IMPORTANT NOTE
Read this reference as soon as you get it and read it carefully! It contains the “rules of the game”. Ignorance of the rules is no excuse for breaking them.

Course Staff

Instructor: Dr. Amirhossein Chinaei
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Office: OF-326
E-mail: ahchinaei AT ece.uprm.edu

Office hours
Mon, Wed, Fri: 1:30 to 3:00 or by email appointment

Course Syllabus
Part 1: Introduction and foundations of computer security (counter) attacks; Part 2: Cryptographic tools, authentication, access control, database and cloud security; Part 3: Hacking/Malicious software, intrusion, & firewalls; Part 4: Software and operating system security; wireless network and Internet security; Part 5: User privacy and other special topics

Co-requisites
ICOM4035

Course Credits
3 credits

Lectures
Mon, Wed, Fri 12:30-1:20, S-206

Course Website
The course will have a website holding many useful. Some important information will be posted in the course page. It is important that you check the course website frequently and at least once before each lecture day. We try to make an effort to keep the website updated and working; please inform the course staff when you detect any problems with the website (or materials), if any, immediately.
URL: http://www.ece.uprm.edu/~ahchinaei/courses/2015jan/icom5995/index.html

Email
Email will be an essential means of communication between students and course staff during the term. Important classroom items are communicated via email. Every student is expected to have an email account on upr.edu or uprm.edu machines.
Assignment 1: Please send course instructor an email as soon as possible (not later than Jan 16, 2015) with the following information:

Email subject: ICOM5995; A1; your name; your student ID; your telephone number

Email body: I confirm that I understand the ICOM5995 course syllabus (rules and regulations) ….

In the email body, specify at least ***two points*** that while you read this syllabus you learned about them whereas I had not explained those issues in class, clearly. Also, specify whether or not you have any conflict with the partial exam dates announced in this document as well as in the course page.

* Make sure to state “ICOM5995” as part of your email subject in all your emails to the course staff.
* Every email that you send to any of the TAs, if any, should be CCed to the whole course staff too.
* Do not send your emails in html format; only use text-only emails (exclude signature files too.)
* You could send PDF attachments as well; only PDF (convert other formats to PDF) unless we explicitly specify otherwise for some course works.
* You are assumed to check your email at least once every 24 hours.

Textbook & References

Required:

Recommended:


Office Hours

The course staffs hold weekly office hours. This is an excellent opportunity to go over the material discussed in class on a one-to-one basis and at an individual pace. Unfortunately, some students—who can greatly benefit from this opportunity—seldom go to the office hours before their doubts have accumulated to the point where it becomes very hard to keep up with the course.

In general, near the end of the semester, professors get some students complaints about the difficulty of some concepts and their inability to keep up with the course. Such complaints seldom come from students who have frequently attended office hours.

So, if you have doubts on a concept discussed in class or lab, please use this important resource—and see the course staff—immediately.
Course Evaluation

Your grade will be based on the scores that you obtain in class assignments, partial exams, and a final exam. The weights assigned to each of these categories are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Projects</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partial exams</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignments (optional)</td>
<td>Up to 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Up to 110%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 minutes or more being absent in each lecture</td>
<td>-2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your total score will be calculated as a weighted average of your average scores in each category.

** Each partial exam will carry the same weight within its corresponding category.

** There are many assignments and each may have a different mark. Furthermore, assignments will be graded <on a random basis> and will not return to students. Individual marks in each assignment will not be announced; instead, its total will be added to your total score automatically by end of the semester.

*** NOTE: In order to pass the course, your total grade (partial exams, final exam, projects, and assignments) must be at least 70%

** Your final grade will be determined by a standard curve as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>(90,∞)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>(80,90]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>(70,80]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>(50,70]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>[0,50]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are expected to provide the best possible solution to assignments and partial exam questions in order to get full credit. We will not only evaluate correctness; we will evaluate quality as well. Students will have ten (10) working days after each graded work (except for assignments) is returned to them to make any claims about incorrect grading. No further claims will be considered after this time.

Partial Exams

We will have 3 up-to-75-minute partial exams on the following dates and times:

- **Wednesday, February 18, Partial Exam 1 at 6:30 PM.**
- **Monday, March 16, Partial Exam 2 at 6:30 PM.**
- **Monday, April 27, Partial Exam 3 at 6:30 PM.**

- Each exam will cover materials up to and including the material covered before the date of the exam. However, emphasis will be placed on the material discussed but not tested by previous exams.
- You are responsible for planning ahead of time. Having other exams the same day is no excuse for changing the dates or writing an alternative exam.
- Attending partial exams is a requirement of this course. If you miss an exam, you will get 0 for that exam. Missing two exams would be reason enough to fail the course. (Certain exceptions may be made only for exceptional cases.)
**Final Exam**

A comprehensive final exam will be administered at the time and date (~ between May 14 and 22) determined by the UPRM Registrar Office. The exam carries a weight of 16% towards your final score. The registrar usually announces the date for the exam several weeks in advance.

**Project**

In this course you will be **required** to complete 3 small to medium projects to demonstrate your knowledge in programming related to software security issues. More details will be given during the third week of the course. You may be required to work either in teams of two students or individually. The projects will constitute 48% of your final grade.

**Students will be invited for interviews on assignments and projects.** If you fail in an interview, you will get 0 for ALL corresponding assignments and projects. You will find more info about this requirement in the Academic Integrity Section of this document (below).

**Changes to this Reference**

These “rules of the Game” may suffer some informational minor changes during the course of the semester. However, major changes will require a special procedure in order to get approved. The final decision will be made within votes, but all students will be notified at least 24 working hours in advance about such an impending decision via email so as to give everyone an opportunity to attend and vote. Major changes may only be approved with **the written consent of the professor** and at least 90% of the students who vote.

**Academic Integrity**

- The usual university policies on academic honesty, fair use of computing facilities, etc., apply by default.

- Each student is expected to work individually on all projects, exams and laboratory assignments. You may not share your answers to the laboratory assignments. You may not use code from another student, or code that you find on the Internet or any similar resources. You may not share your code with another student or group. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in a grade of F in the course for the all student(s) breaking these rules. Unauthorized group efforts, particularly during exams, will be considered academic dishonesty and the students involved will receive an F in the course. You should read Article 10 of the “Reglamento General de Estudiantes de la Universidad de Puerto Rico” to learn more about the possible sanctions that you might experience if caught in an act of academic dishonesty.

- Moreover, if a student plagiarizes in one assignment or project, he/she will lose 100% of their total score in all assignments and projects. This is sufficient to get an F in the course.

- Furthermore, students must attend on time for all classes and exams; and, phones must be turned off during the lectures and labs. If you need to have your phone on in a particular lecture due to expecting an important call, please send the instructor an email in advance for that particular day; and, when received the consent for that particular day, please have your phone on vibration mode. During lectures, students who are sitting in the first 3 rows are allowed to use their laptops, only towards the materials being taught.

- Last but not least, **we share the air**: wearing excessive perfume is toxic to some others in classroom, labs, and during office hours. Furthermore, if you like smoking, that’s fine, but please consider that many others do not want to be a 2nd hand smoker.
Students with Disabilities

If you believe that you are at a disadvantage against other students due to a physical or mental difficulty, please contact the professor individually and immediately so that some reasonable accommodation can be made to attempt to circumvent or ameliorate the difficulty. It is not only our desire and duty but it is also your right as established by the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act. Learn about your rights and demand them.