

Information Security

CS3002

(Sections BDS-7A/B, BSE-7A)

Lecture 01

Instructor: Dr. Syed Mohammad Irteza
Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science
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Administrative Information

- Office: 036, 1st Floor, Block F / New Building
- Email-01: m.irteza@nu.edu.pk
- Email-02: mohammad.irteza@lhr.nu.edu.pk
- Office Hours:
 - Tues/Thursday 11:30 am ~ 12:30 pm

Office Hours

You are welcome to visit and discuss things related to the course, or general academic and/or research interests!

If this slot does not suit you, try to arrange for a separate slot through email, preferably one day before.

Mondays/Wednesdays are less suitable due to a busy schedule.

Administrative Information

- Course Website (Google Classroom):
 - BDS-7A → <https://classroom.google.com/c/NzA5NDIzMjIxNTY0>
 - Code: 2pxbc6i
 - BDS-7B → <https://classroom.google.com/c/NzA0ODg2MjIzNDMx>
 - Code: zhbekn3
 - BSE-7A → <https://classroom.google.com/c/NzA3MjM5MTcyMDUx>
 - Code: yuc5ldq
- Class Schedule:
 - BDS-7A – Mon/Wed (08:30 - 10:00, Venue: NB-308)
 - BDS-7B – Mon/Wed (11:30 - 13:00, Venue: NB-308)
 - BSE-7A – Tue/Thu (08:30 - 10:00, Venue: CS-3)

My Research/Academic Background

- BS, MS and PhD in Computer Science from LUMS
 - 1998-2002, 2004-2005, 2012-2018
- Taught at Air University, LUMS, GIFT University, UMT
- Software Industry Experience: Alachisoft, Prosol Technologies
- PhD Thesis: *Resilient Network Load Balancing for Datacenters*
 - Advisor – Dr. Ihsan Ayyub Qazi
- Google Scholar Page:
 - <https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=wHazKsgAAAAJ>
- Main Interests:
 - Datacenter Networking: network layer and transport layer protocols
 - Network Traffic Engineering, Congestion Control, Queue Management

Classroom Etiquette

- Please come on time
- Minimize cross-talk
- Please do not attend phone calls/messages during class
- Do not copy other people's work
- Try to write notes, this will improve your retention

Course Objectives

This course serves as a comprehensive overview to the field of information security at senior undergraduate level.

At the end of the course, hopefully you will be able to:

1. Explain key concepts of information security such as *design principles, cryptography, risk management, and ethics*
2. Discuss *legal, ethical, and professional issues* in information security
3. Apply various *security and risk management tools* for achieving information security and privacy
4. *Identify appropriate techniques* to tackle and solve problems in the discipline of information security

Course Outline (some changes may happen)

- Course Introduction
- Security Design Principles
- Cryptography (~7 lectures)
- Software Security (~3 lectures)
- Database Security (~2 lectures)
- Web Security (~2 lectures)
- User Authentication
- Access Control

Course Outline (some changes may happen)

- Network Security (~4 lectures)
- Theoretical Models of Access Control
- Cybercrime Laws and Ethics
- Project Evaluations and Revision (~3 lectures)
- Final Exam

Textbook

- Computer Security: Principles and Practice, William Stallings, Lawrie Brown
- Principles of Information Security, Michael E. Whitman, Herbert J. Mattord
- Cryptography and Network Security: Principles and Practice, William Stallings
- Reference:
 - Computer Security Fundamentals (second edition): William Chuck Easttom
 - Hands-on Labs for Security Education, by SEED labs

Grading Policy – Tentative

- Quizzes → 10%
 - Unannounced, can be held at the start or end of class
 - If we have 7 or more quizzes, we will drop the worst two quizzes
- Assignments → 10%
 - All assignments will count to your grade
- Project → 10%
- Midterm I & II → 25% ~ 30%
- Final Exam → 40% ~ 45%
 - Comprehensive exam (all course contents included)

What is Security?

- “*The quality or state of being secure—to be free from danger*”
- A well secured organization should have multiple layers of security in place:
 - Physical Security
 - Personal Security
 - Operations Security
 - Communications Security
 - Network Security

Information Security

- *“The protection of information and its critical elements, including systems and hardware that use, store, and transmit that information”*
- Necessary tools: *policy, awareness, training, education, technology*
- C.I.A. triangle was standard based on confidentiality, integrity, and availability
- C.I.A. triangle now expanded into list of critical characteristics of information

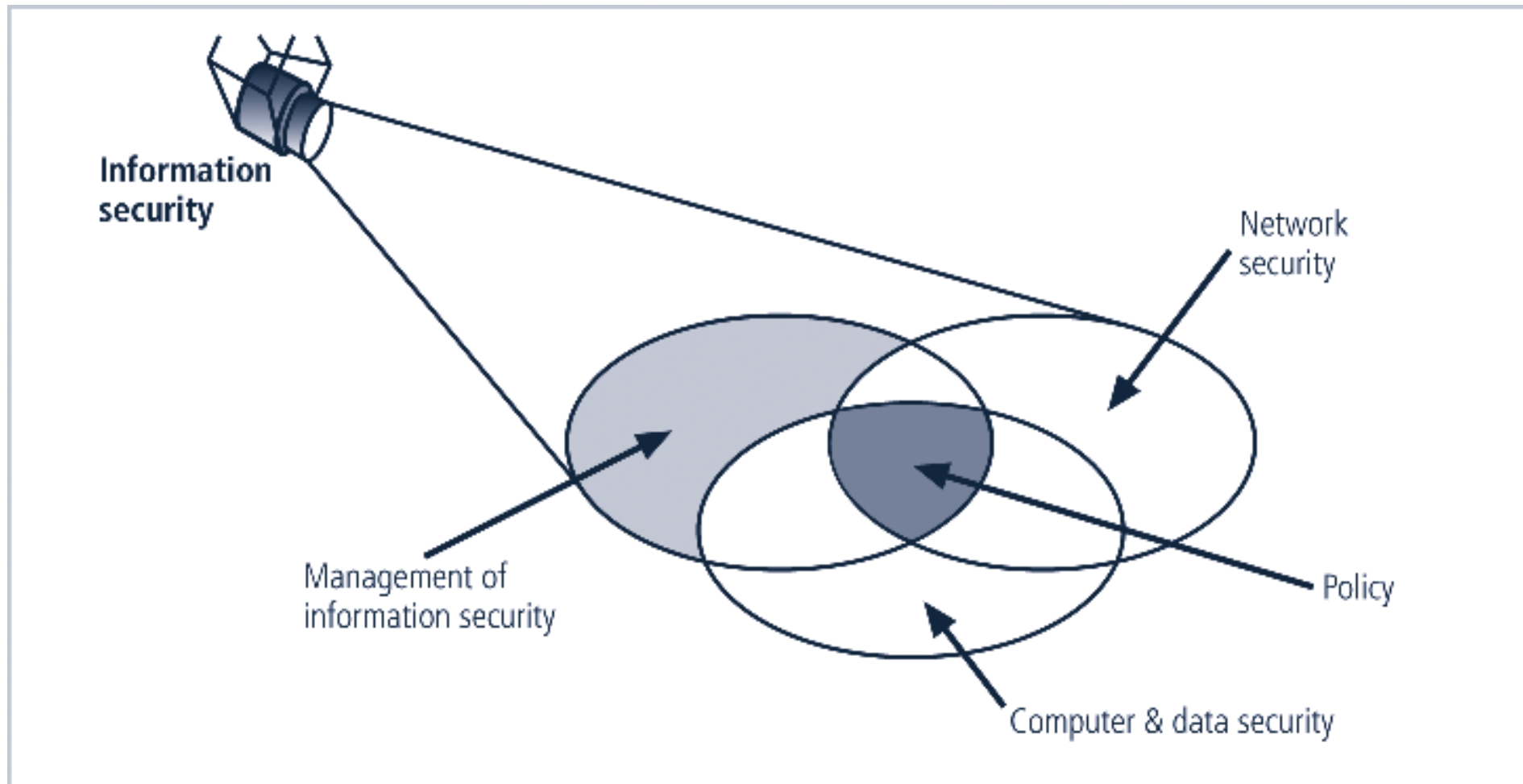


FIGURE 1-3 Components of Information Security

Book: Principles of Information Security

Critical Characteristics of Information

- The value of information comes from the characteristics it possesses:
 - *Timeliness*
 - No value if it is too late
 - *Availability*
 - No interference or obstruction
 - Required format
 - *Accuracy*
 - Free from mistakes
 - *Authenticity*
 - Quality or state of being genuine, i.e., sender of an email

Critical Characteristics of Information

- *Confidentiality*
 - Disclosure or exposure to unauthorized individuals or system is prevented
- *Integrity*
 - Whole, completed, uncorrupted
 - Cornerstone
 - Size of the file, hash values, error-correcting codes, retransmission
- *Possession*
 - Ownership
 - Breach of confidentiality results in the breach of possession

Components of an Information System

- An Information System (IS) is the *entire set of software, hardware, data, people, procedures, and networks* necessary to use information as a resource in the organization
- *Software*
 - Perhaps most difficult to secure
 - Easy target
 - Exploitation substantial portion of attacks on information
- *Hardware*
 - Physical security policies
 - Securing physical location important
 - Laptops
 - Flash memory

Components of an Information System

- *Data*
 - Often most valuable asset
 - Main target of intentional attacks
- *People*
 - Weakest link
 - Social engineering
 - Must be well trained and informed
- *Procedures*
 - Threat to integrity of data
- *Networks*
 - Locks and keys won't work

Securing Components

- A computer can be the *subject* of an attack and/or the *object* of an attack
 - When it is the *subject* of an attack, the computer is used as an active tool to conduct the attack
 - When it is the *object* of an attack, the computer is the entity being attacked
- Types of attack
 - *Direct*
 - Hacker uses their computer to break into a system
 - *Indirect*
 - System is compromised and used to attack other systems

Risk estimation

- **Assets:** Objects, data, people
 - **Vulnerability:** Weakness of an asset
 - **Threat:** loss of security due to vulnerability
 - **Attack:** threat occurrence
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- **Risk estimation** is the process of identifying vulnerabilities and threats and their impact and probability of an attack occurring.

OWASP top 10 Vulnerabilities

Category	IoT Security Consideration	Recommendations
I1: Insecure Web Interface	•Ensure that any web interface coding is written to prevent the use of weak passwords ...	When building a web interface consider implementing lessons learned from web application security. Employ a framework that utilizes security ...
I2: Insufficient Authentication/Authorization	•Ensure that applications are written to require strong passwords where authentication is needed ...	Refer to the OWASP Authentication Cheat Sheet
I3: Insecure Network Services	•Ensure applications that use network services don't respond poorly to buffer overflow, fuzzing ...	Try to utilize tested, proven, networking stacks and interfaces that handle exceptions gracefully...
I4: Lack of Transport Encryption	•Ensure all applications are written to make use of encrypted communication between devices...	Utilize encrypted protocols wherever possible to protect all data in transit...
I5: Privacy Concerns	•Ensure only the minimal amount of personal information is collected from consumers ...	Data can present unintended privacy concerns when aggregated...
I6: Insecure Cloud Interface	•Ensure all cloud interfaces are reviewed for security vulnerabilities (e.g. API interfaces and cloud-based web interfaces) ...	Cloud security presents unique security considerations, as well as countermeasures. Be sure to consult your cloud provider about options for security mechanisms...
I7: Insecure Mobile Interface	•Ensure that any mobile application coding is written to disallows weak passwords ...	Mobile interfaces to IoT ecosystems require targeted security. Consult the OWASP Mobile ...
I8: Insufficient Security Configurability	•Ensure applications are written to include password security options (e.g. Enabling 20 character passwords or enabling two-factor authentication)...	Security can be a value proposition. Design should take into consideration a sliding scale of security requirements...
I9: Insecure Software/Firmware	•Ensure all applications are written to include update capability and can be updated quickly ...	Many IoT deployments are either brownfield and/or have an extremely long deployment cycle...
I10: Poor Physical Security	•Ensure applications are written to utilize a minimal number of physical external ports (e.g. USB ports) on the device...	Plan on having IoT edge devices fall into malicious hands...

OWASP (Current) – Top Ten

