

CIS 468 - Cybersecurity Project

Grand Valley State University - College of Computing - Winter 2025

Instructor
Dimitrios Melissourgos

Contact Info
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Office Location
MAK D-2-232

Office Hours
Monday 9am-10am
Wednesday 9am-10am
Friday 11am-noon

Course Description

General Information

As a Capstone course of the cybersecurity major, a group of students will work collaboratively on a project to demonstrate the skills and techniques learned in the program of study such as problem solving, critical thinking, research techniques, and technical writing.

Credits: 3

Grading scheme: Letter grade

Prerequisites: CIS 418 - Secure Software Engineering

CIS 430 - Computer and Cyber Forensics

CIS 458 - System Security

Day: Tuesday, Thursday | [Schedule](#)

Time: 1:00pm-2:15pm

Location: MAK B-1-124

Course Objectives

- Build a secure solution to solve a large, complex technical problem.
- Analyze security vulnerabilities in current solutions including software and networking technologies.
- Apply knowledge and critical thinking skills from prior courses to solve cybersecurity problems in an organization.
- Practice effective teamwork skills.
- Evaluate professional ethical choices made throughout the project.
- Produce and present a professional project prospectus and final results.

Detailed Description

In this course you will be tasked with completing a semester-long project. The project descriptions have been proposed by (cybersecurity) companies. Therefore, you will be working with them to produce some cybersecurity related software/tools/research. The goal of this class is to give you an idea of how companies structure and execute team projects. A senior member of the company will provide guidance as the team leader.

You will be required to meet with the team leader at least every two weeks to discuss the project's details and progress. You will also be supervised by me on the academic side.

Final Presentation

There is an event at the end of the semester called Innovation Day. Your participation in that is mandatory. In this event, you will present your printed poster.

Exams

There are no exams. This is a project-based course. However, you will be graded on several items throughout the semester (see the "Grading" section in the "[Capstone Project Information](#)" document).

Grading Policy

Grading Scale

A	$\geq 93\%$
A-	$\geq 90\%$
B+	$\geq 87\%$
B	$\geq 83\%$
B-	$\geq 80\%$
C+	$\geq 77\%$
C	$\geq 73\%$
C-	$\geq 70\%$
D+	$\geq 67\%$
D	$\geq 63\%$
F	$< 63\%$

Additional Information and Resources

Important Dates

Drop Deadline - Grade "W": March 21st by 5:00pm

Other important dates: [Winter 2025 Academic Calendar](#)

Classroom Protocol

Treat faculty, staff, your fellow students, and university property with respect. Do not use your phone during class. Do not make distractions and be on time for the class meetings.

Teamwork

The semester project in this class is a group project, therefore, you will need to work together. However, each student will be graded separately, depending on their participation in the group and their presentations. All group members are expected to contribute to all portions of the project and all group members must take part in the sprint presentations, either on the same day or on different days. If a group member does not put the same amount of effort into the project as the other members, this needs to be reported to the instructor through your peer evaluations.

Integrity and Honesty

All students are expected to adhere to the [academic honesty standards set forth by Grand Valley State University](#). In addition, students in this course are expected to adhere to the [academic honesty guidelines as set forth by the College of Computing](#).

Course Evaluation

The end-of-semester course evaluation sites are set up in LIFT and maintained by the Academic Department Coordinator. Course evaluation sites become available to students during the last two weeks of the semester (not exam week), unless specified otherwise.

Accessibility and Special Accommodations

Grand Valley State University strives to provide an inclusive environment across campus that is accessible to all individuals with a diverse range of abilities. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate opportunities within all class activities and programs because your success is important to me. If you are encountering difficulties that are interrupting your learning experience, please feel free to make those known to me as soon as possible. If you feel that you need accommodations in this course, you must present a memo to me from Student Accessibility Resources (SAR), indicating the approved accommodations. If the class meets in person, you should schedule a meeting with me during office hours to discuss your accommodations. If your class is online or hybrid, please forward your memo to me in an email and schedule a virtual or phone appointment with me to discuss your accommodations. Accommodations are not retroactive. If you have not already done so, please contact the Student Accessibility Resources office (215 CON) by calling (616) 331-2490 or by email to access@gvsu.edu. You can also visit the SAR website [here](#). Please note that I cannot provide accommodations, until I have received a copy of the SAR issued memo. Furthermore, if you think you will need assistance evacuating this classroom and/or building in an emergency, please make me aware so that the university and I can develop a plan to assist you. All discussions will remain confidential.

GVSU Course Policies

This course is subject to the [GVSU policies](#).

Discrimination or Sexual Misconduct

Grand Valley State University is committed to creating and advancing a campus community where individuals feel empowered to raise concerns, ask for help, and be informed about options before making any decisions. If you become aware of any discrimination or sexual misconduct incident, please report it at the [Title IX office](#).

In Case of Emergency

In Case of Fire: Immediately proceed to the nearest exit during a fire alarm. Do not use elevators.

More information is available on the [University's Emergency website](#).