Tricking Your Browser

- Step 0: First we start out by doing some reading on the process. Links used:
 - o https://gist.github.com/Soarez/9688998
- Step 1: Generate a public key corresponding to the given private key
 - Started out by making a privatekey.pem file with Textedit and the private key text from the assignment instructions
 - Generated public key from private.key pem
 - Using this command: openssl rsa -in privatekey.pem -pub out
 - Reference from: https://security.stackexchange.com/questions/172274/can-i-get-a-p
 https://security.stackexchange.com/questions/
 <a href="https://security.stackexchange.com/questi
 - Output:

----BEGIN PUBLIC KEY----

MIICIjANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQEFAAOCAg8AMIICCgKCAgEA3ak32ELiqRv/7SQ1r1Hn DKVfnepIMuQ4n1OKjhx0IMJ9MjZtnf2UA4P/M8LS9cfAoKCbl3GNVjfkzajCDIay m4u+8FLRgau5UCDaEPcwvMasQsOzuBBvrSkra5bQzMZDTiBxrrSuUVJ1G7lmghP4 4Eu4VD1D6U9VtZbyrDLmGGQT5YJphlF5hphYK3MQndJZxmdLK66BdtuOAg9gNg6n Sm+balUdRFBZy4TIVp2GR2Bc/XxVukekb6rIMPHIfVZv1Q/U3ZcTV7myk4hW3ewJ/Sm793ZcxbLW+ulogSd2mjUTfNGK1t24Xw8bXyL8mz3H5Lb9KTFhZ1pNJ0XscgnZ GrEeg+OcqX6n5i35VJHNzuDaN7jgVSFDDzKOxWGVkd2GTPdBXWJArna92MEHBIkR 3MQu5gOODpKKTnvylO62s0FLMBwWofNVahC6s1F0dHxMP/vEIGP/+FUIfHh8XAmlkvZ3hMZBwJF1+zp5Pi9n+A3uGQ0sXztch7ARTRzvZ/XcPR78vkp4kVfwBcIL2t6q TA1SbP2IsoYnb9hHOoHwhkBt8DnsksDmgoZOSLeBALHVbgpyhich8rSlUN5nX1XP NUYZl42MugOE8hrfZ0187/fDxM3VSFdwzyy+mYRcZWKctlmnvRtpFopYxHsxj3/a DQT48GdOOOItzLsL49ZIEUMCAwEAAQ==

- ----END PUBLIC KEY----
- Step 2: Find contact email of CA
 - o Contact email: unsavorycaffine@bu.edu

Using Keychain Access

■ Details

Subject Name

Country or Region
County
MA
Locality
Boston
Organisation
Organisational Unit
Common Name
Email Address

Subject Name
County
MA
Locality
Boston
Cos558
Cos558
Cos558
Cos558.bu.edu
Unsavorycaffine@bu.edu

- Step 3: Choose a domain and generate a certificate signing request
 - First domain that comes to mind is google.com
 - How to generate a certificate signing request with a pre-existing private key:
 - https://gist.github.com/Soarez/9688998
 - o Command used: openssl req -new -key privatekey.pem -out google.com.csr
 - Terminal prompts us to enter a Distinguished Name (DN), which consists of some parameters. We'll be filling this out for the domain "google.com" following the examples here: https://gist.github.com/Soarez/9688998 ('.' indicates blank)
 - Country Name (2 letter code) [AU]:US
 - State or Province Name (full name) [Some-State]:Massachusetts
 - Locality Name (eg. city) []:Boston
 - Organization Name (eg, company) [Internet Widgits Pty Ltd]:Google
 - Organizational Unit Name (eg, section) []:.
 - Common Name (e.g. server FQDN or YOUR name) []:google.com
 - Email Address []:.
 - A challenge password []:punked
 - An optional company name []:Google
 - Now we have generated a .csr file.
- Step 4: Sign this CSR using the cs558 key
 - o Following this guide again: https://gist.github.com/Soarez/9688998
 - o Made a .crt file with the certificate given in the assignment document
 - Assuming we are making a X.509 certificate
 - Used this command: openssl x509 -req -in google.com.csr -CA cs558.crt -CAkey privatekey.pem -CAcreateserial -out google.com.crt
- Step 5: Checking that certificate is valid with respect to CS558 CA certificate
 - o Reference:
 - $\underline{https://stackoverflow.com/questions/25482199/verify-a-certificate-chain-using-openssl-verify}$
 - We used this command to verify that our certificate has its anchor by the certificate provided for us in the assignment document: openssl verify -verbose -CAfile cs558.crt google.com.crt
 - The output we got was: google.com.crt: OK
 - So we know that we have verified the certificate successfully.

o Reference:

https://support.acquia.com/hc/en-us/articles/360004119234-Verifying-the-validity-of-an-SSL-certificate

- According to this, apparently if we run these two commands:
 - openssl x509 -noout -modulus -in certificate.pem | openssl md5
 - openssl rsa -noout -modulus -in ssl.key | openssl md5
- And get the same output, it means that we have verified that the private key and server certificate match.
 - Successfully received the same output: (stdin) = 74abfe17885e61922cf907ff175d8621
- Step 6: Setting up a local TLS server of some kind
 - From the assignment document: "You want this server to generate TLS connections (as the server) using the certificates and server key that you have generated in the previous steps. It can serve any arbitrary html content."
 - We'll be trying out OpenSSL's S_Server tool.
 - Reference:

https://www.openssl.org/docs/man1.0.2/man1/openssl-s_server.html

- There are a lot of parameters to enter, but the only one's we'll be putting in for now are:
 - -cert certname
 - Where certname is the name of the certificate we produced for google.com
 - Converted the certificate to PEM using this command: openssl x509 -in google.com.crt -out google.com.pem -outform PEM
 - -key keyfile
 - Where keyfile is the private key from the assignment
 - -www
 - To simulate HTTPS server
- Command used: openssl s_server -key privatekey.pem -cert google.com.pem -accept 443 -www
- Terminal says "ACCEPT". We think this means we should be good to go!
- Step 7: Setting up a proxy
 - Since we are working with MAC OS, we'll try to make changes in System
 Preferences so that we'll redirect requests to our local webserver
 - \circ System Preferences \rightarrow Network \rightarrow Advanced \rightarrow Proxies
 - Not too sure how exactly to set this up, but first we'll go with this: https://www.howtogeek.com/293444/how-to-configure-a-proxy-server-on-a-mac/
 - And set up according to the instructions there
 - More details in Step 9

- Step 8: Add cs558 certificate to appropriate keystore
 - Reference: https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/keychain-access/kyca2431/mac
 - Added cs558 certificate to Systems keystore, as instructed
 - Trusted the certificate (had to manually verify this certificate in order for Keychain Access to allow us to do this).
- Step 9: Connect to target domain
 - Went on to MacOS Network Preferences -> Advanced -> Proxies. Enabled Auto Proxy Discovery on the protocols configurations, and then added https://www.google.com to the list of proxy settings to bypass.
 - Using GNU Nano, added the localhost and https://www.google.com to /private/etc/hosts
 - Cleared MacOS DNS Cache and also cleared Firefox's cache in order to avoid reconnecting to a previously cached version of Google Chrome
 - Started up the SSL server using openssl s_server -key privatekey.pem -cert google.com.pem -accept 443 -www
 - Success:

