**A close up of a logo

Description automatically generated**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**CRJ 400: SEMINAR IN CYBERSPACE CRIMINAL ACTIVITY**

**Spring Semester (Session 2)**

**March 11th - May 5th, 2024**

**INSTRUCTOR:**          Dr. Chris Findley

**EMAIL ADDRESS:**       CCF@reinhardt.edu

**OFFICE PHONE:**         912-601-9457

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Explores legal issues and challenges faced by the criminal justice system in response to computer/cyberspace criminal investigations. Emphasis is placed upon various forms of crime perpetrated in cyberspace. Topics include forms of electronic criminal activity, enforcement of computer related criminal statutes, constitutional issues related to search and seizure, privacy concerns, application of the First Amendment in cyberspace, and laws pertaining to electronic surveillance.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**   
After completing this course, the student will be able to:

* Explain the extent of cyberspace criminal activity and identify the elements of commonly committed computer-related crimes.

* Explain the impact of privacy laws and constitutional protections in relation to computer/cyber space criminal investigations.

* Explain the emergence of computer and Internet law in relation to online communications.

* Delineate various forms of cyber terrorism and cyber warfare.  
  Explain the future of cyber crime and governmental efforts to control it.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Kremling, A. & Sharp-Parker, J.M. (2018). *Cyberspace, cybersecurity, & cybercrime*(1st ed.).  Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE.

**COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**CREDIT HOUR STATEMENT**Courses offered in a 8-week session are twice as intensive as those held during a traditional full semester. Each week students should expect to spend 14 or more hours interacting with course content through a combination of direct instruction and out of class student work.

Examples of direct instruction may include viewing or reading course lectures, engaging in class forum discussions with the course instructor and other students, viewing or reading supplementary online content required by the instructor, completing course quizzes and/or examinations, and reading instructor announcements related to course material and instructor feedback on assignments.

Examples of out of class student work may include reading the assigned course textbook, doing independent library research, completing essay assignments, developing more extensive research papers, and studying in preparation for exams and quizzes.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**  
The learner must complete all assignments. Learners are expected to read and adhere to the Academic Integrity section of Reinhardt University’s Academic Catalog. Cases of academic dishonesty may result in expulsion from the University, a failing grade for the course, or a failing grade for the assignment.

The following are recognized as unacceptable forms of academic behavior at Reinhardt University:

* Plagiarizing, that is presenting words or ideas not your own as if they were your own. The words of others must be enclosed in quotation marks and documented. The source of the distinctive ideas must also be acknowledged through appropriate documentation. (NOTE: Strictly adhere to APA citation and referencing guidelines to avoid this).

* Submitting a paper written by another student or another person as if it were your own.  
  Submitting a paper containing sentences, paragraphs, or sections lifted from another student’s work or other publication; there must be written documentation.

* Submitting a paper written by you for another course or occasion without the explicit knowledge and consent of the instructor.

* Fabricating evidence or statistics that supposedly represent your original research.  
  Cheating of any sort on tests, papers, projects, reports, etc.

* Using the Internet inappropriately as a resource. See 3 above.

**Reading Assignments**

Learner’s are expected to complete assigned textbook readings and other assigned articles for each module prior to participating in discussions and assignments.

**Podcasts/Videos**

Learner’s are expected to view all videos if tasked for each module prior to participating in discussions.

**Module Discussion Posts**

Learners are expected to actively participate in module discussion assignments. Requirements and deadlines for postings shall be published within individual Module Academic Requirements.  All postings and replies must adhere to APA 7th Edition guidelines regarding citations and referencing. Use your own words to communicate ideas and incorporate source material to support your assertions. Learners must also employ proper grammar, punctuation, and correct spelling.  Each initial discussion posting must contain a minimum of a 200 word posting and the outside sources must be from 2015 to the present.

Students must reply to three different students in the class with a minimum of a 100- word response for each. The responses must be substantive in nature by adding additional knowledge to the conversation. Challenge each other and have a meaningful dialogue that facilitates learning. You must cite and reference your textbook or a scholarly source using proper APA format in the response. Learners are encouraged to exceed the minimum word count and number of sources specified for each assignment. Doing so increases your opportunity for a better grade!

Learners will be penalized 10 points for each day he/she is late on an initial posting. Initial postings will not be accepted after 11:59 PM on Fridays of the week assigned.   
All postings and replies must adhere to APA 7th Edition guidelines regarding citations and referencing.

**Module Essay Assignments**

Learners must submit individual module essay assignments found by the deadline specified within Module Academic Requirements . Be sure to answer each part of each question. Learners are encouraged to exceed the minimum word count and number of sources specified for each assignment. Doing so increases your opportunity for a better grade!

Essays should be between 200-300 words. You must cite your textbook and at least one scholarly source in the response. The scholarly source must be from 2015 to the present.   
Assignments must adhere to the citation and referencing guidelines contained in the 7th Edition APA Manual. Use your own words to communicate ideas and incorporate source material to support your assertions.  Learners must  employ proper grammar, punctuation, and correct spelling in all submissions.

**RESEARCH PAPER OUTLINE AND ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY REQUIREMENTS**

A research paper is required for this course. The paper must focus on one of the following (3) topical areas: (1) Internet Fraud and Cybercrime; (2) Digital Evidence; or (3) Computer Intrusion.

A research paper outline and annotated bibliography will be due no later than Friday, April 5th and is to be uploaded to the assignment within Module 3.

**Annotated Bibliography & Outline**

An outline and annotated bibliography serve to prepare students for a research project. The process requires students to read source information and critically evaluate information. This assignment serves to ensure that students are working towards the development of their research project and allows the instructor an opportunity to provide feedback on student progress and the acceptability of sources.

If you are not familiar with how to write an annotated bibliography there are many examples and instructions on how to do so on the Internet; you will need to conduct research on this area.

Select the following link for an [OUTLINE EXAMPLE.](https://reinhardtuniversity.instructure.com/courses/9937/files/788195/download?wrap=1)[Download OUTLINE EXAMPLE.](https://reinhardtuniversity.instructure.com/courses/9937/files/788195/download?download_frd=1)

Select the following link for an [Annotated Bibliography Guide.](https://reinhardtuniversity.instructure.com/courses/9937/files/788191/download?wrap=1)[Download Annotated Bibliography Guide.](https://reinhardtuniversity.instructure.com/courses/9937/files/788191/download?download_frd=1)

The annotated bibliography must meet the following requirements:

* Consist of a minimum of (7) scholarly sources must be from 2015 to the present (i.e. academic journals, professional publications, etc.). Websites will not be accepted. Submissions that do not consist of a minimum of (7) sources will not be graded and will be assigned an automatic grade of “F”.

* The bibliographic information of the source must be written in APA 7th edition format  
  Both must be submitted as a PDF

* Annotations for each source must be written in paragraph form and consist of a 150-200 word summary. The summary must addresses the main points/ideas found in the source. The summary must also include a statement that evaluates the quality of the item and relates the item to your research topic.

* Your annotated bibliography will be graded based on [Annotated Bibliography Grading Rubric.](https://reinhardtuniversity.instructure.com/courses/9937/files/788222/download?wrap=1)[Download Annotated Bibliography Grading Rubric.](https://reinhardtuniversity.instructure.com/courses/9937/files/788222/download?download_frd=1)

TIPS FOR SUCCESS:  
  
Save sources from discussion posts and completes…students may be able to use these in the bibliography and it saves time!

Start work now…do not procrastinate…it will be due before you realize it and you’ll stress yourself out if you wait to start the week the paper is due.

Exceed the minimum requirements…don’t just do enough to get by…seek to stand above the rest by exceeding and surpassing expectations.

Study APA formatting and seek help from the instructor.

**Research Paper**

All students must submit their final paper to Brain Fuse first and get feedback and results.

I suggest you do this by Saturday, April 27th. Students must then submit the Brain Fuse Results to the instructor with the final report.. The report is to be uploaded with Module 5 by Saturday, May 4th. Learners may be penalized 10 points per day if late.  
  
The final paper must comply with the following:

* Written in APA 7th Edition format.

* Must be submitted as a PDF

* Must be a minimum of 5 pages excluding cover page and reference page…this does not mean 5 pages and a paragraph or two. This means 5 full pages at a minimum (seek to exceed 1,500 words).

* Must have a title page in APA format. An abstract is not required for this assignment.  
  Must have a reference page in APA format.

* Must have a minimum of 7 acceptable scholarly references listed and cited in the body of the work. You are highly encouraged to exceed the minimum reference count.  
  Students may use the course text as a source, but make sure your other sources fit the category of being scholarly in nature. Wikipedia or general websites are not scholarly.  
  Students should seek guidance from the instructor if in doubt about the acceptability of a source. Sources other than the textbook are to be current (2015-Present)

* Double spacing is required between sentences and paragraphs per APA guidelines.  
  Use Times New Roman 12 font when preparing the paper.

* Must demonstrate the ability to summarize and paraphrase information from sources in proper APA format.

* Plagiarism will not be tolerated…your paper must properly document all ideas and information not your own. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade for this course. Other sanctions may be imposed based on University policy. See your syllabus and the University’s Academic Catalog for additional information.

* Do not attempt to copy and paste from research papers or essays available online. The instructor will diligently check all papers for plagiarism.

* Use of proper grammar, correct spelling, and writing principles are expected in all work. Full credit will not be granted for work that contains grammatical or spelling errors. In the event a student does not feel competent in this area he/she should discuss the matter with the instructor.

**EVALUATION & GRADING**  
  
The following grading scale will be utilized in the determination of the student’s course grade:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Grade Percentage** | **Corresponding Letter Grade** |
| 90% to 100% | A |
| 80% to 89% | B |
| 70% to 79% | C |
| 60% to 69% | D |
| 0 to 59% | F |

**NOTE:  A final grade of "C" or higher is required for criminal justice students.**  
  
**FINAL AVERAGE BREAKDOWN**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assignment Category** | **Percentage of Final Grade** |
| Discussion Post Assignments | 30% |
| Essay Assignments | 40% |
| Annotated Bibliography | 10% |
| Research Paper | 20% |

**ONLINE ATTENDANCE AND WITHDRAWAL POLICY**:  
  
Students are accountable for all required work in each of their courses. They must assume full responsibility for class attendance in a way satisfactory to the instructor and for work missed because of absence. Since class sessions function not merely for individual learning but also for group interaction, absences can become a serious problem both for the individual and for the group.  
  
Online courses are delivered over a period of eight weeks with activities and assignments specified for each week. An online week is defined as being Monday 12:00 AM (EST) through Sunday at 11:59 PM (EST). Deadlines for attendance are based on Eastern Standard Time.  
  
A student will be considered in attendance for a given week of online instruction if he or she participates in the course. Participation is defined as posting a response to a discussion assignment or submitting a completed course room activity/assignment during the online week prior to Sunday at 11:59 PM (EST).  
  
**Initial Course Participation**  
A student who fails to participate during the first 8 calendar days of a course shall be administratively withdrawn from the course.  
  
  
**Ongoing Course Participation**  
Ongoing course participation is satisfied through the continued completion of course room activities, such as assignments or discussion question responses. Students who do not participate in a course for 7 or more consecutive days are not satisfying ongoing course participation.

Reinhardt University will notify students who are not satisfying ongoing course participation requirements via University email. The learner must resume participation in the course within 3 calendar days following a recorded absence.  
  
Students who do not resume participation in the course will be administratively withdrawn from the course and issued a grade of “W” or “F”. A grade of “W” will be issued if the administrative withdrawal occurs before 11:59 PM (EST) on Monday of the fifth week of the course.  
  
Students may be impacted academically and financially in the case of voluntary and administrative withdrawals. It is the student’s responsibility to understand these implications.

**Online Academic Support Services**  
Reinhardt University offers academic support services for online students through BrainFuse HelpNow. Services include access to live tutors, writing lab assistance, and study center resources. See [Course Resources](https://reinhardtuniversity.instructure.com/courses/9937/pages/course-resources) for access to BrainFuse.  
  
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 have a documented disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Academic Support Office (ASO).  
  
Reinhardt University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Therefore, if you are seeking classroom accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are required to register with the Academic Support Office (ASO). ASO is located in the basement of Lawson Building. Phone is 770-720-5567. To receive academic accommodations for this class, please obtain the proper ASO letters/forms.  
  
**NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**  
Reinhardt University does not discriminate in any of its policies, programs, or activities on the basis of race, color, age, culture, national origin, socioeconomic status, gender, religious belief, sexual orientation, physical (dis) ability or genetic information.

**PROJECTED LEARNING SCHEDULE AND REQUIRED READINGS**

**MODULE #1 (One Week: Monday, March 11th - Sunday, March 17th)**

* **Chapter 1:  Cyberspace, the Internet & the World Wide Web**
* **Chapter 4: Threats to Cybersecurity by Criminals & Organized Crime**

**Learning Objectives:**

1. **Explain how the Internet developed and how criminals are benefiting from the Internet.**
2. **Discuss how the Internet has contributed to pornography, trafficking in persons, and mail-order bride services.**
3. **Explain the different methods used in cyber-bullying and how the media, videos, and gaming impact cyber-bullying.**

**MODULE #2 (Two weeks: Monday, March 18th - Sunday, March 31st)**

* **Chapter 2: What is Cybersecurity**
* **Chapter 3: Threat Factors: Computers as Targets**

**Learning Objectives:**

1. **Understand the evolving nature of the term cyber-security and the challenges presented with it.**
2. **Analyze the origin of cyberspace legislation and the direction it is headed in the future.**
3. **Differentiate between private and public-sector cyber-security, and the pros and cons of each.**
4. **Discuss the role that wireless networks (Wi-Fi) have played in making the issue of cyber-security even more complex.**
5. **Differentiate between viruses, worms, and Trojan horses. Explain the threat Trojan horses pose to computers and computer users. Describe countermeasures to threats that target computers and mobile devices.**

**MODULE # 3 (Two weeks: Monday, April 1st - Sunday, April 14th)**

* **Chapter 5: Threats to Cybersecurity by Hacktivists & Nation States**
* **Chapter 9: Cybersecurity Operations**

**Learning Objectives**

**1. Be able to explain local, national, and international threats to cyber-security by nation-states and terroristic groups**

**2. Discuss what motivates hackers. Differentiate between traditional criminal subcultures and the hacker subculture.**

**3. Understand the role criminological theory can play in cyber-security operations.**

**4. Understand the concepts of cyber-security operations from the local, federal, and private-sector viewpoint.**

**5, Discuss the importance of interagency operation and collaboration in regard to cyber-security operations.**

**The research paper outline and annotated bibliography will be due no later than Friday, April 5th and is to be uploaded to the assignment and the outside sources must be from 2015 to the present.**

**MODULE #4 (One Week: Monday, April 15th – Sunday, April 21st)**

* **Chapter 10: Cybersecurity Policies & Legal Issues**

**Learning Objectives**

**1. Discuss the purpose of national cyber-security laws.**

**2. Discuss the purpose of national security policies.**

**3. Discuss the tension between civil rights and national security**

**4. Explain the difficulties in creating and enforcing international cyber-security policies.**

**MODULE #5 (Two Weeks: Monday, April 22nd - Sunday, May 5th)**

* **Chapter 6: National Security: Cyberwarfare & Cyberespionage**
* **Chapter 7: Cyberterrorism**

**Learning Objectives**

1. **Explain the motives of cyber-warfare.**
2. **Discuss the threats posed by economic and political cyber-espionage.**
3. **Describe what cyber-intelligence is and how it can be an effective tool in cyber-security.**
4. **Discuss why denial-of-service (DoS) attacks are a substantial threat to national security.**
5. **Define the difference between cyber-terrorism and other forms of cybercrime. Discuss the role of the media in the (mis) understanding of what constitutes cyber-terrorism.**

**All students must submit their report to Brain Fuse first and get feedback and results. I suggest you do this by Saturday, April 27th. Students must then submit the Brain Fuse Results as well as the corrected report to the instructor by Saturday, May 4th.**