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Office Hours:
MWF, 2:30 - 3:30
And by appointment

Textbooks:

- * *Guide to Computer Forensics and Investigations, 3rd Ed.*, Nelson *et. al.*
- * Supplementary materials as distributed in class

Description:

Computers are playing an increasingly important role in the criminal justice system. The use and miss-use of computers has given rise to entirely new areas of crime-fighting and new categories of crime. As computers have become more powerful, available and user-friendly, they have been used with increasing effectiveness in criminal profiling, fingerprint, dental and other identification, video image processing and simulation of crime scenes. These have qualitatively changed the landscape of the criminal justice system. In this course, the use of computers in the criminal justice system and emerging and future trends will be discussed.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Topics:

1. Basic computer terminology and computer security
2. Categories of computer crime
3. Computer simulation
4. Biometrics
5. Triangulation
6. Geographic Information Systems
7. Criminal databases and cooperation of law agencies
8. Emerging and future trends in forensic computing
9. Other topics of student interest

Assignments

Assignments will take several forms throughout the semester

- 1) Readings from the Web and the textbook

- 2) Weekly brief questions. These will be used to take attendance. These are intended to be short questions for class discussion and are likely to be in the fringes of course material. They will be given out randomly and are due the next class period. If you miss class on a day these are assigned, you cannot make them up. You may drop the 2 lowest scores you receive on these.
- 3) Writing assignments. Writing assignments will be in the form of short, 1 or 2 paragraph assignments in addition to 2 large papers (2000 words each, rough and final drafts).
- 4) Examinations. There will be 2 examinations given (midterm and final).

Assignments must be typed (except for the brief questions). Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of 25% points per day. Assignments are due at the beginning of class. No assignments of any type will be accepted after the final class meeting day.

The instructor may administer quizzes in class (announced or unannounced) at any time. These will be counted as short writing assignments. This will almost certainly be done if significant numbers of students fail to submit homework assignments on a timely basis or produce a very low quality of work.

Grading: Your final grade is broken down into categories as:

- 30% Exams (15% each for midterm and final)
- 40% Papers (20% each one)
- 25% Short writing assignments
- 5% Brief questions

Your final weighted average will be determined using the weights indicated and your grade will be determined according to the following scale

Average	Grade	Average	Grade
100-95.0	A	74.0-76.9	C
94.9-90.0	A-	70.0-73.9	C-
87.0-89.9	B+	67.0-69.9	D+
84.0-86.9	B	64.0-66.9	D
80.0-83.9	B-	60.0-63.9	D-
77.0-79.9	C+	< 60.0	E

Policies

Students with documented disabilities may be entitled to specific accommodations. The College at Brockport's Office for Students with Disabilities makes this determination. Please contact the Office for Students with Disabilities at 395-5409 to inquire about obtaining an official letter to the course instructor detailing approved accommodations. The student is responsible for providing the course instructor with the official letter. Faculty and staff work as a team with the Office for Students with Disabilities to meet the needs of students with disabilities.

NO CELL PHONES OR PAGERS. Please turn off your cell phone or pager prior to entering the classroom. You will lose half credit on your next homework assignment if your cellphone or pager goes off.

Attendance:

You are expected to attend all classes. Significant amounts of material are not contained in the textbook. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get class notes and handouts and find out what you missed. The instructor reserves the right to fail any student who acquires more than 4 unexcused absences.

No incompletes or withdrawals will be given for this course except in cases of illness, personal tragedy, or extraordinary circumstances beyond the student's control, and then only if documented to the instructor's satisfaction.

Here is the official College at Brockport Attendance Policy:

The student is responsible for all assigned course work and cannot be absolved of this responsibility. When enrolled in a particular course, the student is obligated to do all of the work assigned. Punctual and regular attendance is vital to the discharge of this obligation. Absences, excused or not, do not alter this responsibility. Absences deemed excessive by the instructor may result in a lowered grade. Students whose unexcused absences exceed 15% of the scheduled classes and laboratories will be subject to failure at the instructor's discretion. Absences will be excused for (a) documented illness, (b) official representation of the college, (c) death of a close relative, (d) religious holiday, and (e) circumstances beyond the control of the student. Excuses for official representation of the college must be obtained from the official supervising that activity or event. Policies regarding absences from quizzes, exams, and laboratory sessions will be at the discretion of the instructor. Substantiation of excused absences is, in any case, the responsibility of the student. Regulations more restrictive than those stated above may be established by the instructor.

Authorship:

When you turn in an assignment, you are certifying it as your own work. Submitting material as your own work that is not entirely of your own authorship, or knowingly providing an answer to another person constitutes cheating. If I am convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that cheating has occurred, the person(s) submitting the illicitly obtained answer, and any person(s) knowingly providing same, will receive a grade of zero for that assignment. Further disciplinary procedures may also be considered.

Buckley Amendment:

The purpose of the Buckley Amendment is to protect the confidentiality of your grades. This law states that I cannot reveal any information regarding your performance in the course to anyone other than yourself and authorized college administrators without your written permission.

Disclaimer:

Announcements given in class are considered official addenda to this policy. All policies described are subject to change as the situation warrants. Should changes be necessary, all students will be notified in a timely fashion.