6.s081
Intro to OS
Lecture Notes

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1 Lecture 1

Secure = "works" despite adversity

eg: only TAs can access grades.txt
Pos: Test by TAs Neg: bugs → bribe a TA, guess the password, steal the laptop

1.1 Systemic plan

Goal: only Alice can access F
Threat model: assumptions
Policy: plan/config to meet goal
Mechanism: code implements policy

1.2 Hard to get right

Iterate

- → monitor attacks

- → using well-understood parts

- → post-mortems

Defense

- → ∀ attacks

Adversary

- → one attack

1.3 Imperfect but useful

attack cost > value
attack other systems

We want to look at techniques that have payoff with relatively low cost
Enable features: VPN, sandboxing