



Digital Crime Syllabus  
IT 332-103

Instructor: Nicole Campos ([nicole.campos@njit.edu](mailto:nicole.campos@njit.edu))

Schedule: Mondays 6:00 PM – 8:50 PM FMH 305

Office Hours: By appointment only - via video conference

Course Description:

Comprehensive, multidisciplinary overview of the methods and means by which technology is used by the criminal in today's society. An examination of the historical, legal, technological and sociological aspects of cybercrime. The course covers the challenges of a new era of technology has brought to combating crime of all types, including terrorism. Topics covered will include: the sociology of the white collar criminal, the criminal justice system and law enforcement, computer security and deterrence/prevention.

Outline:

1. Introduction and Overview of Cyber Crime and Cyber Terrorism
2. Cyber Terrorism and Information Warfare
3. The Criminology of Computer Crime
4. Hackers
5. Sophisticated Cyber Criminal Organizations
6. White-Collar Crimes
7. Viruses and Malicious Code
8. Sex Crimes, Victimization, and Obscenity on the World Wide Web
9. Anarchy and Hate on the World Wide Web
10. Digital Laws and Legislation
11. Law Enforcement Roles and Responses
12. The Investigation of Computer-Related Crime
13. Digital Forensics
14. Information Security and Infrastructure Protection
15. Cyber Crime and Terrorism: A Forecast of Trends and Policy Implications

Grading:

Attendance/Discussion/Participation: 10%

Lab/Homework Assignments: 10%

Quizzes: 10%

Team Project/Presentation: 20%

Written Exam (Midterm & Final): 50%

Final grades will be computed on a straight scale out of 100 possible points:

A = 90 - 100

B+ = 85 - 89

B = 80 - 84

C+ = 75 - 79

C = 70 - 74

D = 60 - 69

F < 60

#### Format:

This course is an in-person course, integrating both classroom lecture and lab for some hand-on experience.

#### Exams:

There are two exams. I will notify you of the exam date at least one week before the exam is given. If you miss the exam, your grade for that exam will be zero. Makeup examinations are provided only under exceptional circumstances and the student has to notify me before the exam begins either by e-mail or in person that they will miss the exam.

#### Homework / Project Assignments:

Details of the homework assignments will be handed out or posted on Canvas. Assignments are to be submitted via Canvas. Homework assignments are to be completed individually by you. You may work in groups to complete the assignment, but each student must submit their own file. If you are having trouble with an assignment, please feel free to contact me or ask any student in the course. Do not copy an assignment from another student and submit it as your own. If detected, all involved students' will receive a zero for the assignment and reported to the Dean's office. Every assignment must be completed and submitted via Canvas.

Please note that the acquisition of academic work in whole or in part from any source (from textbooks and journal articles to web resources to generative AI) and the subsequent presentation of those materials as the student's own work (whether that material is paraphrased or copied in verbatim or near-verbatim form) constitutes an academic integrity violation, unless appropriately cited.

#### Class Attendance:

For in-person (face-to-face, hybrid) class, attendance will be taken each session we meet. If you missed the class, it is your responsibility to find out about any lecture material, homework assignments and exams discussed in class. Attendance is highly correlated with good performance in the class, so attendance will be taken at each meeting.

Absences may be excused for athletics, religious holidays, illness, military obligation or family emergencies if you contact me before the missed class. In addition, please ensure you contact the Dean of Students regarding your absence.

#### Typical Assignments:

Students will be assigned discussion/research topics, homework, quizzes, group project, Midterm Exam and Final Exam. Homework will be assigned based on the cases discussed in the course. Forum posts are assigned on a weekly basis. A comprehensive group project is assigned and involves a complete study of a digital crime, from the technology used to how the criminals were caught, what methods were used for surveillance, how the digital evidence was obtained and investigated, the prosecution and laws pertaining to that particular crime investigation.

**I may curve up when assigning grades, but I will under NO circumstances curve down.**

#### Late Policy:

Unless there is proper documentation through the Dean of Students, I do not accept late work. However, if you let me know in advance that you will need an extension, you can set your own deadline, with a max of 5 extra days. This policy only applies to discussion forums and assignments, not the midterm exam and final project.

#### Collaboration:

You are encouraged to work together with your classmates to help you gain a high-level understanding of the material presented in the course. Any work presented for credit must be work created on your own. Plagiarism, cheating, or any other anti-intellectual behavior will be dealt with as per the NJIT Honor Code.

Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree to which you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at: <http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>.

Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. Any student found in violation of the code by

cheating, plagiarizing, or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university. If you have any questions about the Code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu.

#### NJIT Campus Schedule:

Information regarding important dates during the semester may be found at:

<http://www.njit.edu/registrar/>

#### Modifications to this Syllabus:

Students will be consulted about any changes to the course policies in this syllabus. The schedule is a guide. Topics might not be covered in the order specified and may move to either the class before or the class after if the class moves faster or slower than I expect. If you've made it this far in the syllabus, send me an email telling me what your hobby is for 1% extra credit prior to our first class. I do not expect the exam, quiz, and homework due dates to change unless we miss a class. The latest information will be on the class Canvas page.

#### Use of AI

This course expects students to work without artificial intelligence (AI) assistance in order to better develop their skills in this content area. As such, AI usage is not permitted throughout this course under any circumstance.