Semester Project

Class: CECS 303 – Networks and Network Security
Instructor: Chris Samayoa
Due Date: April 30, 2022 by 11:59pm PST

The purpose of the semester project is for you to become an expert on a particular topic in network security. The paper should be written in a manner that teaches the reader about your chosen subject. The paper will need to analyze your reference materials and optimally will suggest future research/advancement direction in the chosen topic.

General Guidelines

Select a topic related to the course syllabus or network security in general. You can compare different approaches used to solve a network security issue, complete a survey of a network security topic, or analyze the topic in a different way.

Semester Project Proposal

1. Prepare a preliminary reading list of the sources you plan to utilize. These need to be full references (not just links to the articles). Avoid marketing literature.
    a. You are free to use additional sources as you complete your paper.
2. Prepare a few sentences describing the topic you plan to cover. You will likely want to include some questions that you plan to answer with your research.
3. Prepare your topic description and reading list in a .doc, .docx, or .pdf and e-mail the document to chris.samayoa@csulb.edu with the subject "CECS 303 – Semester Project Proposal".
    a. I will respond to your topics by email
    b. Preferably, you should have your topics submitted by March 21st, 2022
    c. Topics will be responded to on a "first come, first served" basis

Semester Project Submittal

Once you have your topic selected, you can now get started on your paper. As your papers are being graded, I will be asking myself how well other students in the class would learn about your topic by reading your paper. Your analysis should be informative and original.

- The length of the paper should be no less than 5 full pages and I would recommend no longer than 8 pages.
    o Length of paper does not include cover page or reference pages
- Submitted paper must contain a cover page with your name, student ID number, and the course name "Networks and Network Security"
- Proper citations and references must be included in the document in MLA or APA format (including a citation section at the end of your paper)
    o https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html

- o https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/in_text_citations_the_basics.html
  - o Be sure to collect enough references to cover the material you are writing about.
  - o Be sure to read your reference materials instead of just searching for key words that match your subject.
  - o Google Scholar is a good place to begin searching for proper reference materials
- The paper will be submitted via BeachBoard.

To receive a good grade on the paper, you will need to convey a lot more information that what is covered in the lectures. Also, I recommend that you discuss several different approaches to your network security topic and highlight the strengths and weaknesses of the various approaches.

Your paper can be written in a scientific format or in a general essay format for this course.