

# **Computer Science CSC 570 Security Policy**

Allan C Roth, PhD CISSP

## **Sample assignments and Projects**

### **1. Overview of Information Security in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

#### **Readings**

Surf the links to the White House and the Department of Homeland Security for an overview of how the federal government deals with cyber threats. Skim read at this point. Look specifically at the National Strategy to secure Cyberspace, the two HSPDs, and the NIPP

### **2. Security Policy Critique Assignment**

I have attached a draft security policy that I submitted about 10 years ago. The name of the institution has been changed to protect the innocent.

I would like you to review this policy and correct apparent errors and add more detail (more controls) that you think are appropriate. This is a word document and I would like you to make your comments and changes in a different colored font, save as MS word document (office 2007 is fine).

I am looking for you to add to, change, or comment on at least 5 parts on this policy.

### **3. Final Paper**

You can write an independent research paper in an area of Information Security of interest to you ( Syllabus). Alternatively, you can write a paper on one of the Security Policies mentioned in the "talking points" assignment PowerPoint. You would use the bullet points as a guide for this paper filling in substance. As an appendix of the Policy paper you should submit an example policy based on your understanding of the parts of this policy and if reasonable at least one procedure that would be dictated by your policy. To avoid too many choosing the same topic submit on the paper forum in discussion area and put the topic in the title. Do your own work and cite the work of others using Microsoft Word. It should be at least 4 pages not including example policy and procedures.

### **4. Sample Module for Security Policy**

[NIST Special Publication on Security Policy.](#)

Take a look at this publication for future reference.

Pay particular attention to how different policy levels (program level, issue specific, etc) are described with examples

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**Special Publication 800-12: An Introduction to Computer Security - The NIST Handbook**

## Section II. Management Controls

### Chapter 5: COMPUTER SECURITY POLICY

In discussions of computer security, the term *policy* has more than one meaning.<sup>45</sup> *Policy* is senior management's directives to create a computer security program, establish its goals, and assign responsibilities. The term *policy* is also used to refer to the specific security rules for particular systems.<sup>46</sup> Additionally, *policy* may refer to entirely different matters, such as the specific managerial decisions setting an organization's e-mail privacy policy or fax security policy.

In this chapter the term *computer security policy* is defined as the "documentation of computer security decisions"-which covers all the types of policy described above.<sup>47</sup> In making these decisions, managers face hard choices involving resource allocation, competing

*Policy* means different things to different people. The term "policy" is used in this chapter in a broad manner to refer to important computer security-related decisions.

## Course Documents Links from Blackboard -- Snapshot

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07FA - INFORMATION SECURITY POLICY (073CSC57012807) > COURSE DOCUMENTS

**Course Documents**

**National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace**  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/pcipb/>

**National Strategy for the Physical Protection of Critical Infrastructures and Key Assets**  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/pcipb/physical.html>

**National Infrastructure Protection Plan and sector specific plans**  
[http://www.dhs.gov/xprevprot/programs/editorial\\_0827.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xprevprot/programs/editorial_0827.shtm)

**Homeland Security Presidential Directive 7**  
Subject: Critical Infrastructure Identification, Prioritization, and Protection  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/12/20031217-5.html>