

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS 161: Introduction to Cybercrime
Spring 2021

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Bryce Westlake
Office Location: Health Building 210B
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2:45 pm

Classroom: Zoom (link provided on Canvas)
Prerequisites:

[MySJSU](#) to learn of updates.

Catalog Description

Introduces students to the growing legal, technical, and social issues surrounding crimes committed in cyberspace or assisted by computers. Discusses the nature of cybercrime from an international perspective and how the borderless nature of cybercrime impacts regulation and enforcement.

Course Description

This course explores how an interconnected world has modified how existing criminal activity is conducted and how new criminal opportunities have been created. Students will examine the history and complex nature of computer-related crime and how societies have attempted to respond. Students will discuss the different types of cybercriminals, including motives, rationale, and methods of attack. We will also evaluate various legal and regulatory issues in cyberspace, including surveillance, sting operations, current and proposed legislation, user-reporting initiatives, identity filtering/blocking technologies, vigilante movements, individual rights, and international law enforcement cooperation.

Course Goals

The Department of Justice Studies is committed to scholarly excellence. Therefore, the Department promotes academic, critical, and creative engagement with language (i.e., reading and writing) throughout its curriculum. A sustained and intensive exploration of language prepares students to think critically and to act meaningfully in interrelated areas of their lives

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

(CLO 1) distinguish between the different types of cybercrimes, including who/what they target

JS 161, Introduction to Cybercrime Spring 2021 Course Schedule

This course schedule is subject to change with fair notice, at the instructor's discretion. All reading assignments listed should be completed prior to class on that date. Additional readings may be assigned.

Week	Date	Topics	Readings
1	01/27/21	Introduction -Course overview -Assignments -Canvas	<i>Articles</i> Historical Evolution of Cybercrime (Choi, Lee, & Louderback, 2019) The Internet as a Conduit for Criminal Activity (Wall, 2010)
2	02/01/21 & 02/03/21	What is Cybercrime -Computer and Internet basics -Cybercrime research -Routine Activity Theory	<i>Articles</i> The Current State of Cybercrime Scholarship (Holt & Bossler, 2014) Defining Cybercrime (Payne, 2019)
3	02/08/21 & 02/10/21	Hacking -Hacker culture -Legal issues -Hacking as a service	<i>Articles</i> What is Hacking (Guru99) The Kill Chain (Lockheed Martin, 2015) MITRE ATT&CK Framework (Petters, 2019)
4	02/15/21 & 02/17/21	Malware -Viruses, worms, trojan horses, rootkits, keyloggers, & ransomware	<i>Articles</i> 2020 Cybersecurity Outlook Report (VMware, 2020) The Evolution of Cybercrime and Cyberdefense (Trend Micro, 2018)
5	02/22/21 & 02/24/21	Email Spam -Legal issues -Legislation efforts -CAN-SPAM -Phishing & pharming	<i>Articles</i> Technology Use Abuse and Public Perception (Furnell, 2019) Presentation #1: Malware Attack (February 24th)
6	03/01/21 & 03/03/21	Privacy & Security -Surveillance -Passwords -Personal safety	<i>Articles</i> Facebook Studies (Various Authors) What is Social Engineering (Webroot) Private Traits and Attributes (Kosinski, Stillwell, & Graepel, 2013) How Vulnerable are You - Social Engineering Checklist
7	03/08/21 & 03/10/21	Identity Theft & Fraud -Identity theft and fraud -Social media & crime	<i>Articles</i> Identity Theft: Nature, Extent, and Global Response (Golladay, 2019) Police Legitimacy in the Age of Social Media (Nhan & Noakes, 2019) Paper #1 Due: Tell Me a Story (March 10th)

Week	Date	Topics	Readings
8	03/15/21 & 03/17/21	Deep Web -TOR -Digital currency -The Dark Web	<i>Articles</i> Exploring the Deep Web (Trend Micro, 2015) Cryptocurrency: Enforcement Framework (US DoJ, 2020)
9	03/22/21 & 03/24/21	MIDTERM (March 22nd)	
10	04/05/21 & 04/07/21	Radicalization & Misinformation -Terrorism -Fake news -Deep fakes	<i>Articles</i> Information Overload Helps Fake News Spread (Menczer & Hills, 2020) The Role of the Internet in Facilitating Violent Extremism and Terrorism (Scrivens, Gill, & Conway, 2019)
11	04/12/21 & 04/14/21	Copyright Infringement -What is it? -Who owns the data on	

