



Course Information Form (QAO-1)

Code	ITCS412	Title	Cryptography and Computer Security	Credit Hours	3-2-3
Pre-requisites	ITCS251&ITCE311	Web			
Course Instructor	Email	Office Hours	Course Coordinator		
Hesham al-Ammal	hesham@itc.uob.bh	UTH 8am	Hesham al-Ammal		

Course Objectives

The aim of this course is to provide a basic understanding of the various cryptographic techniques, their strengths and weaknesses, as well as their application to the security and integrity of computer systems and networks. The course also exposes the student to the threats and vulnerabilities associated with IT and the associated countermeasures, with special emphasis on Internet and network security.

Course Description

Introduction to basic concepts in public and symmetric cryptography, authentication, and general data security issues. Historical perspective of cryptography including some classical encryption techniques, cryptanalysis, and steganography. Symmetric key encryption methods. Public-key encryption methods. Hash functions and authentication protocols. Access control, firewalls, and network security. Viruses and intruders. Social implications of security problems and ethical issues.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. **Understand** the principles and practices of **cryptographic techniques** and their role in network and data security.
2. **Describe** efficient basic number-theoretic **algorithms necessary for cryptography**.
3. **Describe** some modern **private-key cryptosystems**.
4. **Identify** the **features of modern encryption techniques** and when to use them.
5. **Describe** at least one **public-key cryptosystem** including necessary complexity-theoretic assumptions for its security.
6. **Understand** a variety of generic **security threats and vulnerabilities**; and the dangers posed by different types of attacks.
7. **Identify** and analyze particular **security problems** for different aspects of a computer system and apply appropriate security **techniques to solve them**;
8. **Understand** the **tradeoffs** involved in producing a security solution (through examples of existing security applications);
9. **Understand** the effects of security risks on society and the **ethical responsibility** of the IT professional toward e-security.

Textbook

William Stallings, *Cryptography and Network Security: Principles and Practices*, 4th Edition, Prentice Hall, NJ.

Course Assessments

Mid-Term Exams	Lab Assignments	Quizzes	Project	Final Exam
40%	5%	10%	5%	40%

Test Dates

Mid-Term Exam	Final Exam
MT1: Tue. 8/4/2008 in class, MT2: Mon. 20/5/2008 in class	19/6/2008 at 8:30am

General Notes

- Exam dates are final. No makeup exams.
- Test points will be carried forward to the final exam for students with valid approved absence reasons.
- Each assignment has a fixed due date, late submission will be subject to a 10% per day penalty.
- The weekly breakdown is tentative. Contents and timing of the lectures or labs may vary slightly.



Course Weekly Breakdown (QA0-2b)

Week	Date	Topics Covered	Lab. Assignments
1		Introduction: What is cryptography?	
	26/2	Historical Context for Cryptography	
	28/2	1.1-1.6: Security services, attacks and mechanisms	
2	2/3	2.1-2.2: Conventional Encryption: Classical Techniques	Lab1: Ethical Hacking + Footprinting and Scanning
	4/3	3.1- 3.3: Block Ciphers and DES	
	6/3		
3	9/3	3.4-3.5: Block Ciphers and DES (cont.)	
	11/3	Chapter 4. Finite Fields	
	13/3	Chapter 5. AES	
4	16/3	Chapter 5. AES (cont.)	Lab2: Sniffers and Denial of Service Attacks
	18/3		
	20/3		
5	23/3	6.1-6.3: Brief Overview of Contemporary Ciphers(handout)	
	25/3		
	27/3		
6	30/3	Prophet's holiday	Lab3: Encryption and Confidentiality
	1/4	9.1- 9.3: Public Key Cryptography	
	3/4		
7	6/4	9.1- 9.3: Public Key Cryptography (cont.)	Midterm Exam 1
	8/4		
	10/4		
8	13/4	Formula 1 holiday	Lab4: Buffer overflow, backdoors and trojans (ncat)
	15/4	10.1 Key Management	
	17/4	<i>Last Day for W</i>	
9	20/4-24/4	Midsemester break	
10	27/4	11.1-11.5 Message Authentication and Hash Functions May day holiday	Lab5: Laws, ethical issues, and social responsibility.
	29/4		
	1/5		
11	4/5	15.1 e-mail Security (PGP)	
	6/5		
	8/5		
12	11/5	17.1-17.3 Web Security	Lab6: Trojans, Viruses and Worms
	13/5		
	15/5		
13	18/5	18.1-18.3 Mal Software	Midterm Exam 2
	20/5		
	22/5		
14	25/5	19.1-19.2 Intruders and Viruses	
	27/5		
	29/5		
15	1/6	20.1-20.2 Firewalls	
	3/6		
	5/6		
16	8/6	20.2 Firewalls	
	10/6		