



In []: Training Day 3 Report— 25 June 2025

Introduction

Day 3 covered reconnaissance — the practice of gathering as much information about a target before any direct interaction. Reconnaissance is often split into methods that do not touch the target and active methods that do, and both were in terms of ethics and scope.

Key Concepts Discussed

We discussed Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT), including public web searches, registration records, DNS records, and social media signals. Theoretical advantages and limitations of passive enumeration were weighed against the potential for detecting active discovery.

Lab Preparation in Theory

A theoretical plan was given for using DNS queries and WHOIS lookups, identifying subdomains through historical services, and collecting publicly available documents to reveal system details. The class examined how to structure findings with time and source references.

Practical Understanding (Theory)

We explored the ethics of data collection, including respecting robots.txt and avoiding private information. Discussion included how to prioritize targets based on impact and likely presence of vulnerabilities, preparing a reconnaissance checklist for lab work.

Key Takeaways

Reconnaissance sets the stage for efficient testing; thorough documentation and awareness distinguish professional testing from malicious probing.

Conclusion

Tomorrow we will move from reconnaissance to scanning and enumeration, applying network fundamentals to identify hosts and services.