

Dear all,

First of all, please be informed that the format of this week's discussion is **open (public) discussion**. You are required to share and discuss your insights with the class according to the discussion schedule. Before you start, please carefully review the class materials and the general discussion guidelines as follows.

Class Discussion: Each student is required to participate in the class discussion forum. Some of them are **open discussions** in the class using the discussion forum, while some are **individual assignment submissions**. If you do not participate in a discussion **on time**, you will not earn any points for that particular discussion. Students must carefully review the lecture materials and postings by the instructor and classmates. **If your posting indicates that you did not prepare the discussion accordingly** (e.g., your posting repeats the contents somebody has already addressed in the discussion, or the answer for your question is already described in the lecture materials or previous postings), **your participation in the discussion will be degraded**. You may contribute to the discussion by responding to the discussion topics posted by the instructor, providing your comments/questions/viewpoints on classmates' postings, or posting relevant information in the topic area. If you receive a question from classmates, you are required to answer the question. Class discussion is graded upon quality of contributions and punctuality, considering insight, accuracy, depth of analysis, and familiarity with the class contents. Each posting should be limited to **300 words or less**. **Quantity will not give you a high score on your discussion**. For instance, adequate participation in the discussion with one thoughtful posting will receive a higher credit than careless/redundant/unorganized participation with multiple postings. (Please keep in mind that your postings will be part of our class materials and affect the quality of this course.) Students may continue the class discussion even after the deadline. For grading, however, I will consider the postings provided only before the deadlines.

In addition to the general guidelines, every discussion may have its specific guidelines/requirements/schedule that will be posted with the discussion topic.

Assignment 3

- **Format:** Open (public) discussion
- **Topic:** Secret Key Cryptography (SKC) vs. Public Key Cryptography (PKC). Discuss the trade-offs between SKC and PKC, in terms of their overall performance (speed and strength), costs, scalability, requirements, and other characteristics.
- **Deliverables:** Each student is required to provide his/her posting to **one of the discussion threads** listed in the discussion space and participate in the follow-up discussion. I would like to urge you to

balance the postings across the threads. Please try to provide your postings to the threads that have less postings than other threads.

- **Schedule**

- By the Week 6 Live Session: Each student is required to provide at least **one** posting **AND** one question/comment/critique on **one** of the other classmates' postings.
- Within 72 hours after the Week 6 Live Session: If you received any questions from other classmates before this week's live session you are required to provide your answers/follow-up comments.