CSCE 465: Computer and Network Security  
Section 500  
Spring 2016  
Dr. Philip Ritchey  
Last Modified January 20, 2016

1 Class Time and Location

Lecture: MWF 10:20am – 11:10pm in ETB 1020

2 Course Description and Prerequisites

Fundamental concepts and principles of computer security, operating system and network security, secret key and public key cryptographic algorithms, hash functions, authentication, firewalls and intrusion detection systems, IPSec and VPN, wireless and web security.
Prerequisite: CSCE 313 and CSCE 315; junior or senior classification; or approval of instructor.

3 Instructor Information

Instructor
Dr. Philip Ritchey  
Office: 326 HRBB  
Phone: 979-862-6476  
Email: pcr@tamu.edu  
PGP Public Key
Office hours: Mondays and Thursdays 2:00pm – 3:00pm, and by appointment.

4 Course Website

http://faculty.cse.tamu.edu/ritchey/courses/csce465/spring16

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1I am willing to provide a safe haven, a listening ear, and support for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people or anyone dealing with sexual orientation issues. I am a QPR gatekeeper for suicide prevention. I support violence prevention efforts across campus.
5 Textbook

Required

Reference

6 Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>≈Tri-Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>7 March</td>
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<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>9 May, 8:00am - 10:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>Everyday</td>
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Final letter grades will be assigned according to the following cutoffs:

- 90+: A
- 80: B
- 70: C
- 60: D
- less than 60: F

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7 Learning Outcomes

The objective of this course is to provide students with a general practical and theoretical understanding of fundamental concepts and principles of computer and network security. Specifically, through this course, students are expected to be able to:

- List the first principles of security and describe why each principle is important to security and how it enables the development of security mechanisms that can implement desired security policies.

- Analyze common security failures and identify specific design principles that have been violated.

- Identify the needed design principle when given a specific scenario.

- Describe why good human machine interfaces are important to system use.

- Understand the interaction between security and system usability and the importance for minimizing the affects of security mechanisms.

- Describe different types of attacks, their characteristics, and the actors that might perform them.

- Identify significant vulnerabilities, risks, and points at which specific security technologies/methods should be employed in the architecture of a typical, complex system.

- Use a programming language to solve complex problems in a secure and robust manner.

- Identify the elements of a cryptographic system.

- Describe how various cryptographic algorithms and protocols work.

- Describe the differences between symmetric and asymmetric algorithms.

- Identify appropriate cryptographic protocols, tools and techniques for a given situation.

- Describe applications of cryptography, such as in SSL, VPN, secure storage, etc.

- Identify strengths and weaknesses, different modes of operation, and issues that have to be addressed in an implementation of a cryptosystem.

- Identify how an error propagates through the cryptosystem given a mode or protocol diagram.

- Use a network monitoring tool to analyze network traffic and identify packets for various protocols (TCP, HTTP, TLS/SSL, etc.).

- List and describe the major components of applicable laws and policies related to cyber defense pertaining to the storage and transmission of data.

- Describe their responsibilities related to the handling of information about vulnerabilities.
8 Schedule of Topics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 1/18 | Introduction | An Overview of Computer Security Ch. 1  
First Principles of Security |
| 1/25 | Foundations | Access Control Matrix Ch. 2  
The Safety Question and Decidability Ch. 3.1 – 3.2  
Policy, Legal, Ethical, Compliance |
| 2/1  | Basic Cryptography | Classical (Symmetric) Cryptosystems Ch. 9.1 – 9.2  
Public Key Cryptography Ch. 9.3  
Attacks on Cryptosystems |
| 2/8  | Key Management | Key Generation and Exchange Ch. 10.1–10.3  
Public Key Infrastructure Ch. 10.4–10.5  
Digital Signatures Ch. 10.6 |
| 2/15 | Cipher Techniques | Stream and Block Ciphers Ch. 11.1–11.2  
Networks and Cryptography Ch. 11.3–11.4  
Hash Functions |
| 2/22 | Authentication | Basics, Passwords, Challenge-Response Ch. 12.1–12.3  
Biometrics, Location, Multiple Methods Ch. 12.4–12.6  
Password/Hash Cracking |
| 2/29 | Systems | Design Principles Ch. 13  
Representing Identity Ch. 14  
Program Security Ch. 28 |
| 3/7  | OS Security | Smashing the Stack for Fun and Profit Aleph1  
Lab Setup  
Defense against the Dark Arts |
<p>| 3/14 | Spring Break | No Class |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/21</td>
<td>Security Policies</td>
<td>Ch. 4.1 – 4.4</td>
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<td>Security Policies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Confidentiality: Bell-LaPadula</td>
<td>Ch. 5.1, 5.2.1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Integrity: Biba, Clark-Wilson</td>
<td>Ch. 6.1 – 6.2, 6.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/28</td>
<td>Security Policies</td>
<td>Ch. 7.1, 7.4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hybrid: Chinese Wall, RBAC</td>
<td>Ch. 26.2, 27.2</td>
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<td>Example Security Policies</td>
<td>Ch. 1.4, 4.3, 18.1–18.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/4</td>
<td>Confinement Problem</td>
<td>Ch. 17.1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Confinement Problem</td>
<td>Ch. 17.2</td>
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<td>Isolation</td>
<td>Ch. 17.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/11</td>
<td>Network Security</td>
<td>Ch. 26.3–26.4</td>
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<td>Defense in Depth, DMZ/ Proxy Servers, Access Control</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<td>Monitoring: Wireshark and Nmap</td>
<td>Ch. 26.5</td>
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<td>Attacks and Defenses</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/18</td>
<td>Web Vulnerabilities</td>
<td>Anderson Ch. 4.4.2, Online</td>
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<td>SQL Injection</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<td>XSS &amp; XSRF</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<td>(D)DoS</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<td>4/25</td>
<td>The Bleeding Edge</td>
<td>Anderson Ch.23</td>
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<td>Privacy and Anonymity</td>
<td>Anderson Ch.23</td>
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<td>Digital Forensics</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<td>Threat Information Sources</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<td>5/2</td>
<td>Dead Week</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/9</td>
<td>Final Exam 8:00am – 10:00am</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
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## 9 Policies

### 9.1 Attendance

It is strongly recommended that you attend every class, arrive on time, and stay the whole time. You are responsible for learning the material covered in class regardless of your attendance.

### 9.2 Late and Missed Work

Late homework is not accepted without a University excused absence. Missed exams cannot be made up without a University excused absence. See rule 07 of the student rules: [https://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07](https://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07).

### 9.3 Typesetting

All homework must be typeset in \LaTeX{} or typed in Microsoft Word or OpenOffice Write. You must submit a PDF file. Resources for \LaTeX{} can be found on the course website and on the Internet.
9.4 Version Control

You are strongly encouraged to use a version control system to track changes and back up your work. Texas A&M has an institutional GitHub account (https://github.tamu.edu) that you can use. Aside from Git, other free options for version control include SVN, CVS, Mercurial, Perforce.

9.5 Collaboration

You are explicitly permitted and encouraged to work together on homeworks with the condition that all work you submit is your own. If you work with others to solve a homework problem, you must present the solution on your own. You are explicitly forbidden to use the work of others in your homework solutions. Copypasta\(^2\) will result in an automatic grade of zero on the assignment for all parties involved.

9.6 Regrading

We work very hard to ensure that all work is graded correctly and completely. If you believe that your work has been graded incorrectly or incompletely, you must meet with the instructor to check your solution within one week of the date the work is returned. Only if the instructor determines that your solution is correct and complete will your work be regraded.

9.7 Return of Graded Work

We will make an effort to return your graded work to you within one week of the date of submission. You may pick up your graded work from the instructor during office hours.

9.8 Extra Credit

There will be extra credit problems on every homework and exam. This is the only extra credit that is available in the course. Do not waste your time asking for more or different extra credit.

9.9 Curving

This class is superlatively unlikely to be curved. You will receive the grade you earn.

9.10 Piazza

All questions and comments about the course should be posted on Piazza (https://piazza.com). Piazza is designed and managed so that you can get help quickly and efficiently from classmates and myself. If you email a question or comment about the course to me, you will very likely be redirected to Piazza. You may post questions or comments to the instructor on Piazza privately, however this privilege will be revoked if it is misused.

9.11 eCampus

Course materials will be posted on eCampus (https://ecampus.tamu.edu). This include lecture slides and homework problem sets. Grades on assignments and exams will be reported on eCampus.

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\(^2\)Copypasta (n): A derogatory term for content which contains a direct or nearly direct copy-and-paste of material belonging to someone else, often accompanied by an attempt to pass off the content as new or original.
9.12 Email Formatting and Security

The subject of emails must be prefixed with [CSCE 465] and you must include your name in the email. Putting [CSCE 465] in the subject will let me know the course about which you are emailing. Signing your name will let me know who you are. If you do not sign your name, I might assign you one at random in my reply. You are encouraged to encrypt and sign all emails to me. My PGP public key is on my home page and the MIT key server (https://pgp.mit.edu).

9.13 Discussion of Grades

Federal law prohibits the instructor, TA, and graders from discussing grades over email or phone. If you have a question about your grade, you must discuss it with us in-person, such as during office hours.

9.14 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information, visit https://disability.tamu.edu.

9.15 Harassment and Discrimination

Texas A&M is committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity and human dignity. To fulfill its multiple missions as an institution of higher learning, Texas A&M encourages a climate that values and nurtures collegiality, diversity, pluralism and the uniqueness of the individual within our state, nation and world. All decisions and actions involving students and employees should be based on applicable law and individual merit.

Texas A&M University prohibits harassment and discrimination against any member of the University community on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, or status as a veteran.

Students who believe they have experienced harassment or discrimination prohibited by this statement are encouraged to contact the Office of the Dean of Student Life at 845-3113.

9.16 Academic Integrity Statement and Policy – Aggie Code of Honor

An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do.

For all academic work in this and every course, it is expected of you that you shall neither give nor receive any unauthorized aid.

All violations of the Aggie code of Honor will be reported to the Aggie Honor System Office.

For more information, see https://aggiehonor.tamu.edu/RulesAndProcedures/