

Instructions and Rules for

DSV SU

Introduction to Information Security (IntroSec)

Autumn Term 2023

Written Exam

2024-01-04 9:00-13:00 4 hours

Examination environment

The IntroSec exam will be held in rooms in the DSV premises in the NOD building. Students may check which room they are booked to sit in via the Daisy system.

Computers provided by DSV will be used for writing and submitting exam answers. You will only be able to access the examination environment iExam on the provided computers, i.e. not via external access. The examination software environment is designed to restrict prohibited actions during the course of the exam. In any eventuality where such mechanisms may fail or be circumvented, students are not permitted to make any use of the computer environment to gain access to external materials.

There will be five exam problems, all the problems will be released simultaneously once the exam starts and you are free to fill in answers to the problems in the order you prefer. Each problem will have a separate text input field for your written answers. There will be no opportunity at this exam to enter non-text elements such as diagrams to your answers. When you are ready you can submit your answers to all problems explicitly, or alternatively your answers will be automatically submitted when the exam system closes at the end of the exam time.

Blank sheets of paper are provided to students who wish to take notes for their own purposes during the exam. Notes taken on paper cannot be submitted as part of any exam answer.

If you have any technical problems or questions about the exam speak to the exam invigilators in the room. An examiner will visit the exam rooms to address questions regarding the exam problem texts.

Exam Rules

- You are not permitted to have any extra material at this exam besides dictionaries. Dictionaries must be paper-based published dictionaries containing no extra notes, handwritten or otherwise. Electronic dictionary devices are not permitted.
- Answers must be in English.
- Write with clear usage of language. Answers that are difficult to read will not be graded.

Advice to Examinees

- Students who do not pass this exam have every right to take resits until a pass is achieved. You will not be penalised for failing an exam and resitting it later. Therefore, if you for any reason do not feel that the answers you give at this exam are a true measure of your ability, you may (indeed are encouraged to) choose instead to leave your answers blank, and resit the exam at a later time.
- Try to focus on what is asked, i.e., your answers should be solutions to the problems as set. Wherever you are unclear on the premises for a problem, clearly document any assumptions that you make in your answer.
- Please note that these problems call for you to provide various descriptions, discussions and explanations. Your answers should be measured so as to be good descriptions, etc., i.e., you should not make your answers so brief as to leave the examiner guessing at what you are describing. Nor should they be so long as to cloud the central issue. Communicate your understanding of the subject matter as if you were explaining to someone who does not understand. Your ability to communicate on these subjects is part of the exam.
- In general, to gain full credit for a problem you must not only show that you understood the terms and concepts involved, but that you can reason around and critically analyse the problem area.
- Students **should answer and submit all the problems** to have a reasonable chance of securing a pass mark (see the grading criteria).

Grading Criteria

The written examination is comprised of five separate questions. Each of these questions can be graded as follows:

Pass	The answer communicates understanding of the terms and concepts involved.
Pass+	The answer communicates good understanding of the problem and clarity in the answer.
Pass++	The answer communicates good understanding of the problem and gives a complete, balanced and insightful answer.
Fail	The answer does not sufficiently fulfil any of the above requirements.

The written examination as a whole is awarded one of the following grades:

A	All answers are passes where at least four answers are a Pass++.
B	All answers are passes where at least two answers are a Pass++, at least two of the remaining answers are at least Pass+.
C	All answers are passes where at least four answers are at least Pass+.
D	All answers are passes where at least two are at least Pass+.
E	All answers are passes.
Fx	At most one answer is a Fail and at least two are at least Pass+.
F	None of the above criteria have been met.

Note that the iExam system does not currently facilitate the Fail, Pass, Pass+ and Pass++ grading scale, so these symbols may be substituted for others within that system, though the grading principle is the same.

Where an Fx grade is awarded it can be assumed that the student has proven their ability in most of the course's subject matter, but for some reason failed within a more narrow subject area. The student can then, after the exam, elect to be set an additional task that allows them the opportunity to show that they can meet the course goals within that subject area. Exactly what that task comprises will depend on the individual situation. Students who elect for this alternative and who are judged successful in the additional task are then awarded no higher than an E grade.