

San José State University
Department of Justice Studies
JS 161: Introduction to Cybercrime
Winter 2022

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Dr. Bryce Westlake
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Office Hours:	None
Prerequisites:	JS 100W (or equivalent)

 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. This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the legal, technical, and social issues surrounding cybercrime. The course will cover the following topics: the history of cybercrime, the legal framework of cybercrime, the technical aspects of cybercrime, and the social impact of cybercrime. The course will also discuss the role of law enforcement in the investigation and prosecution of cybercrime. The course is designed to be a comprehensive introduction to the field of cybercrime.

Required Readings

Articles: supplied electronically via Canvas.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Reflection Papers (25%): You will write six reflection papers, each at least two (full) pages in length. Each paper will focus on a specific topic and question, which I will provide to students via Canvas. Students will be expected to provide their viewpoint and critically discuss the implications of the issue or event to our understanding of cybercrime and how it is addressed by societies. This assignment will specifically address CLO's 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

Paper #1 –Tell Me a Story (25%): The purpose of this assignment is to provide students with practical experience to explore the concept of personal privacy, or lack thereof, on the Internet. Students will write a short paper (6-8 pages) on their investigation of two topics. First, students will input their name into a search engine, with minimal other identifying information, and describe whether the data returned was about them, and how they felt about that information being readily accessible. They will describe the age (i.e., how old), personal nature (e.g., address, phone number, banking information), and online profile (e.g., your likes/dislikes, purchases, hobbies) it presented about them. Second, students will use any cyber methods they can devise to find information on the course instructor. Students will be required to record the steps they took (e.g., search terms) to acquire the information and what information they obtained, including where it was found. Students will then describe this process and reflect on the steps others may take to find out personal information about them. This assignment will specifically address CLO 4.

Paper #2 –Combating Cybercrime Internationally (25%): The purpose of this assignment is for students to explore the legal issues regarding how governments and social control agencies can police a virtual environment without physical boundaries and borders. Select a type of cybercrime discussed in the course and determine how partnerships, cooperation, and/or resource-

JS 161: Introduction to Cybercrime Winter 2020 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 reviewing the lecture slides for that date. Additional readings may be assigned.

Lect	Date	Topics	Readings
1	01/03/21	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	01/04/21	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) Reflection Paper #1 Due: What is Cybercrime
3	01/05/21	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)
4	01/06/21	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) Reflection Paper #2 Due: Impact of Malware Attacks
5	01/07/21	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
6	01/10/21	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
7	01/11/21	Deep Web -TOR -Digital currency -The Dark Web	<i>Articles</i> Exploring the Deep Web (Trend Micro, 2015) Cryptocurrency: Enforcement Framework (US DoJ, 2020)

Lect	Date	Topics	Readings
8	01/12/21	Copyright Infringement -What is it? -Who owns the data on the Internet? -	