SIGPwny

General SP2026 • 2026-01-25

Welcome Back!

Cameron Asher

SIG • Pwn • y

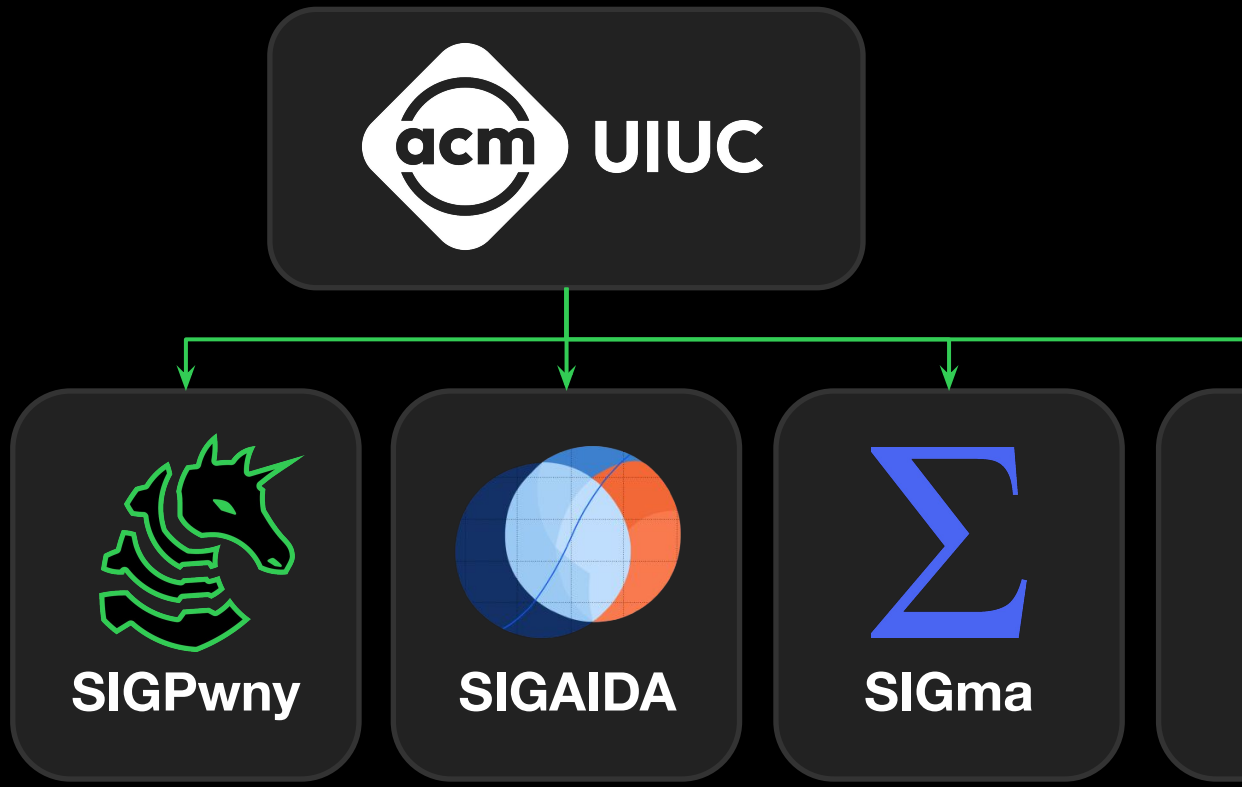
Special
Interest
Group

Hack
or "own"
(slang)

For
cool
logo

About Us

- Computer security/hacking club at UIUC
- SIGPwny is under the Association of Computing Machinery chapter at UIUC
- Largest Special Interest Group within ACM@UIUC



SIGPwny is just one of many SIGs…

~~but it's the best one~~

How do I join SIGPwny?

You already have!

sigpwny.com/discord to join our Discord server

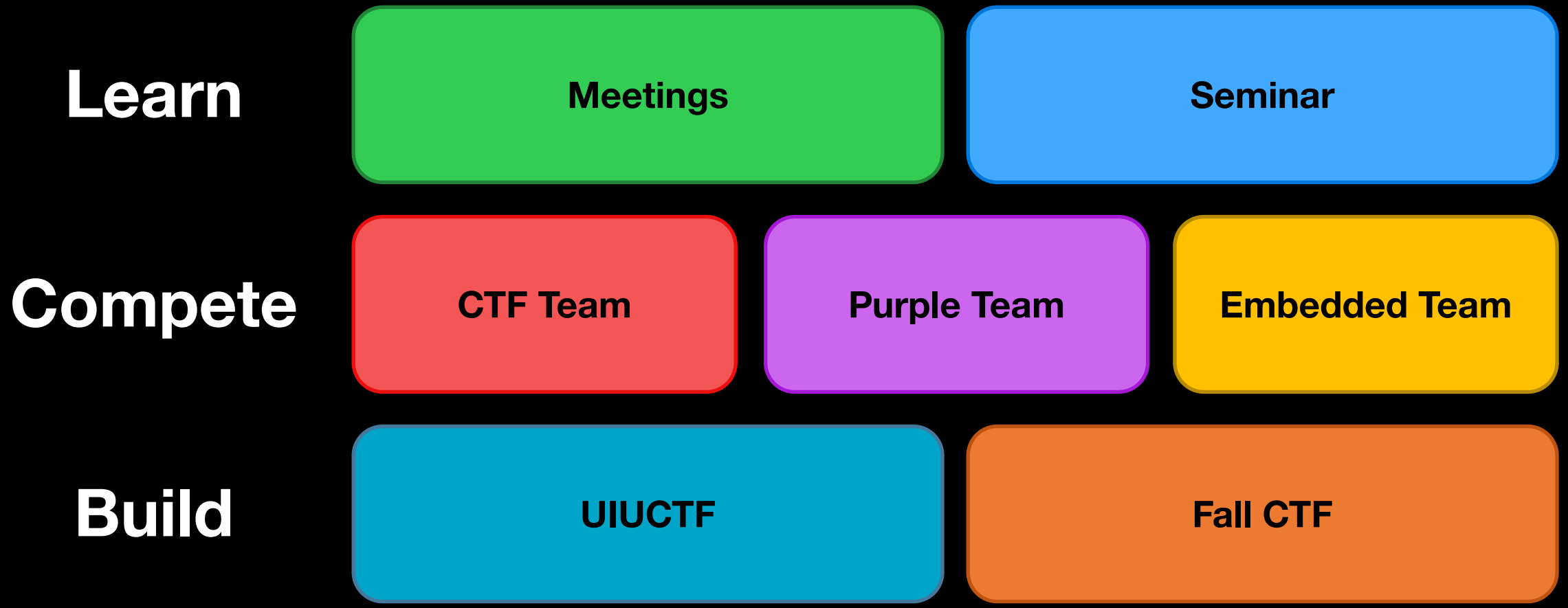
sigpwny.com/auth to receive the @UIUC role

The "Don’t Get Arrested" Slide

Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA)

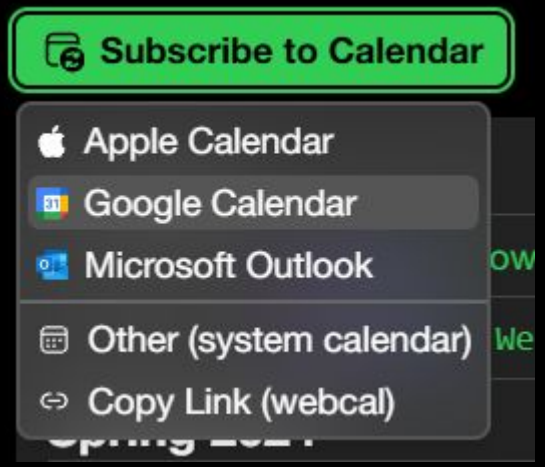
- Attacking "protected" computers is **ILLEGAL**
- Anywhere between a fine and **TWENTY** years in jail
- If you don't have **EXPLICIT** permission, **DON'T DO IT**

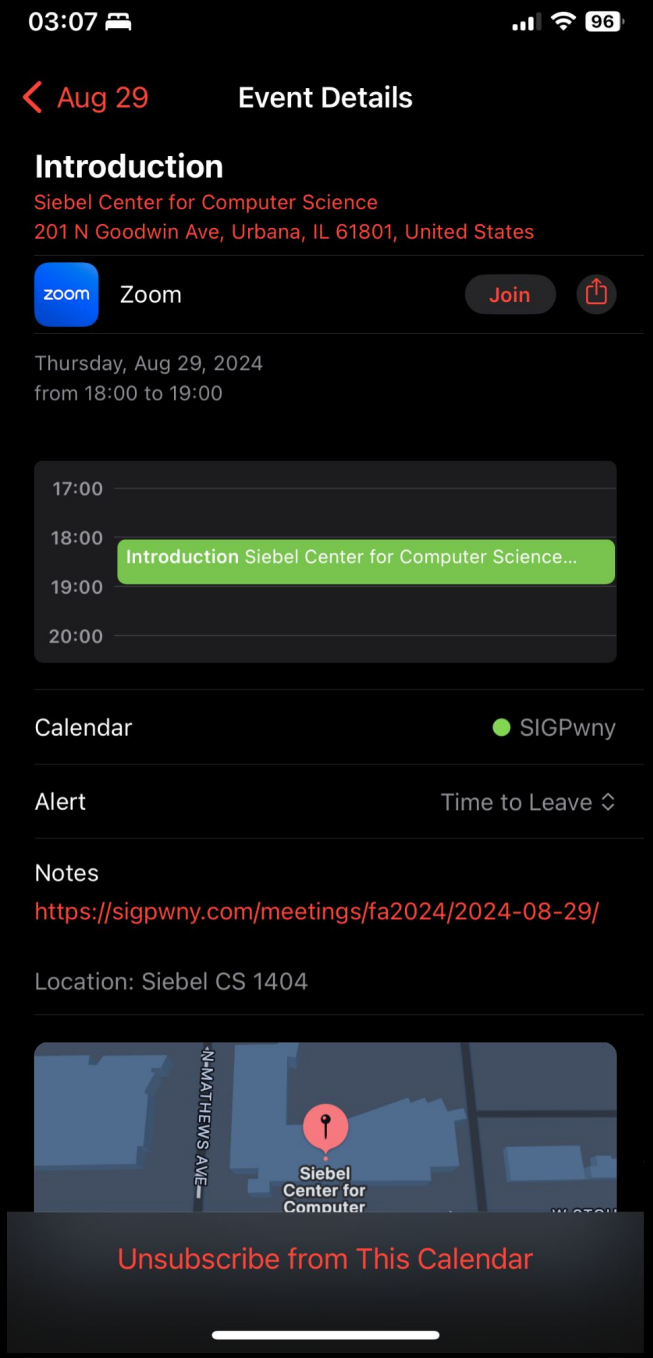
What does SIGPwny do?


Learn
Meetings
Seminar
Compete
CTF Team
Purple Team
Embedded Team
Build
UIUCTF
Fall CTF

Meetings

- Subscribe to our calendar!
- Add from sigpwny.com/meetings or directly:
  - Apple Calendar: sigpwny.com/applecal
  - Google Calendar: sigpwny.com/gcal
  - Microsoft Outlook: sigpwny.com/outlook
  - Webcal: sigpwny.com/cal





Meetings

Thursdays, 6-7 PM

MSEB 100

- 15 minutes talking
- 45 minutes doing

Sundays, 5-6 PM

Siebel CS 1404

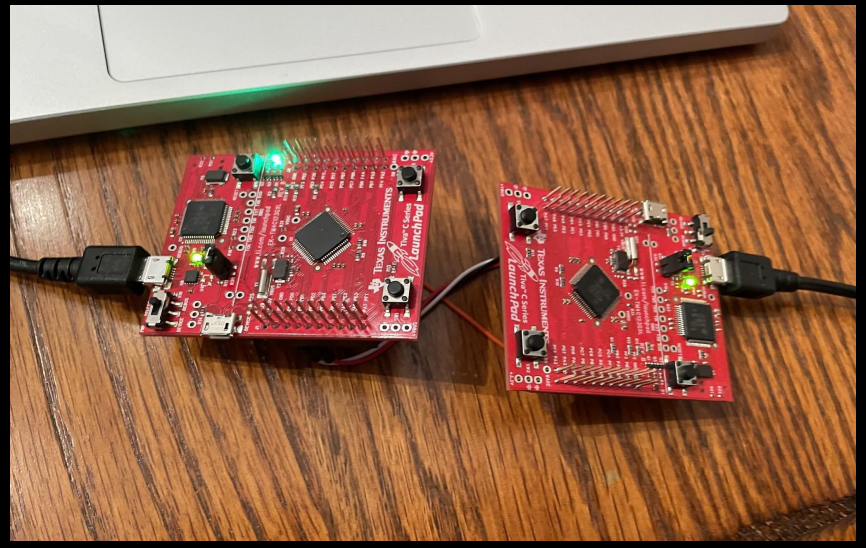
- 15 minutes talking
- 45 minutes doing

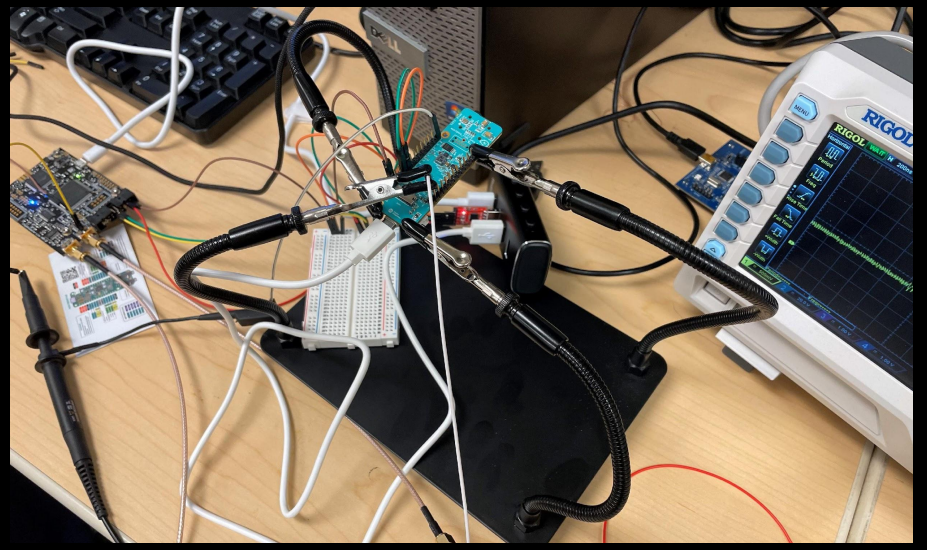
All our meetings can be found at sigpwny.com/meetings

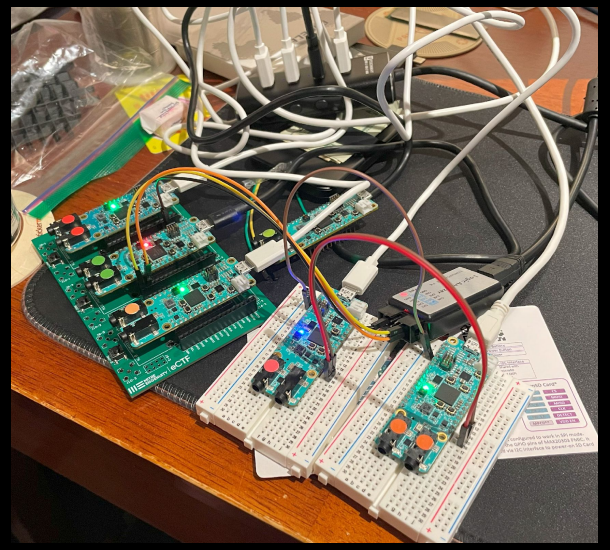
Subteams

Embedded Team

- We focus on attacks against embedded systems!
  - Microcontrollers, firmware bugs, side-channel analysis, fault injection!
- We work heavily with ARM assembly, C, and Rust (and will teach you!)

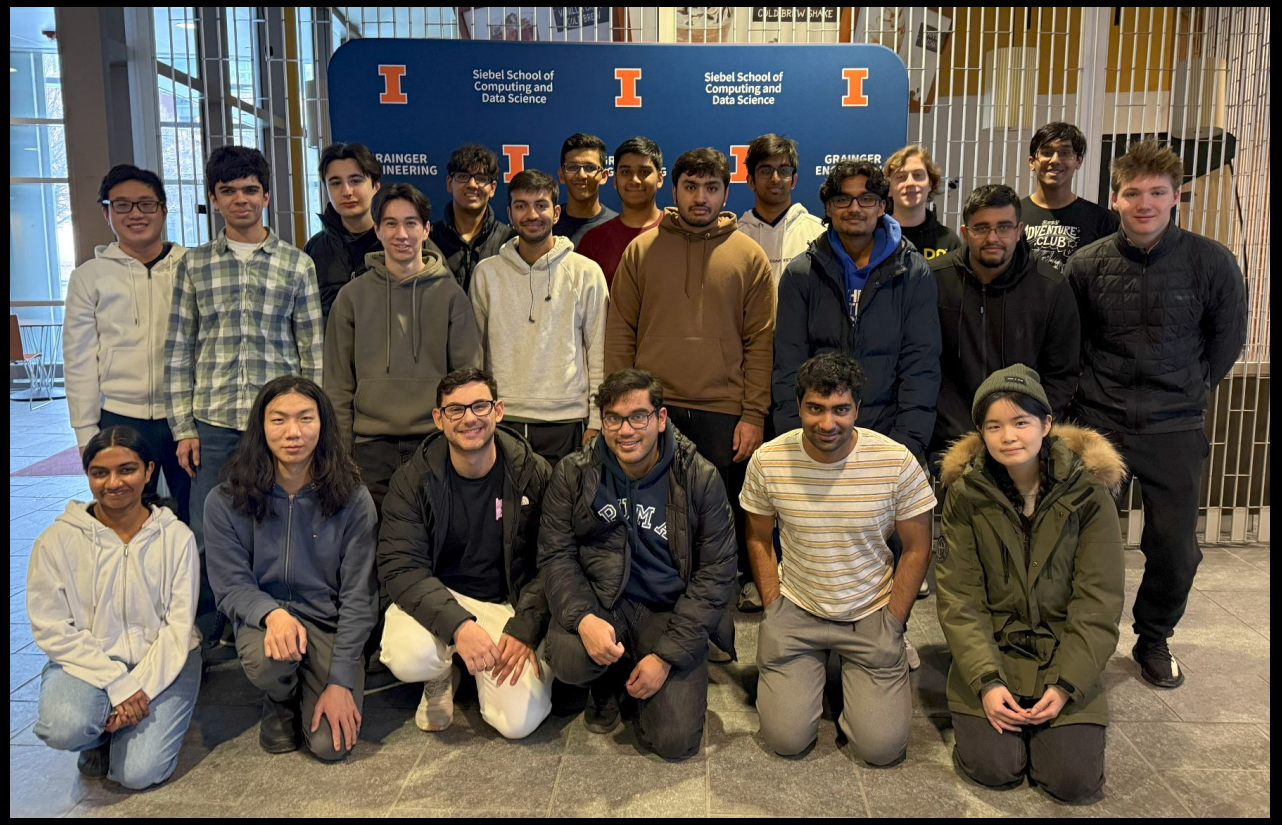






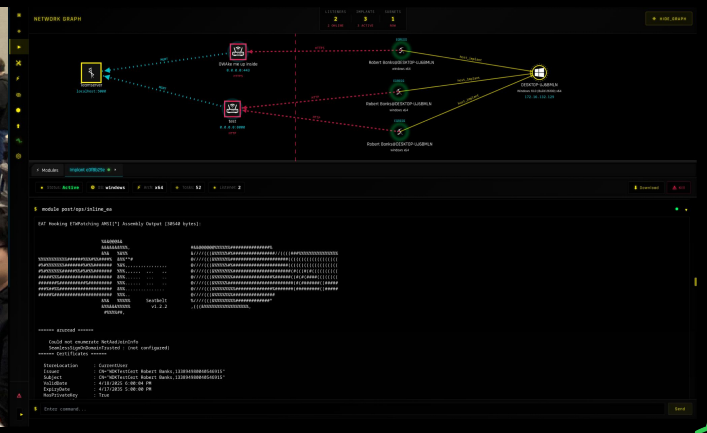
Embedded Team

- We are now competing in eCTF 2026! It's not too late to join!



Purple Team

- **Red teaming** - break systems
  - Find problems before threat actors find them
- **Blue teaming** - protect systems
  - Fix problems before threat actors take advantage of them
- **Purple teaming** is the intersection of these two fields!



Purple Team

- Learn how to attack and defend enterprise networks
  - Red side: Offensive fundamentals, malware dev, evasion, & more!
  - Blue side: Hardening, digital forensics, live response
- Competitions: CyberForce, CCDC, TracerFIRE & more!
- 7PM Tuesday/Thursday!

- If you have cyber defense or offense experience, contact us!
- Red Team Lead: Ronan Boyarski | ronanpb2@illinois.edu
- Blue Team Lead: Michael Khalaf | mkhala6@illinois.edu

TracerFIRE 2026

- TracerFIRE will be back this spring!
- TracerFIRE is a two day event hosted by Sandia National Laboratories that teaches forensic techniques and then puts them to use in a live simulated challenge.
- Most likely late march, stay tuned for the confirmed dates.

the winners from TracerFIRE 2025

CTF Team

- We participate in various CTFs hosted by other teams
- CTFtime is a global leaderboard that tracks team placement in CTFs and provides ratings

Overall rating place: **136** with **174.389** pts in 2020

Country place: **19**

Overall rating place: **80** with **243.217** pts in 2021

Country place: **12**

Overall rating place: **48** with **346.020** pts in 2022

Country place: **6**

Overall rating place: **107** with **282.130** pts in 2023

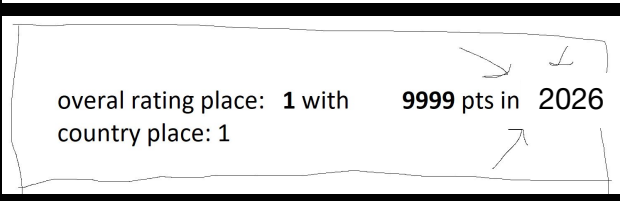
Country place: **11**

Overall rating place: **88** with **344.702** pts in 2024

Country place: **11**

Overall rating place: **71** with **445.635** pts in 2025

Country place: **10**



CTF Team

- Everyone is welcome to join CTF team!
- Our normal Thursday/Sunday meetings prepare you for CTFs!
- Most CTFs are usually a weekend long - we will have a dedicated room for people to collaborate and solve challenges. Plus, free food :D

How to join CTF Team:

- Use the command `/ctfs optin` in our Discord. You need to have the `@UIUC` role first!

Projects

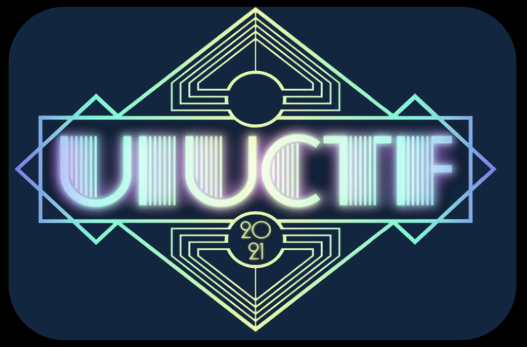
Fall CTF Badge Development

- electronic badge with buttons, screen, and wireless connectivity
- looking for people to help out
- hardware: PCB design, EE, digital circuits
- software: Python (Micropython)

Fall CTF 2026 Badge

UIUCTF 2026

- Our global CTF event for the international security community!
- Design challenges for hundreds of people to solve
- Show off what you've learned and contribute to security education



Next Meetings

2026-01-29 • **This Thursday**

- Web Hacking III!
- Learn about server-side web exploits!

2026-02-01 • **Next Sunday**

- Crypto III!
- Learn about block ciphers!

sigpwny.com/gcal

sigpwny.com/discord

ctf.sigpwny.com

`sigpwny{we_are_back!}`

Meeting content can be found at sigpwny.com/meetings.

SIGPwny