UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
ECE 5397/6397 – Introduction to Cybersecurity
Spring Semester 2017

Course: Introduction to Cybersecurity, Class Number ECE 5397/6397

Instructor: Dr. Miao Pan mpan2@uh.edu
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Office Hours: MW 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm or by appointment


Course Web URL: Blackboard

Recommended Materials for Supplementary Self-Study
Sets of self-study materials and references are available on the web, as described at the end of this
document. In addition, you are strongly encouraged to acquire a legal copy of a good network
security textbook. A good textbook can supplement and complement the lecture materials.
However, homework assignments will not be assigned from any specific textbook. Thus, you may
acquire any edition of the textbook, and it should be satisfactory.

The required textbook is:
• Charlie Kaufman, Radia Perlman and Mike Speciner, “Network Security: Private

Some reference books include:

Prerequisites
The following requirements must be met before enrolling in Introduction to Cybersecurity. In each
course you must have earned a grade of "C-" or better, except the English courses for which a "D-
" or better is required.

Prerequisites
ENGL 1100 - Intro to Engineering
MATH 2433 - Calc. III
ECE 3331 - Programming Applications in ECE
**Blackboard**
We will be using the Blackboard Learn web site ([http://www.uh.edu/blackboard](http://www.uh.edu/blackboard)) for posting of grades and email only. All documents and handouts will be available on the website. We will assume that your UH e-mail alias ([joejones@uh.edu](mailto:joejones@uh.edu)) is pointed to a working e-mail server, and that you are available at that address.
GENERAL INFORMATION

Catalog Description

Course Topics
- Basic security concepts
  - Confidentiality, integrity, availability, etc.
- Cryptography basics
  - Symmetric key cryptography
  - Hashes and message digests
  - Public key cryptography
- Computer security
  - Vulnerabilities and exposures
- Network security
  - Authentication mechanisms and standards (Kerberos, public key infrastructure)
  - IPsec
  - SSL/TLS
  - Firewalls and IDS
  - Web security
- Selected applications
  - Cellular network security, WLAN security, etc.

Expected Course Outcomes:
Students who successfully complete this course are expected to meet the following course outcomes.
- Students will add to their knowledge-base in the fundamentals of computer engineering, especially in the area of cybersecurity, in part by gaining a greater understanding of key engineering concepts, such as equivalent encryption and decryption techniques. Students will use this knowledge and understanding to solve security problems such as arising in computer engineering. (student outcome e)
- Students will further develop their basic skills of problem solving and critical thinking by learning techniques such as cryptography algorithms and their applications in security protocol design. They will apply this knowledge of mathematics, science and engineering to efficiently solve cybersecurity problems. (student outcome a)
- Students will continue to develop their ability to choose between various approaches and to learn to take systematic approaches to difficult problems, and therefore identify, formulate, and solve engineering problems efficiently. (student outcome e)
- Students will demonstrate an appropriate level of attention to detail and the use of clear, appropriate notation, which will facilitate their ability to communicate effectively with technical colleagues. (student outcome g)


**Introduction to Cybersecurity** is designed to introduce students to fundamental concepts in cybersecurity and, more generally, in computer engineering. The **Goal** of this course is to let students get familiar with basic security concepts and cryptographic techniques, learn basic computer and network attacks and defense techniques, and have the capability to understand/do some security protocol designs. Since you will be using these ideas in all aspects of your career as an electrical engineer, both in the classroom and in the workplace, it is important that you learn the conceptual framework presented in **Introduction to Cybersecurity** as thoroughly as possible.

**Academic Honesty Policy**
Students in this course are expected to follow the **Academic Honesty Policy** of the University of Houston. It is your responsibility to know and follow this policy. You must sign the Academic Honesty Statement on the last page of this handout, detach it, and submit it by Wednesday, January 28, 2015. If you fail to do this, you may be dropped from the course. For more information, see the Academic Honesty in the **Undergraduate Catalog** which is available on-line at [http://catalog.uh.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=1352](http://catalog.uh.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=1352).

**Religious Holy Days**
Students whose religious beliefs prohibit class attendance on designated dates or attendance at scheduled exams may request an excused absence. To do this, you are **strongly encouraged** to request the excused absence, in writing, by Wednesday, February 4, 2015. Please submit this written request to your instructor to allow the instructor to make appropriate arrangements. More information can be found at [http://www.uh.edu/dos/studenthandbook/academicpolicy/a_holydays.html](http://www.uh.edu/dos/studenthandbook/academicpolicy/a_holydays.html).

**Students with Disabilities**
Students with recognized disabilities will be provided reasonable accommodations, appropriate to the course, upon documentation of the disability with a **Student Accommodation Form** from the **Center for Students with Disabilities**. To receive these accommodations, you must request the specific accommodations, by submitting them to the instructor in writing, by Wednesday, Wednesday, February 4, 2015. Students who fail to submit a written request will not be considered for accommodations. More information, can be found at [http://www.uh.edu/dos/studenthandbook/academicpolicy/a_disability.html](http://www.uh.edu/dos/studenthandbook/academicpolicy/a_disability.html).

**Homework**
Since doing homework is important, we will be collecting and grading it. Some students may be tempted to copy their homework from a fellow student, which obviously defeats the purpose of doing homework. At the end of the semester, the grades you obtained on your homework assignments will count a few percent toward your final average. We will make the final determination of exactly how much they count at the end of the semester. However, it is important for you to understand that you cannot pass the course on the basis of homework assignments. Our
experience is that if you are copying the homework, or simply not doing it, you will not do well on the exams and quizzes. Since the exams and quizzes will count far more than the homework assignments, the homework grade cannot raise your average sufficiently for you to pass the course.

**Attendance**
Attendance at all classes is expected and required. The instructor may, if he chooses, take attendance in any class, at any time during the class. The instructor may do this as many times per class period as he chooses, without warning. The attendance grade can be included in the grade for the course.

**Exams**
There will be two 90 minute midterm exams on the date listed in the course schedule, which is available as a separate document. A comprehensive final exam will be given on **May, 2017**, from 2:30 to 4:00 pm.

**Project**
Since this is an ECE 5397/6397 course, graduate students are required to do an extra project. It can be either writing a survey based on some selected cutting-edge research papers in cybersecurity area, or implementing some security protocols, which may involve programming work using Java, C++, or Python. More detail requirements and additional materials of the project will be available on the Blackboard.

**Conduct of Examinations**
Exams are closed book, closed notes, unless otherwise announced. A one-page crib sheet, using both sides of an 8.5” by 11” sheet of paper, will be allowed for each of the exams. Note that the number of crib sheets will not increase during the semester. You may bring any calculator to the exams and quizzes. **No makeup examinations will be given.** If you have a medical emergency you should call your instructor as soon as possible, preferably before the examination. Medical documentation will be required in all such cases.

All work must be done on the examination forms provided for that purpose. The seats for exams will be randomly assigned. All of these regulations are designed to reduce the possibility of cheating, so that all students will be graded as fairly as possible.

**Grading Policy**
Grades will be determined on the basis of exams, attendance, and submitted homework grades with the following **approximate** weights. The actual weights will be fixed at the end of the semester.

- Undergraduate Students:
  - Homework and attendance grades: 15%
  - Group Project (2): 20%
  - Mid-Exam: 30%
  - Final Exam: 35%
• Graduate Students:
  Homework and attendance grades 15%
  Mid-Exam 30%
  Project 20%
  Final Exam: 35%

Grade Point Rule
The following **approximate** grade point scale will be used in determining your grade. This scale may be modified somewhat, but is included here so that you will have a general idea of how well you are doing in the course. The final grade scale will be determined at the end of the semester.


Grade Posting
You may find out your grade in the course on-line using PeopleSoft. Normally, the grades are available about one week after the final exam. The instructor is not allowed to give out grades over the phone or by email. During the semester, grades will be posted on Blackboard in a secure manner, i.e., so that only you will have access to your grades. Final grades will also be posted on Blackboard at the end of the semester; however, the official grade reporting is done on PeopleSoft, not on the Blackboard.

Withdrawal Policy
The withdrawal dates listed in the Academic Calendar section of the Class Schedule will be followed strictly. You may drop the course without receiving a grade until ***, 2016, which is the University's last day to drop without receiving a grade. After this date and until Monday April 6, which is the University's last day to drop, you may drop with a W if you have not exceeded your total W limit (the limit applies to undergraduate students only). Grades of Incomplete (I) will be given only when a small portion of the course has not been completed for a good reason. If the material has been completed, an “I” grade cannot be given. Detailed information about these issues is available in the University of Houston Undergraduate Catalog.

Documents on the Web and LAN
Some additional materials not on Blackboard may be found at: [http://www.eegr.uh.edu/courses/ece/Ece5397/](http://www.eegr.uh.edu/courses/ece/Ece5397/).
Academic Honesty Statement & Email Agreement

Name: (printed) ______________________________________________

Confirm that the following statements are true and then sign and date below.

academic Honesty Statement

✓ I have read the University of Houston Academic Honesty Policy contained in the UH Undergraduate Catalog available at http://catalog.uh.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=1352
✓ and the ECE 5397/6397 Position on Academic Honesty contained in the Course Policy Document and available on the course web site and agree to abide by its provisions. I understand that the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering takes academic honesty very seriously and, in the cases of violations, penalties may include suspension from the University of Houston.

UH Email Alias Agreement

✓ I have read the University of Houston Information Technology website discussing UH e-mail aliases (http://www.uh.edu/infotech/services/accounts/email/update-student-address/index.php). I understand how to use this alias to receive e-mail through my outside provider.
✓ I understand that it is my personal responsibility to configure this alias properly to receive mailings from the university.
✓ I understand that the ECE department will use this e-mail alias for all official correspondence.

Signature: ______________________________________________

UH Email Alias: __________________________________________

Date: _______________________________

Submit this form to your professor by Wednesday February 4, 2016.
Blackboard Login Information

Please note: Not all instructors choose to use the Blackboard course management system.

Blackboard:

Bb Login: accessUH.uh.edu or elearning.uh.edu or uh.edu/blackboard
Username: same as your CougarNet UserID*
Password: same as your CougarNet Password**

Reset CougarNet
Password: (3 options) - go to https://accessUH.uh.edu > Change CougarNet Password > select "I forgot my CougarNet password or need it reset." > follow prompts.
- go to http://uh.edu/password > select "I forgot my CougarNet password or need it reset." > follow prompts.
- go to www.uh.edu/infotech > Password Reset > select "I forgot my CougarNet password or need it reset." > follow prompts.

Change CougarNet
Password: (3 options) - go to https://accessUH.uh.edu > Change CougarNet Password > select "I need to change my CougarNet password." > follow prompts.
- go to http://uh.edu/password > "I need to change my CougarNet password." > follow prompts.
- login to CougarNet > Control+Alt+Delete > click Change Password in dialog box > enter Old Password > enter New Password > Confirm.

Need Help? Contact the UIT Support Center
- by phone: 713-743-1411
- online: support@uh.edu
- live chat: www.uh.edu/infotech/livechat
- in person: Room 58 (basement) or 1st floor of MD Anderson Library
- UH Help tab in Blackboard

*If you do not know your CougarNet UserID, you may request it at https://accessuh.uh.edu, contact UIT Support Center at 713-743-1411, or go to the Engineering Computing Center (ECC) front desk (W-129, Engineering Bldg. 2) with your Cougar Card - ECC staff can help you.
**If you do not know your CougarNet password, see options under “Reset CougarNet Password” above.