MI 304
Information and Society

Lab 5: My Cybersecurity Profile

Background:
All computer users make choices that impact their security. Some of these
choice start with foundational issues such as what types of computers we use
and how often we update our software as weaknesses are found and updates
are issued. Sometimes updates are purposely ignored for various reasons.

Goals and Objectives:
You will have a clear understanding of your basic cybersecurity profile and learn
how to run basic protections. You will be aware of the security choices you make
and why you make them.

Criteria for Assignment:
Full credit is given for answering each of the questions using the computer and/or
mobile devices that you use. Most answers are very short- yes/no or a few
words. Questions that describe your choices will be longer, probably a paragraph
or less.

Answer the following questions:

1. Operating system and version of the desktop/ laptop you use (e.g., OS (Mac)
or Windows)
I use a windows PC with windows 11

2. What version is the latest version available?
The latest version is windows 11

3. How do you log on to the Internet at home?
Using a device that connects to the internet

4. Do you have a password for your home network?
Yes

5. Is it hard to guess?
I would say yes since its 10+ characters

6. Do you use public WiFi to access the Internet?
Sometimes but when I do I will be careful with what I access on that network

7. Do you sometimes use public WiFi?
Yes

8. Do you limit what you do on public WiFi? Why do you make your choices?
Yes I do. I dont always trust the public wifi since whatever i am doing on the network could be easily looked at.

9. Do you have a screen password when you log on?
Yes

10. Do you have security software?
Yes

11. What type is it, is it up to date?
Just the basic windows defender, yes

12. What operating system is your smart phone?
iOS

13. What is the latest version of operating system for your type of phone?
iOS 26

14. Do you use security software on your phone?
No

15. Do you use your phone for sensitive transactions?
Yes

16. What type of browser do you usually use?
Chrome

17. Check to see if your browser is up-to-date. Did it have to run an update?
It is up to date

Reflection—

18. As you go through these questions, do any questions come to your mind?
No

19. Why do you think some people have poor digital hygiene (e.g., not update software, have poor passwords, etc.)?
I would say it's mainly friction. It's much easier to have a simple password and not check if something is up to date etc. People view security as one of those things where it doesn't matter until something happens.

20. What are your priorities when you make a security choice? (What do you see as most important- convenience, speed, or security?)
For me it would be convenience as being the most important. As long as there is a level of security I dont think you should have to worry too much. But this is also dependent upon circumstances.