Course Syllabus

✎ Edit

CGS3559: Using the Internet; Section RVC

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If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact **LMS Help Support Services** ↪ **(http://lmshelp.fiu.edu/)** .

General Information

Course Description and Purpose

This course will cover the history of the Internet and the significance of the Internet in the modern world. It will also provide an overview of various Internet technologies from electronic mail to the World Wide Web. This is a non-technical course emphasizing the role of the Internet in current society and the technologies available on the Internet. The course places special emphasis on Internet security and online safety.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course you will be able to:

1. Define the Internet and evaluate the ways that users connect to and use the Internet.
2. Identify and evaluate safe computing practices and develop ideas for how to safely navigate Internet resources.
3. Define cryptography and evaluate its uses on the Internet.
4. Define virtual worlds and evaluate their impact on identity.

5. Exchange information using various Internet methods, such as, e-mail and file transfer.

6. Define the World Wide Web and assess the impact of Web 2.0 technologies.

7. Identify and differentiate the uses and variety of social media technologies.

Important Information

Policies

Please review the **FIU's Policies** ⤷ **(https://online.fiu.edu/html/canvas/policies/)** webpage. The policies webpage contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU, as well as additional information about acceptable netiquette for online courses.

As a member of the FIU community you are expected to be knowledgeable about the behavioral expectations set forth in the **FIU Student Code of Conduct** ⤷ **(https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/get-support/student-conduct-and-academic-integrity/)** .

Technical Requirements and Skills

One of the greatest barriers to taking an online course is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently, and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course; but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency using a computer. Please go to the "**What's Required** ⤷ **(https://fiuonline.fiu.edu/experience/what-is-required.php)** " webpage to find out more information on this subject.

Please visit our **Technical Requirements** ⤷ **(https://online.fiu.edu/html/canvas/mastertemplate/technical-requirements/)** webpage for additional information.

- **Canvas Privacy Policy (https://www.instructure.com/policies/privacy)**
- **Zoom Privacy Policy** ⤷ **(https://zoom.us/privacy)**
- **Microsoft (https://privacy.microsoft.com/en-US/)**
- **Adobe** ⤷ **(https://www.adobe.com/privacy/policy.html)**
- **Google** ⤷ **(https://policies.google.com/privacy?hl=en)**

Accessibility and Accommodation

The Disability Resource Center collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize

academic accommodations, please contact the Center at 305-348-3532 or visit them at the Graham Center GC 190.

Please visit our **ADA Compliance** ⤷ **(https://online.fiu.edu/html/canvas/mastertemplate/accessibility/)** webpage for information about accessibility involving the tools used in this course.

Please visit the LMS Accessibility webpage for more information:

- **Canvas** ⤷ **(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2061)**
- **Zoom** ⤷ **(https://zoom.us/accessibility)**
- **Microsoft (https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/trustcenter/compliance/accessibility)**
- **Adobe** ⤷ **(https://www.adobe.com/accessibility/compliance.html)**
- **Google** ⤷ **(https://www.google.com/accessibility/)**

For additional assistance please contact FIU's **Disability Resource Center** ⤷ **(http://drc.fiu.edu/)** .

Academic Misconduct Statement

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly to demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct is incompatible with a degree from FIU. KFSCIS expects all of its students to practice complete honesty and transparency in all of their academic endeavors.

From the FIU Student Conduct and Honor Code:

"Undergraduate, Graduate, and Professional Students at FIU are expected to adhere to the highest standards of integrity in every aspect of their lives. Honesty in academic matters is part of this obligation. Academic integrity is the adherence to those special values regarding life and work in an academic community. Code violations may lead to suspension or expulsion from the University if a determination of responsibility has been made. These sanctions will be determined based on severity of incident and prior violations of the Code."

 All FIU policies regarding academic integrity apply to this course. Acts of academic misconduct may involve (but are not limited to) the following:

- Plagiarism in written or coding submissions
- Cheating during quizzes or exams

- Enabling acts of academic dishonesty by sharing work with other students
- Falsification of information
- Having unauthorized possession of quizzes or exams
- Submitting the work of another person
- Submitting work previously used in another course or in a prior semester, without the express permission of the instructor (self-plagiarism)
- Uploading course materials to any commercial websites without the instructor's express permission
- Utilizing outside 3rd-party paid sources, paying another student, or offering to pay another student to produce the work you submit
- Submitting work from a repository, including third party commercial sites offering work for-hire
- Providing your FIU log-on credentials to anyone else to use for any purpose

If, at any time, you are uncertain about permitted or prohibited actions in this course, consult the instructor for guidance.

Zero tolerance for academic misconduct: If you commit any form of academic misconduct in this course, you *WILL* be reported to the FIU Student Conduct and Academic Affairs office.

 Failure to adhere to the guidelines stated above may result in one of the following:

- Expulsion: Permanent separation of the student from the University, preventing readmission to the institution. This sanction shall be recorded on the student`s transcript.
- Suspension: Temporary separation of the student from the University for a specific period of time.

By taking this course, you promise to adhere to FIU's Student Code of Academic Integrity.

For details on the policy and procedures please visit the following Academic Misconduct links:

https://online.fiu.edu/student/resources/policies.php ⤤
(https://online.fiu.edu/student/resources/policies.php)

Short version of the FIU honor code:

https://academic.fiu.edu/AcademicBudget/misconductweb/Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf ⤤
(https://academic.fiu.edu/AcademicBudget/misconductweb/Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf)

Complete version as included in the full regulations document – See section 6 (starting on page 14) for academic misconduct: **https://regulations.fiu.edu/docs=257** ⤤ **(https://regulations.fiu.edu/docs=257)**

Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

If you are looking for help for yourself or a fellow classmate, Panthers Care encourages you to express any concerns you may come across as it relates to any personal behavior concerns or worries you have,

for the classmate's well-being or yours; you are encouraged to share your concerns with **FIU's Panthers Care website.** ▣ **(http://pantherscare.fiu.edu/)**

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) ▣ **(http://caps.fiu.edu/)** offers free and confidential help for anxiety, depression, stress, and other concerns that life brings. Professional counselors are available for same-day appointments. Don't wait to call 305-348-2277 to set up a time to talk or visit the online self-help portal.

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Proctored Exam Policy

This online section does not require an on-campus meeting and/or exam; however, there are weekly reflections. Through a careful examination of this syllabus, it is the student's responsibility to determine whether this online course requires proctored exams. Please visit our **Proctored Exam Resources** ▣ **(https://online.fiu.edu/student/proctored-exam/)** webpage for important information concerning proctored exams, proctoring centers, and important forms.

Textbook and Course Materials

There are no textbooks for this course.

Expectations of this Course

This is an online course, meaning that most of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same as for a traditional course; in fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills that can make them more demanding for some students. **There is no tutoring offered for this online course.**

Attendance in an online class is different, but no less important compared to a face-to-face course. You must post your reflections by 11:59 on Sunday of the week that it is assigned. Reflections posted after 11:59 pm will not be graded. Yes, this means if you post at 12:30 am on Monday you have passed your deadline. All other assignments have a similar deadline, so please plan your week accordingly.

Students are expected to post their reflections in a timely fashion. Reflections should be at least 250 to 400 words in length. You are also expected to reply to a minimum of two other students each week.

Replies are expected to be well thought out and should be at least 100 to 200 words in length each. A reply such as "I agree" or "You are correct" is not a well thought out response and will not be counted.

The course has been developed on Windows computers with other systems in mind; however, some assignments only supply tools or instructions for Windows-based computers. Those using other platforms (Apple or Unix) must make their own adjustments and the instructor is not responsible for providing technical assistance, and FIU Online does not provide support other than for submitting assignments in the course and other general course access issues.

Students are expected to:

- **Review the how to get started information** located in the course content
- **Introduce yourself to the class** during the first week by posting a self introduction in the appropriate discussion forum
- **Take the academic integrity quiz** to ensure that your computer is compatible with Canvas
- **Interact** online with instructor/s and peers
- **Review** and follow the course calendar

Course Detail

Course Communication

Communication in this course will take place via **Canvas Course Messages (Inbox).**

I check e-mail often. It is reasonable to expect a return message within 48 - 72 hours. Generally, I return e-mail in a much shorter amount of time; however, sometimes life does not allow that; Answers to questions such as "When is the next exam?" and "When is a project due?" can be found on the course schedule.

The **Inbox** feature is an external communication tool that allows users to send emails to users enrolled within the course including the instructor and other students. Emails are sent to the students' FIU email on record. The Inbox tool is located on the left side Course Menu (Canvas user interface).

Find information on **professional writing and technical communication** ⤶ **(https://online.fiu.edu/html/canvas/resources/writing-resources/)** .

Check out the **Canvas Conversations Tutorial (https://vimeo.com/canvaslms/212en)** or **Canvas Guide (https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10574-4212710325)** to learn how to communicate with your instructor and peers using Announcements, Discussions, and the Inbox.

Netiquette throughout the course:

- Be friendly, positive and self-reflective
- Use proper language and titles

- Use effective communication
- Be professional
- Ask for clarification

Project Communication Expectations

- All group members should do an equal amount of work
- Have respect for each other
- Be willing to cooperate with others on their ideas
- Make sure everyone is able to be vocal about their ideas and problems

Discussion Board Communication Expectations

- Think before you write.
- Think of the discussion board as an in-between of a chat and a formal essay. In a formal essay, we slowly develop larger ideas at length. The discussion board falls in between.
- It is also a good idea to read what others in your class have said before you. It is important to be aware of what has already been said. Try to add a new dimension, a different slant, or another perspective.
- Just as when you are in a regular classroom, there is also a proper etiquette to the discussion board. This etiquette includes listening to (reading) everybody, providing thoughtful responses, maintaining decorum, criticizing politely, addressing replies to people by name, signing your posts, etc.

Discussion Forums

Keep in mind that your discussion forum postings will likely be seen by other members of the course. Care should be taken when determining what to post.

Weekly Reflections

- Each week there will be discussion topic posted. You need to review the resources for the discussion topic and start to formulate your response.
- Each post should be a 250 to 400 word reflection based on the discussion topic and resources. Each post will be due by the end of the week, Sunday at 11:55 pm.
- In addition, to earn your points for the assignment, you must reply thoughtfully to 2 other students. Each reply should be 100 to 200 words.
- Posts are generally graded with 7 business days of the assignment closing.
- You can view the rubric (link) that will be used to rate your discussion board posting in the My Grades section of the course.

Assessments

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the "Practice Quiz" from each computer you will be using to take your graded quizzes and exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum **hardware requirements** ⇨ **(https://fiuonline.fiu.edu/experience/what-is-required.php)** .

Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you need further assistance please contact **FIU Online Support Services** ⇨ **(http://online.fiu.edu/supportservices)** .

There are no assessments in this course.

Assignments

Projects

There are numerous projects and assignments in this course: two introduction projects, an encryption project, a steganography project, an Internet project, and an individual summary project.

- These projects should be completed by the individual only unless otherwise noted.
- Projects will be available for approximately 7 days unless otherwise noted, opening at 12:00 AM and closing at 11:55 PM.
- Projects will be submitted using the Canvas Assignment Dropbox.
- The rubric can be found within the assignment details.
- Students will receive feedback/ grades within 7 days.

Tips for Success

1. Keep up with readings and assignments - I don't assign them without a purpose
2. Be sure to log into the course every day to check email, announcements and the schedule - you are less likely to miss an assignment or miss out on an opportunity this way.
3. Work on the projects throughout the term don't wait until the last minute!
4. Proofread your work before you turn it in!!
5. Talk to me if you have problems or questions! Together we can work out the problems :)
6. Participation is key to success!!

The most important thing to remember in this class is to keep up with the work. If you fall behind, you will have problems catching up, however, if you budget your time you should have no problems keeping up. The second most important thing to remember is to talk to me if you are having problems. I am the one who can provide the answer to your questions. If you are having difficulties, come talk to me **BEFORE** an assignment is due. I cannot help you after you have turned in an assignment, but I can and will help you before.

Late Work

All late work, without prior approval by the professor, will lose 10% for each day that it is late until the grade of 0 is reached. When the assignment is graded, the grading will start at the late grade.

Grading

Course Grades Distribution Table

Course Requirements	Total Points Available
Weekly Reflections	4 for each weekly discussion (there are a total 12 discussions, you **must pass** 9 of 12 discussions in order to pass the course)
Introduction Project 1 and Project 2	4 points each
Encryption Project	26
Steganography Project	26
Internet Project (Scavenger Hunt)	22
Individual Summary Project	50 for presentation 20 the narrative or lecture notes for the presentation
Total	**200**

Letter Grade Distribution Table

Letter Grade	Points
P	150 - 200
F	149 or below

Course Calendar

Weekly Schedule

Readings that are listed are for the week. They should be completed before completing your reflections. Assignments are due the by **11:55 pm** Sunday night of week they are assigned unless otherwise indicated.

Course Calendar Distribution Table

Date	Topics	Assignments
Week 1	Introduction Internet History	**Introduction Project 1 & 2** **Reflection 1**
Week 2	How the Internet Works	**Reflection 2**
Week 3	Network Security	**Reflection 3**
Week 4	Electronic Mail	**Reflection 4**
Week 5	Browser Basics	**Reflection 5**
Week 6	Combating Internet Pests	**Reflection 6**
Week 7	Ethics	**Reflection 7**
Week 8	Spring Break Week	No Assignments
Week 9	An Introduction to Encryption	**Reflection 8**

Date	Topics	Assignments
		Encryption Project
Week 10	Steganography	**Reflection 9**
Week 11	Social Media	**Reflection 10** **Steganography Project**
Week 12	Virtual Worlds	**Reflection 11**
Week 13	Privacy and the Internet	**Reflection 12**
Week 14	Searching	**Reflection 13** **Individual Summary Project**
Week 15	Copyright	**Reflection 14** **Internet Project**
Week 16	Finals Week	

Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Sun Jan 14, 2024	🗨 **Introduce Yourself Project 2** **(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485647)**	due by 11:59pm
	📝 **Introduction Project 1** **(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485652)**	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
	💬 **Reflection 1** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485648)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485648)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 21, 2024	💬 **Reflection 2** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485646)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485646)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 28, 2024	💬 **Reflection 3** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485645)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485645)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 4, 2024	💬 **Reflection 4** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485644)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485644)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 11, 2024	💬 **Reflection 5** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485643)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485643)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 18, 2024	💬 **Reflection 6** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485642)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485642)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 25, 2024	💬 **Reflection 7** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485641)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485641)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 10, 2024	📝 **Encryption Project** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485649)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485649)	due by 11:59pm
	💬 **Reflection 8** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485640)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485640)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 17, 2024	💬 **Reflection 9** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485639)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485639)	due by 11:59pm
	📝 **Steganography Project** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485653)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485653)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 24, 2024	💬 **Reflection 10** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485638)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485638)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 31, 2024	💬 **Reflection 11** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485637)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485637)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 7, 2024	💬 **Reflection 12** [(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485636)](https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485636)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	Due
Sun Apr 14, 2024	📝 **Individual Summary Project** **(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485650)**	due by 11:59pm
	🗨 **Reflection 13** **(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485635)**	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 21, 2024	🗨 **Reflection 14** **(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485634)**	due by 11:59pm
Mon Apr 22, 2024	📝 **Internet Project** **(https://fiu.instructure.com/courses/184651/assignments/2485651)**	due by 11:59pm