

# Course Syllabus

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## Course Description

Descriptor	Details
Course Name	Information Assurance
Course Number	CS 465/565
Pre- or Co-requisites	CS271 Familiarity with information security area
Location	ON-LINE
Credits	3

### Instructor

Susan Zehra

### Email

[szehra@odu.edu](mailto:szehra@odu.edu) (<mailto:szukavar@odu.edu>)

### Office Hours

Wednesday 12:30 pm-2:30 pm.

[https://odu.zoom.us/j/91696336483?](https://odu.zoom.us/j/91696336483?pwd=dE8wa2JRNSSt0WS9UbzhISUFZSk9vQT09)

[pwd=dE8wa2JRNSSt0WS9UbzhISUFZSk9vQT09](https://odu.zoom.us/j/91696336483?pwd=dE8wa2JRNSSt0WS9UbzhISUFZSk9vQT09)

[https://odu.zoom.us/j/91696336483?](https://odu.zoom.us/j/91696336483?pwd=dE8wa2JRNSSt0WS9UbzhISUFZSk9vQT09)

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## Readings

### Required Text Book

"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 online 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 online course employs several methods of delivery and learning activities including online 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:

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
First Exam	100	20%
Second Exam	100	20%
Participation	55	10%
Journal	25	5%
Course Project	100	20%
Homework	125	25%
Total	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**

### **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**

Since this is an on-line course, 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 Classroom Conduct (Netiquette)**

Students are expected to follow good [Netiquette](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)  (<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>) rules. Netiquette is the accepted behavior for online 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**

Since this is an on-line course, 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**

### **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 of 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 \(https://www.odu.edu/about/monarchcitizenship\)](https://www.odu.edu/about/monarchcitizenship)

## **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 \(tel:+17576834655\)](tel:+17576834655). Additional information is available at the [OEA Website \(http://www.odu.edu/educationalaccessibility/\)](http://www.odu.edu/educationalaccessibility/).

## **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 \(https://www.odu.edu/academics/calendar\)](https://www.odu.edu/academics/calendar). For more information, please visit the Office of the [University Registrar. \(https://www.odu.edu/registrar\)](https://www.odu.edu/registrar)

## Student Acknowledgement

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

## Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Sun Jan 25, 2026	 <a href="#">Module 1 - Discussion (Personal Introduction)</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025990">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025990</a>	
		
Sun Jan 25, 2026	 <a href="#">CIQ Journal - Module 1</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026002">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026002</a>	
		
Sun Jan 25, 2026	 <a href="#">Complete Syllabus Quiz</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/2916255">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/2916255</a>	
		
Sun Jan 25, 2026	 <a href="#">Homework-01</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026007">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026007</a>	
		
Sun Jan 25, 2026	 <a href="#">Homework-02</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026008">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026008</a>	
		
Sun Feb 1, 2026	 <a href="#">Module 2 - Discussion - Experienced Attacks</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025991">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025991</a>	
		
Sun Feb 8, 2026	 <a href="#">CIQ Journal - Module 3</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026005">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026005</a>	
		

Date	Details	Due
Sun Feb 15, 2026	 <a href="#">Homework-03</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026009">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026009</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
Sun Feb 15, 2026	 <a href="#">Module 3 - Discussion - Measurements</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025992">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025992</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
Sun Feb 15, 2026	 <a href="#">Homework-04</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026010">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026010</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
Sun Feb 15, 2026	 <a href="#">Module 2 - Discussion - E-mail policies</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025993">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025993</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
Sun Feb 22, 2026	 <a href="#">Homework-05</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026011">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026011</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
Sun Feb 22, 2026	 <a href="#">Module 5 - Discussion - System Behavior</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025994">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025994</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
Sun Mar 1, 2026	 <a href="#">Homework-06</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026012">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026012</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
Sun Mar 1, 2026	 <a href="#">Module 6 - Discussion - Network Activities</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025995">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025995</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
Sun Mar 8, 2026	 <a href="#">Homework-07</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026013">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026013</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		

Date	Details	Due
Thu Mar 12, 2026	 <a href="#">Module 7 - Discussion - Weak Practices or Policies</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025996">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025996</a>	
		
Sat Mar 14, 2026	 <a href="#">First Exam</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025987">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025987</a>	
		
Sat Mar 14, 2026	 <a href="#">CIQ Journal - Module 8</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026006">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026006</a>	
		
Sun Mar 29, 2026	 <a href="#">Homework-09</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026014">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026014</a>	
		
Sun Mar 29, 2026	 <a href="#">Module 9 - Discussion - System Survivability</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025997">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025997</a>	
		
Sun Apr 5, 2026	 <a href="#">Homework-10</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026015">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026015</a>	
		
Sun Apr 5, 2026	 <a href="#">Module 10 - Discussion - Home Security</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025998">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025998</a>	
		
Sun Apr 12, 2026	 <a href="#">Homework-11</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026016">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026016</a>	
		
Sun Apr 12, 2026	 <a href="#">Module 11 - Discussion - Organizational Structure</a>	due by 11:59pm
	<a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025999">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025999</a>	
		

Date	Details	Due
Sun Apr 19, 2026	 <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026003">CIQ Journal - Module 12</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026003">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026003</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
	 <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026017">Homework-12</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026017">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026017</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
	 <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026000">Module 12 - Discussion - Privacy and Security</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026000">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026000</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
Sun Apr 26, 2026	 <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026004">CIQ Journal - Module 14</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026004">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026004</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
	 <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025988">Second Exam</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025988">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3025988</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		
Mon May 4, 2026	 <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026018">Project Requirements - Due on May 4</a> ( <a href="https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026018">https://canvas.odu.edu/courses/201371/assignments/3026018</a> )	due by 11:59pm
		