Instructions and Rules for

DSV SU
Introduction to Information Security (IntroSec)
Autumn Term 2021

Written Exam

2021-01-11   8:00-12:00 and 16:00 – 20:00, 4 hours

The IntroSec exam will be held in computer rooms in DSV. The computers provided by DSV will be used for writing and submitting exam problems. You will only be able to access the iLearn Exam module on the provided computers, no other external resources.

In general, the exam is an open book exam, however, **only the specified documents below are allowed during the exam**. **Any other documents not specified below are prohibited during the exam,** which means they are not allowed to be taken to your seats in the computer rooms.

1. Course book. Being an open book exam, you are allowed to read the course book during the exam. However, on account of the copy right issue, we cannot put the electronic version of the course book in iLearn. Therefore,

   a) You can bring your e-book reader or laptop to the exam room. Nevertheless, **your device must be set in the airplane mode**, and no other documents in your device except the e-book are allowed to be read during the exam. If you have done comments in your e-book you are allowed to keep them.

   b) You can bring your physical book to the exam room. However, no notepapers or other separate notes except the book itself are allowed during the exam. But if you have done comments in your book you are allowed to keep them.

2. Documents provided in iLearn. You can read all the documents that you can see in the iLearn Exam module, which include the slides of all the lectures, the PDF files given by each lecture and the collected reading notes etc. (What these documents exactly include will be presented also in the course page in iLearn)

3. Dictionary. Dictionaries that do not contain notes are permitted, but electronic dictionaries are not.

No interactions with other students are allowed during the exam.

Exam Problem Release

There are five exam problems (questions) in the exam. All the problems will be released once the exam starts. You can begin with answering any of the questions.

The problems will be given in the form of a quiz in iLearn. Namely you can edit your

answers to each problem directly in iLearn. However, you cannot make any drawings. You have to describe your answers clearly. You can edit your answers to all the problems back and forth until you submit the answers explicitly.

Writing Instructions

➢ Wherever you are unclear on the premises for a problem, clearly document any assumptions that you make in your answer.

➢ Format properly your document so that examiners can read clearly (e.g., in proper paragraphs, 0.5-1.0 lines space between two paragraphs.).

➢ Write with clear use of language. Answers that are difficult to read will not be marked.

Important note on re-sits

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 re-sitting 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 not to submit your answers, and re-sit the exam at a later time. Pay attention please, once you have got a pass on the exam you cannot take a re-sit in order to improve the grade to a higher score.

Some Advice...

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.

Submission

The completed exam answers are to be submitted via iLearn.

As mentioned above, you can edit your answers to all the five problems back and forth during the exam. When you finish, you need to submit your answers to all the five questions together explicitly. Alternatively, the answers will be automatically submitted when the deadline of the exam passes.

Students **should answer and submit all the questions** in order to have a reasonable chance of securing a pass mark.

Grading

The grading process will involve the plagiary check and marking of the written answers according to the grading criteria (see "standard exam instructions and grading criteria). Note that plagiary check will include also the check among the answers from students taking the same exam.

The details of marking principles for the exam, see next page.

Others

A forum will be available in the iLearn EXAM Module allowing students to write messages that are only visible to staff, and the staff will make every effort to address your issues, though some delays may be inevitable (we will try to limit the delay within 20 minutes, but it depends also on the number of the messages from the students).

These instructions may be altered and refined in the coming days, as issues arise and details become clearer.

Examination Marking Information

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 one at least Pass+.
- F   None of the above criteria have been met.

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 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.