CS 465/565: Information Assurance Syllabus - FALL 2025

Course Description

Descriptor	Details
Course Name	Information Assurance
Course Number	CS 465/565 - FALL 2025
Pre- or Co-requisites	CS271 Familiarity with information security area
Location	DRGS 1117 6:00-8:40 PM, Monday
Credits	3

Office Hours:
Tuesday 1:00pm - 2:00 pm or by Zoom

Zoom link: https://odu.zoom.us/j/8830769453

Office: DRAGAS HALL, 1103C.

Email: snukavar@odu.edu

Course Delivery Method:

This course will be delivered in a hybrid manner. Students who chose the face-to-face style will meet in the classroom specified at the top of this syllabus. Students who chose the virtual style will meet on zoom through canvas.

Required Textbook

"Information Assurance: Security in the Information Environment" Second Edition; Authors: Andrew Blyth and Gerald L. Kovacich; Springer-Verlag

ISBN: 978-1-84628-266-9 (Print) 978-1-84628-489-2 (Online)

Other readings are listed in each module.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Recognize the general purpose and goals of the course

2. Explain the need and role of information assurance (IA) in corporate and national security

3. Discern the threats, vulnerabilities, and risks that an information system is exposed to

4. Analyze the Information assurance needs of an organization

5. Identify models to express the IA needs of an organization

6. Identify measures to express the efficacy of an information system's assurance capability

7. Identify privacy and security regulations of a given organization

8. Discern the legal, ethical, and social implications of an organization's IA strategies

9. Identify and analyze potential vulnerabilities in a system

10. Explain techniques for detecting intrusions (internal or external)

11. Identify techniques for a system to survive any potential attacks

12. Match IA needs of an organization with the available technologies

More specific objectives for each topic are listed within each module.

How the Course Works

Methods of Delivery/Learning Activities

This course employs several methods of delivery and learning activities including online/in-person lectures and presentations, threaded discussions, Web sites, video clips, reading and written assignments, self-assessment checks, examinations, e-mail, and electronic access of information.

Grading Criteria

Your grade in this class will be based on the following criteria:

Assignment	Date	Points	Percentage
First Exam	TBD	100	20%
Second Exam	TBD	100	20%
Participation	N/A	55	10%
Journal	N/A	25	5%
Course Project	TBD	100	20%
Homework	N/A	125	25%
Total	N/A	505	100%

The grading scale is as follows (+ and - modifiers will be applied as appropriate):

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	95-100
A-	90-94
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	79-68
D+	67-61
F	<61

Late Assignments

Any assignment submitted after its deadline is considered late. The following penalties for late assignments apply:

- 0-24 hours late: -5%

- 25-48 hours late: -10%

- 49-72 hours late: -20%

- after 72 hours not accepted

This time limit includes weekends -- they are counted just like weekdays.

I reserve the right to specify that late submissions will not be accepted for particular assignments

Student Responsibilities

Student Responsibilities

Time Management

Students are expected to spend 10 hours per week on the course materials and assignments. Out of 10 hours, students are expected to spend approximately 3 hours per week to read the material and another 3 hours/week for the homework and discussions.

Utilizing Online Components

Refer to the START HERE section within the Blackboard menu and the course tour

Attendance

There is no mandatory attendance policy. However, students are expected to actively participate in the discussions, homework submissions, and journal writing. Each of these components is graded and counted toward the final grade.

Course Policies

Online and in- person classroom Conduct (Netiquette)

Students are expected to follow good [Netiquette](#) rules. Netiquette is the accepted behavior for online and in-person participation. The following is a list of general guidelines for this course:

- Check your grammar and spelling

- Keep your comments focused on the topic

- Strive to write succinctly and clearly

- Share your knowledge and include supportive evidence for your comments

- Do not use all capital letters as that is viewed as shouting

- Avoid flaming—disrespectful language is unacceptable

Attendance

There is no mandatory attendance policy. However, students are expected to actively participate in the discussions, homework submissions, and journal writing. Each of these components is graded and counted towards the final grade.

Tests and Make-ups

The same information for homework will apply for tests and make-up work: If a situation has occurred that requires your time and attention which will prevent submitting your work on time, please notify your instructor 24 hours before the scheduled due date.

Course Disclaimer

Every attempt is made to provide a syllabus that is complete and that provides an accurate overview of the course. However, circumstances and events may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. This may depend, in part, on the progress, needs, and experiences of the students.

University Policies

University Policies

Honor Pledge

"I pledge to support the honor system of Old Dominion University. I will refrain from any form of academic dishonesty or deception, such as cheating or plagiarism. I am aware that as a member if the academic community, it is my responsibility to turn in all suspected violators of the honor system. I will report to Honor Council hearings if summoned." By attending Old Dominion University you have accepted the responsibility to abide by this code. This is an institutional policy approved by the Board of Visitors. For more information please visit Honor Council

Educational Accessibility

Old Dominion University is committed to ensuring equal access to all qualified students with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Office of Educational Accessibility (OEA) is the campus office that works with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations.

If you experience a disability which will impact your ability to access any aspect of my class, please present me with an accommodation letter from OEA so that we can work together to ensure that appropriate accommodations are available to you.

If you feel that you will experience barriers to your ability to learn and/or testing in my class but do not have an accommodation letter, please consider scheduling an appointment with OEA to determine if academic accommodations are necessary.

The Office of Educational Accessibility is located at 1021 Student Success Center and their phone number is (757)683-4655. Additional information is available at the OEA Website.

University Email Policy

The Old Dominion University e-mail system is the official electronic mail system for distributing course-related communications, policies, announcements and other information. A University e-mail user ID and password are necessary for authentication and access to numerous electronic resources (Blackboard, faculty websites, etc.).

Withdrawal

A syllabus constitutes an agreement between the student and the course instructor about course requirements. Participation in this course indicates your acceptance of its teaching focus, requirements, and policies. Please review the syllabus and the course requirements as soon as possible. If you believe that the nature of this course does not meet your interests, needs or expectations, if you are not prepared for the amount of work involved - or if you anticipate that the class meetings, assignment deadlines or abiding by the course policies will constitute an unacceptable hardship for you - you should drop the class by the drop/add deadline, which is located in the ODU Schedule of Classes. For more information, please visit the Office of the University Registrar.

Student Acknowledgement

"I, _____ , have completely read this syllabus and understand and agree to the course requirements".