

# **Information Security PG – 6682**

## **Unit Outline 2009**

### **Faculty of Information Sciences & Engineering**

### **University of Canberra**

*Australian Government Higher Education (CRICOS)  
Registered Provider number: #00212K*

## Information Security PG – 6682

### Unit Outline 2009

This Unit Outline must be read in conjunction with:

- a) *Studying at the University of Canberra: A Guide to Policies and Procedures* which sets out University-wide policies and procedures, including information on matters such as plagiarism, grade descriptors, moderation, feedback and deferred exams, and is available at <http://www.canberra.edu.au/student-services>
- b) *Guide to Student Services at the University of Canberra*, and is available at <http://www.canberra.edu.au/student-services>
- c) Any additional information specified in section 6f.

#### 1: General Information

- 1a. Unit title                      Information Security PG
- 1b. Unit number                    6682
- 1c. Semester and year offered   Semester 1 2009
- 1d. Credit point value          3                                      1e. Unit level                  P

1f. Name of Unit Convenor and contact details

*Unit convenor, lecturer and tutor:*

Avon Richards-Smith, ph 6201 2151, Room 11A21, Box 108 on Level A of Bldg 11

-- Avon.Richards-Smith@canberra.edu.au --

*Moderator:*

A/Prof John Campbell, Room 11C14, ph 6201 5478 John.Campbell@canberra.edu.au

The URL for the School of Information Sciences and Engineering is:

<http://www.canberra.edu.au/faculties/ise/>

1g Administrative contact details (including name, location, telephone and email)

School of ISE Office Contact:

Room:                                      11B14  
Phone:                                      (02) 6201 2417 or 6201 2153  
Fax:    (02) 6201 5231  
Email:                                        ise@canberra.edu.au

## 2: Academic Content

### 2a. Unit description and learning outcomes

#### Syllabus

This unit examines the vulnerabilities of computer-based information systems and methods of breach prevention, detection, and recovery. A risk management approach is used to develop an understanding of the policies, practices and technologies needed to provide for an appropriate level of security. The various security needs, from managerial to technical, are examined in the context of system design and security evaluation. Practical implementation of security requirements is presented.

#### Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, students will be able to evaluate and design information security layers for an organisation.

### 2b. Prerequisites and/or co-requisites:

Information Systems in Organisations G or Database Design G.

## 3: Delivery of Unit and Timetable

### 3a. Delivery mode

Traditional mode; that is, on-campus, in a standard semester, with weekly lectures/tutorials/seminars/practicals.

### 3b. Schedule of topics/lectures/tutorials/practicals by week

The schedule of weekly topics and tute work will be included in the subject website in due course. Details may change during the semester if the need arises. Information Security has one lecture scheduled each week: Tuesday 1830 – 1930 in Room 6B45. Tutorial and seminar activities will follow immediately after the lecture from 1930 to 2030 in various tutorial rooms.

## 4: Unit Resources

### 4a. List of text/readings

#### Text

There is no set text for this subject. Readings in Information Security will be denoted as the Semester progresses.

### Recommended Readings

Whitman, M.E. & H.J. Mattord (2008). *Management of Information Security, 2 Edn* Thompson Course Technology

Volonino, L. & S.R. Robinson (2004). *Principles and Practice of Information Security*, Pearson Education, 2004

Bishop, M. (2003). *Computer security: art and science*, Pearson Education.

COBIT 4 and 4.1, Information Systems Audit and Control Association,  
<http://www.isaca.org/cobit.htm>

Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) – Germany,  
<http://www.bsi.bund.de/english/index.htm>

4b. Materials and equipment  
Nil

4c. Unit Website

<http://learnonline.canberra.edu.au/studentSupport.php>

## 5: Assessment

5a. Assessment overview

Assessment Item (including exams held in the exam period)	Due Date of Assignments	Weighting (To equal 100%)
Security Project Report	15/5/08	30
Tutorial submissions	As advised	20
Examination	exam period	50

5b. Details of each assessment item:

### Security Project Report

In this major essay/project, student groups explore information security topics in some depth and present the outcomes through both a report and a presentation to the tutorial group. Groups may be required to submit this assignment to the turnitin.com system that will check it for matching text. Further instructions concerning this will be given in both the assignment handout and on the unit website. [30%]

### Tutorial submissions

Tute work will require prior reading, preparation for and involvement in discussions during tutorials. Students will need to hand-in a brief written submission on the specified tute questions at the start of designated tutorials. Not all tutorials will require written submissions. Any submitted material must, however, be in printed form under a standard unit cover sheet which can be retrieved from the unit website. Students should bring a copy of their hand-in for discussion during the tutorial. [20%]

### Examination

A three hour closed book examination will be held at the end of semester during the exam period. [50%]

5c. Special assessment requirements

#### Assessment requirements:

1. The lecturer/tutor reserves the right to question students orally on any of their submitted work or assessment items.
2. In order to pass this unit, students will need to obtain a mark of 50% or greater for the assessment as a whole, and 50% or greater for the final examination. Once you have met

the conditions for a pass, a higher grade will be awarded on the basis of an overall result of at least 65% for a credit, at least 75% for a distinction and at least 85% for a high distinction.

3. Students who fail either the final exam or the project assignment will fail the unit.
4. In all cases, grades in this unit will be awarded solely on the basis of academic merit. The actual performance of the student in this unit will therefore be the only determinant of grade. The normal exigencies of university life, such as administrative deficiencies or oversights, resource malfunctions or workloads in other units will not be a factor in determination of grades in this unit.
5. If there is any doubt with regard to the requirements of any assessment item, the onus lies with the student to obtain information from the unit convenor. Tutors should be, however, the first point of contact in these matters.

**Referencing requirements:**

All work quoted from other written sources should be appropriately referenced using the “author-date” (Harvard) style. This style is described in detail (including electronic sources) in the Academic Integrity module available at:

<http://community.ise.canberra.edu.au/AIM/?index.htm>

**Late penalties:**

Students will be expected to make arrangements with their tutor in advance of the due date for assignments if they expect to be submitting them late. Unless appropriate arrangements have been made, supported by an appropriate valid reason, late submissions will attract a penalty of 5% per day or 25% per week.

**Submitted Material:**

Students are required to keep a copy of all submissions.

5d. Supplementary assessment

Supplementary examinations will not be conducted in this unit.

5e. Text Matching software

Students may be required to submit assignments through turnitin.com.

## **6: Student Responsibility**

6a. Workload

The amount of time you will need to spend on study in this unit will depend on a number of factors including your prior knowledge, learning skill level and learning style. Nevertheless, in planning your time commitments you should note that for 3cp units, the total notional workload over the fifteen-week semester is assumed to be 150 hours or an average of 10 hours per week. These hours include time spent in classes.

6b. Special Needs

Students who need assistance in undertaking the unit because of disability or other circumstances should inform the Disabilities Office as soon as possible so the necessary arrangements can be made.

**6c. Attendance requirements**

Attendance at lectures is not compulsory but it is advisable for students to attend as many lectures as possible. Participation in the tutorial discussions is expected of all students. Students should also be aware that the subject will be examined on material covered in classes, including lectures and tutorials and it is the individual student's responsibility to ensure that they are sufficiently familiar with this material. Attendance at classes is one of the best ways of ensuring this familiarity. While some of the lecture notes and course materials are available, these generally represent just broad outlines of the lecture and tutorial material. Do not make the mistake of assuming that the materials perfectly substitute for class attendance.

**6d. Required IT skills**

The key focus of Information Security is information systems and information technology, so it is expected that students will have a good background in these issues from having completed the earlier parts of their courses. In addition, students should possess the ability to use office and presentation tools for the production of assignments and various on-line searching tools from the Internet and the library to undertake assignments in the subject.

**6e. Costs**

No additional costs will be incurred by students undertaking this unit apart from the normal costs of being a university student.

**6f. Additional information**

Announcements made at lectures are deemed to be made to the whole group. Documents published on the unit website are also deemed to be announcements to the whole group.

<b>7: Student Feedback</b>
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All students enrolled in this Unit will have an opportunity to provide anonymous feedback on the Unit at the end of the Semester via the Unit Satisfaction Survey which will be presented to you on OSIS. Your lecturer or tutor may also invite you to provide more detailed feedback on their teaching through an anonymous in-class questionnaire administered through the University's Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC).

<b>8: Authority of this Unit Outline</b>
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Any change to the information contained in Section 2 (Academic content) and Section 5 (Assessment) of this document, will only be made by the Unit Convener if the written agreement of staff and a majority of students has been obtained; and if written advice of the change is then forwarded to each student enrolled in the Unit at their registered term address. Any individual student who believes him/herself to be disadvantaged by a change is encouraged to discuss the matter with the Unit Convener.

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