## about you and information security

My name is Andreas and I am 30 years old. I am at my last year of studying IT and information systems at the University of Agder. I am very interested in almost all aspects of IT and technology, but I have lately developed a passion for programming and different kinds of programming languages. I see myself as a creative type who has had a long history of different computer projects on my own even before I started studying IT. I have earlier studied History at the University of Bergen, but I feel it wasn’t the right fit for me. I have always felt a need to create something, and being able to create something that works in a way I want out of a language/text is fascinating to me. My dream job would have been a gunsmith, because I really like rifles and being able to create beautiful weapons would have been awesome. However I am way to clumsy and get really angry when I have to do finicky, detailed work with my hand, so I couldn’t really have handled being a gunsmith. My other dream job is creating something through my passion of computers, so that’s a long reason why I chose to start studying IT.

If one is to create something for users, then it is really important to keep safety in mind. That’s why I figured I will take Information System Security. My knowledge of this field is limited. I know of at least one important thing regarding the safety of websites and that is properly washing data that a user can input into the system. If a user with bad intentions is able to inject SQL-code, then that user can get passwords, hack into accounts or even delete entire databases. I hope I will learn more precautionary methods securing my code and the data of the system by taking this course. As I have understood this course is mostly about trying to avoid something bad happening rather than what to do when something bad has happened, although I am sure we will learn that as well. While this might not be the best thing when it comes to the course’s “entertainment value” for us students, it will no doubt help us avoid getting in those situations in the first place which is much better knowledge to have when one thinks about it. Paying fire insurance is really boring and costly to do, but it is nothing compared to having your entire house burned down.

Information systems security to me is developers paying for that fire insurance. I think that is a good comparison to what we will learn in this course. A well defended and secure information system is a system where no evil-doers are able to enter and no data is leaked accidentally. It is not a place where there is a lot of action and hacking going on, but that is entirely the point and is all in all a good thing.