

Problem Set 1: Case Study Research

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You should complete this problem set in a group of no more than five students. Please sign up on the wiki under a topic that interests you; list your name as well as your email address so that your other group members can contact you.

Turn in your writeup and talk on **September 20, 2011** by 11:59pm. *Please upload your solutions to T-Square. Other forms of submission will not be accepted!* We will be providing more information about how to turn in your assignment as the due date approaches.

Information Security Case Study. Information security protection and failure has widely affected today's technology. This case-study research gives you a chance to investigate one particular area of current relevance and impact and to hear about other areas from your classmates. With your group, research the topic of your case study. Good starting points are Google and Wikipedia; you will probably discover that the initial sources that you discover will point you in some further directions.

Let me know if you have trouble finding information, and I can help you find some initial sources. In many cases, the opposite problem is likely: you will probably find much more information than you can reasonably cover in a class presentation. Your group should decide how to handle large quantities of information. You could try to give an overview of the entire area, or you could instead choose something specific within the area and focus your research on the specific sub- topic or incident.

Your group should prepare:

- a 15-minute presentation that you will give to the rest of the class, and
- a two-page writeup summarizing your findings.

Your goal should be to inform your classmates about the particular case study that your group researched. There are a number of good presentation programs available: Microsoft Powerpoint, OpenOffice Presenter, Apple Keynote, Slidetex, and others. Fifteen minutes is not long, so I would expect your group to base your talk on about three to five sources. Additional sources can help you understand the area, but you may not be able to fit them into your talk.

I have provided initial topic assignments for on the wiki. Please sign up for a group by the end of this week, or I will place you in a group. If a group of you wants to present on a different topic than one of those listed on the wiki, you are welcome to do so, if you consult me first.

Although you are expected to use outside sources for information, you:

- must not copy-and-paste text or figures from those sources, and
- must cite the sources. A citation should provide sufficient information for myself or anyone else to find the source that you used.

If you are unsure whether or not you are using outside material appropriately, please ask me rather than guessing.