Welcome to ITIS 4010/5010 Special Topics – Identity Management

Hello! My name is Lance Peterman, and I will be your instructor for this course. I am not a Dr. (but I did stay at a Holiday Inn Express once), so you may address me as Mr. Peterman, professor, or Lance (in less formal settings). If you're slightly more daring, you may also address me as "Oh captain, my captain" (can you name the movie?)

In part because this is a special topics course, it is a uniquely challenging class that covers a lot of terminology and concepts. However, if you stay up to date with the readings and weekly activities and avail yourself of the numerous opportunities to seek help when needed, you should have every chance to be successful in this class. I would suggest that journey begin by reading this syllabus in detail. 😃

A note about recent events

Over the past few years, we have experienced a number of events that have disrupted our lives. These events continue to cause fear, stress, and pain for many members of our community. Under these circumstances, it is completely normal to feel overwhelmed or anxious, and to have difficulty concentrating. I have attempted to structure this course with these challenges in mind and am committed to working with you to create a positive and supportive learning environment. If your health, well-being or schoolwork are being impacted by recent events, I encourage you to make use of some of the resources pointed out in this syllabus or reach out to me to discuss any issues you are facing.

About Me

Name	Lance Peterman
Pronouns	He, him, his
Email	lance.peterman@charlotte.edu
Office Location	By Appointment with limited windows for drop-in prior to and after class

I am a part-time adjunct professor in the Department of Software & Information Systems within the College of Computing & Informatics here at UNC Charlotte. I have been teaching here (and this course) since 2015. By day I work for Dick's Sporting Goods, where I lead their Identity & Access Management program. Additionally, I am an emeritus member of the Board of Directors for IDPro, a non-profit organization focused on professional development for those working in the field of Digital Identity. I am also an election precinct judge in Mecklenburg County. I have decades of experience in information technology that I'm extremely excited to share with you throughout this semester. I also have a small farm in Charlotte with an amazing wife, 4 dogs, 3 horses, and 3 chickens.

Course Information:

We will employ an in-person format for this course, though some of your collaboration with other students can certainly be virtual. Course meeting times will be used for some lecture, concept clarification, discussions and activities.

Course Number/Section	ITIS 4010/5010
Course Title	Special Topics – Identity Management
Term	Fall 2024
Course Meeting Day/Time	Thursday 5:30pm-8:15 in-person only except when specifically indicated
Classroom Location (when applicable)	Woodward 154

Instructor/IA Contact Notes:

Instructional Assistants:
Raghava Ramaiahgari – rramaia2@charlotte.edu

Canvas Discussions

In general, class-related questions should be posted on Canvas to ensure information transparency (note: you must not post solutions - be it partial or complete - to course exercises, assignments, tests, etc. on Discussion). Either the IAs for this course, other students, or I will answer your questions.

Email

You may email me (lance.peterman@charlotte.edu) if you have a personal or course related issue to discuss. In all e-mail communication, please make sure to include the course number. For emails sent to me, please allow me up to 24 hours to respond, especially on weekends or holidays.

Student drop-in and appointment hours

Because I'm not on campus except for class days and even then only an hour or two prior, in-person office hours are difficult to arrange. That said, on Monday or Wednesday afternoons I can schedule something if you need to discuss something in person. Otherwise we can setup a teams or zoom call to discuss class subjects.

Course Description:

The course will examine the fundamentals of Identity Management, which is central to the security and user experience of digital systems. The course will be a balance of learning concepts, standards, & taxonomies in digital identity, as well as hands-on labs applying these by building and integrating systems and will cover: topics of identity in global experiences, directory systems, entitlement management and provisioning, privileged identities, standards in digital identity, verification and proofing, federation, and certification.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Examine information systems through the lens of information security & privacy principles and practice, particularly digital identity management
- Understand some of the tools used to explore and exploit information systems at the identity layer
- Understand the standards used in support of digital identity management
- Apply a confident, contextual use & application of terms like: authentication, authorization, certification, federation, governance, and trust
- Think critically about digital identity concepts regardless of your IT or business role
- Integrate & adapt to future changes in digital identity methodologies and technologies

Course Materials:

Required Texts:

Good news! There are no textbooks for this class! We will use a number of resources on the internet, including videos, to support the learning for this course.

Course Information on the Web: Please follow Canvas closely

This class requires the use of a personal computer to complete course assignments and exams. You will also need to be able to install and run software downloaded from the internet. Up to 50gb of disk will be needed to install and use virtual machines in class.

Tools & Sites used:

Canvas, PollEverywhere, MS Office, virtualization software, such as VMWare Workstation or Fusion will be used regularly. AWS and Microsoft Azure cloud platforms and resources may be used as well

Assessment:

Learning outcomes will be assessed through tests, quizzes, individual assignments, and group activities.

Grading Policy:
- Midterm 15%
- Final 15%
- Activities (in-class and homework) 50%
- Quizzes 10%
- Class participation & attendance 10%
- Lowest quiz and lowest activity grades will be dropped.

Grading Scale:

A 100 % to 90.0%

B <90.0 % to 80.0%

C <80.0 % to 70.0%

D <70.0 % to 60.0%

F <60.0 % to 0.0%

Course Policies:

- **My (instructor's) commitment:** You can expect me to be courteous, respectful, and punctual; be well organized and prepared for class; answer questions clearly and in a non-negative fashion; be available during posted student drop-in / office hours or notify you beforehand if I am unable to keep them.

- **Your commitment:** The best way to learn and master the concepts covered in this course is to engage with the course material and then engage in discussions and activities with your fellow students and your instructional team (i.e., instructor/TAs). Your active participation is expected and valued. However, if there are times when you are unable to participate in class meetings because of care-giver responsibilities, health issues, etc., please make sure to inform your instructional team (ahead of time whenever possible). Furthermore, please follow the specific COVID-19 related guidelines from the University website https://ninernationcares.charlotte.edu/

- **Course material:** All lectures and course material will be available on Canvas. Please check Canvas regularly. Lectures and course materials, including presentations, tests, exams, outlines, and similar materials, are protected by copyright. You are free to take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. However, you may not, nor must you allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly without my express written consent. This includes providing materials to commercial course material suppliers such as CourseHero, Chegg and other similar services. If you publicly distribute or display or help others publicly distribute or display copies or modified copies of the course material, you may be in violation of University Policy 406 , The Code of Student Responsibility.

- **Course announcements and communication:** I will use Canvas for all announcements and other course related communications. Please make sure to check Canvas on a regular basis to ensure that you do not miss any important information. You should also use Teams to ask/answer questions pertaining to the class. Please use email communication only for personal/grade related issues.

- **Prep work:** As part of preparation for each week, you will be required to watch videos, read textbook/online material, and complete graded low-stakes quizzes.
    - I will post all such preparatory (prep) work for an entire week on Canvas at least 72 hours before the start of the week (except during the first week of classes, when it may be posted 24 hours before). If you strongly feel that you need more time to prepare, I invite you to discuss it with me.
    - You will need to complete all prep work within a given module and achieve minimum scores on graded items in order to be able to unlock exercises/assignments in the module. You will have multiple attempts on the prep-work quizzes, giving you an opportunity to revisit course content as needed and correct your answers. Completing prep work in a timely fashion will help you stay on track with coursework. Prep work for each week is expected to take 2-4 hours.

- **Lightweight teams:** This class is intended to be a collaborative space. You will be set up in small teams for coursework and group activities. You will have opportunities for both virtual and face-to-face interactions with your team and to earn engagement points for active participation and respectful team interactions.

- **Exercises/Assignments:** You will work on numerous exercises/assignments throughout the semester. These exercises are designed to help you apply and / or get hands-on experience with course concepts. Collaborating with your team on individual assignments is permitted, and even encouraged, but the work you submit must be your own. Team assignments only need to be submitted by one team member unless otherwise specified.

- **Tests:** There will be two tests spread out through the semester. All tests are required and will contribute to your final course grade. The final will not be comprehensive

- **Grading:** Instructional assistants will be responsible for grading in-class activities, tests and assignments. If you believe that an error has been made in grading, please bring it to the IA. If you are unable to resolve the issue with the IA, please reach out to me. Any grade disputes or approved make-up material must be submitted within 2 weeks of the grade date of the assignment. Concerns brought up after this deadline will be denied.

- **Attendance & Engagement:** As mentioned earlier, this class is a collaborative space. A portion of your overall course grade will be determined based on how you engage with me and with your lightweight team members. Attendance will be taken via PollEverywhere

- **Missed course work/tests:** If you have any medical emergencies, care-giver concerns or other documented reasons for being unable to submit exercises/assignments on time, being unable to attend a test, etc., please reach out to me (ahead of time whenever possible) and we can work together to find a suitable solution.

- **Academic Integrity:** You are expected to follow the [UNC Charlotte Code of Student Academic Integrity](#) for all activities, exercises, assignments and tests in this course. This includes following all of the written / verbal instructions given to you by the instructional team and guidelines for authorized collaboration where relevant. I will have to report all cases of academic misconduct to the Dean of Students' Office.

- **Policy on Use of AI and Other Creative Tools:** In this course, students are permitted to use generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT to support their work. To maintain academic integrity, students must disclose any AI-generated material they use and properly attribute it, including in-text citations, quotations, and references (see, for example, https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt). Be aware that students are responsible for any errors or information that is misrepresented or inaccurate (i.e. hallucinations) that generative AI tools produce when submitting work that includes AI-generated material.

- o Students should also include the following statement in their assignments to indicate use of a generative AI tool: "The author(s) acknowledges the use of [generative AI tool Name] in the preparation or completion of this assignment. The [generative AI tool Name] was used in the following way(s) in this assignment: [e.g., brainstorming, grammatical correction, citation, which portion of the assignment]."
- o **Important Note on Data Protection and Privacy**: When using generative AI tools, it is important to be aware that the data you supply might be used for training AI models or other purposes. Consequently, there is no guarantee that the information you provide will remain confidential. You should exercise caution and avoid sharing any sensitive or private information when using these tools. Examples of such information include personally identifiable information, protected health information (PHI), financial data, intellectual property, original research, and any other data that might otherwise be legally protected.
- o **Exception** – Quizzes & Exams – Use of any such tools during the execution of a quiz or exam is prohibited.

- **Disability services**: Many students have visible or invisible disabilities. UNC Charlotte is committed to access to education and offers accommodations that allow all students to achieve their full potential. If you have a disability and need academic accommodations, please send me your accommodation letter as early as possible. You are encouraged to meet with me to discuss the accommodations outlined in your letter. For more information on accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at 704-687-0040 or disability@uncc.edu.
- **Non-discrimination:** No student will be discriminated against in this class based on age, race, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, veteran's status, country of origin, or group affiliation. You are expected to behave in a respectful manner towards others in the class, both in virtual and face-to-face settings. Continuous or repeated disrespectful behavior will be considered to be creating a hostile environment, which constitutes a violation to the University Policy 406, Code of Student Responsibility. In such a case, you will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct or the Title IX Office. Based on such referral, the Director or designee will determine whether a Formal Charge(s) shall be pursued and whether the Formal Charge(s) constitutes a Minor Violation or a Serious Violation, based on your prior record or facts and circumstances related to the case.
- **Syllabus Revisions:** I may modify standards and requirements set forth in this syllabus if a need arises. I will notify you of any such changes by announcement on Canvas and revision to this syllabus page.