Summer 2025 Operating Systems

## CSSE 332 -- OPERATING SYSTEMS

## Control Flow Hijacking

The workflow below will guide you through working with part2.c in order to exploit it and have run print_bad_outcome without the programmer calling this function explicitly. Before starting lease make sure that you have generated your cookie per the lab instructions. Also, please make ure to turn off ASLR using ./disable_aslr.sh, and when you are done, please re-enable it using /enable_aslr.sh. If you do not do so, all of your attempts below will fail.									
Question 1. (5 points) Examine part2.c and find where the vulnerability in this code is. To force the user to execute print_bad_outcome, what would an attacker need to do?									

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Question 2. Launch part2.bin in gdb and find the following information by examining the stack and assembly code of the program.

Here are some helpful gdb and gef commands:

- run: run your program after loading it in gdb.
- context: refresh the gef context.
- b num: set a breakpoint at line number num.
- b function: set a breakpoint at the function function.
- b \*Oxdeadbeef: set a breakpoint at instruction at address Oxdeadbeef.
- continue or c: continue executing after stopping at a breakpoint.
- n: move to the next line of code.
- s: step into the next line of code.
- ni: move to the next instruction.
- si: step into the next instruction.
- x \$esp: examine memory at address contained in \$esp.
- x Oxdeadbeef: examine memory at address Oxdeadbeef.
- x/16w \$esp: examine 16 words of memory, starting at address in \$esp.
- p var: print the variable var.
- p &var: print the address of the variable var.

	other words, what is the return address of vulnerable_fn?
(b)	(5 points) By examining the stack frame of vulnerable_fn, where is the return address stored? In other words, what is the memory address where the return address above is stored.
(c)	(5 points) What is the address of the starting byte of the buffer input?

(a) (5 points) What is the address of the instruction that vulnerable\_fn should return to? In

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estion 4. (5 points) Using the above information, how many bytes should you overwrite be being able to modify your target return address?  estion 5. (5 points) What value would you want to replace the original return address with achieve your goal? What would your exploit string look like?						
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