product development, cybersecurity, data storage, and data protection. I hope that my past experiences prove beneficial to you in your learning and in helping you in your career.

When not teaching or consulting, I hike, kayak, read, drink coffee, write comedy, tell stories, and perform as an actor and improviser in Chicago's comedy community.

Detailed work history can be found on my LinkedIn profile. Connect and follow me online for industry news, updates, and commentary on the state of technology today.

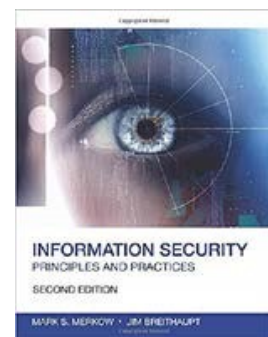
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## Textbook

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 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; 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%	Excellent	92-100	A	
Quiz 2	10%		90-91	A-	
Quiz 3	10%		88-89	B+	
Quiz 4	10%	Very Good	82-87	B	
Participation	20%		80-81	B-	
Mid-Term Exam	20%		78-79	C+	
Final Exam	20%	Satisfactory	72-77	C	
Total	100%		70-71	C-	
			68-69	D+	
62-67		D	Poor		
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

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### 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

- You will have four quizzes which will be conducted online in D2L.
- All quizzes are individual work.
- All quizzes will be open Friday at 11:30 a.m. and are due by Sunday 11:30 p.m. on the date specified in the course schedule (60 hours for each quiz).
- If you miss a quiz, there will be no makeups—no exceptions.

### Exams

- Mid-term and final exams will be online in D2L, similar to the quizzes. More information will be posted in D2L.
- The exams 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.
- Exams 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 EXAM. If you miss the mid-term test without a valid excuse, then your grade on that will be zero. If you miss the mid-term test with a valid reason 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. Documentation must be given to your instructor no later than one week following the exam. Detail 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

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 participation online.

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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**

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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**

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### ***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.

### ***Communication***

Only DePaul University provided communication channels may be used. This means that the only approved communications channels are through D2L, from your [DePaul.edu](mailto:DePaul.edu) email address, and to the professor's [DePaul.edu](mailto:DePaul.edu) email address. There is no expectation of a response from the instructor to or from a non-DePaul University account.

### ***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 for the course.

### ***Attitude***

A professional and academic attitude is expected throughout this course. Measurable examples of nonacademic 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 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

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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 during the quarter. If a change occurs, it will be addressed during class.

## ***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 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 Dr. Gergory Moorhead, Director of the Center, privately to discuss how he 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](#).