



MAT 260 Reflection Short Paper Guidelines and Rubric

Overview

Cryptography, the art of secure communication using mathematical algorithms and techniques, plays a pivotal role in the modern digital world. Cryptography is a double-edged sword—it empowers individuals and organizations to protect their data, but it also raises concerns regarding privacy, ethics, and security. It provides the foundation for ensuring privacy, data integrity, and secure transactions in various domains, from online banking to healthcare and beyond. However, as the importance of cryptography continues to grow, so do the concerns surrounding its use. This assignment explores the multifaceted landscape of privacy, security, and ethical concerns associated with cryptography.

Directions

Write a short paper that explains the legal, ethical, and privacy concerns that can be associated with the cryptosystem you did your final project on.

Specifically, you must address the following rubric criteria:

1. Identify **relevant legal frameworks** to the system you selected for your final project, such as legislation and international agreements, that impact the practice of cryptanalysis and surveillance.
2. Explain the **legal implications** of your selected cryptosystem as it relates to privacy and information security.
3. Discuss **ethical dilemmas** associated with electronic surveillance and code breaking.
4. Evaluate the **morality and legality** of these activities considering both positive and negative implications.

What to Submit

Submit your short paper as a 1- to 2-page Microsoft Word document with double spacing, 12-point Times New Roman font, and one-inch margins. Sources should be cited according to APA style.

Reflection Short Paper Rubric

Criteria	Exemplary (100%)	Proficient (85%)	Needs Improvement (55%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Relevant Legal Frameworks	Exceeds proficiency in an exceptionally clear, insightful, sophisticated, or creative manner	Identifies and describes specific legislation or international regulations as pertaining to cryptanalysis and surveillance	Shows progress toward proficiency, but with errors or omissions; areas for improvement may include clearly identifying relevant legislation or international regulations as pertaining to cryptanalysis and surveillance	Does not attempt criterion	15
Legal Implications	Exceeds proficiency in an exceptionally clear, insightful, sophisticated, or creative manner	Describes the legal impacts on personal privacy and information security of the selected cryptosystem	Shows progress toward proficiency, but with errors or omissions; areas for improvement may include providing more detailed analysis of the legal impacts on personal privacy and information security	Does not attempt criterion	25
Ethical Dilemmas	Exceeds proficiency in an exceptionally clear, insightful, sophisticated, or creative manner	Describes one or more scenarios where ethical dilemmas arise with electronic surveillance and code breaking	Shows progress toward proficiency, but with errors or omissions; areas for improvement may include providing more detailed analysis or describing additional scenarios where ethical dilemmas arise with electronic surveillance and code breaking	Does not attempt criterion	25
Morality and Legality	Exceeds proficiency in an exceptionally clear, insightful, sophisticated, or creative manner	Describes one or more scenarios where moral and legal issues arise in cryptography	Shows progress toward proficiency, but with errors or omissions; areas for improvement may include more detailed analysis or describing additional positive or negative scenarios where moral and issues arise in cryptography	Does not attempt criterion	25

Criteria	Exemplary (100%)	Proficient (85%)	Needs Improvement (55%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Articulation of Response	Exceeds proficiency in an exceptionally clear, insightful, sophisticated, or creative manner	Clearly conveys meaning with correct grammar, sentence structure, and spelling, demonstrating an understanding of audience and purpose	Shows progress toward proficiency, but with errors in grammar, sentence structure, and spelling, negatively impacting readability	Submission has critical errors in grammar, sentence structure, and spelling, preventing understanding of ideas	5
Citations and Attributions	Uses citations for ideas requiring attribution, with few or no minor errors	Uses citations for ideas requiring attribution, with consistent minor errors	Uses citations for ideas requiring attribution, with major errors	Does not use citations for ideas requiring attribution	5
Total:					100%