The University of Texas at Austin
Master of Science in Information Security and Privacy
School of Information and Center for Identity

ISP 388: Law Governing Information Security and Privacy
Instructional Mode: Hybrid

Instructor:

David Hendrawirawan
dhendrawirawan@dataintegrityfirst.com
Office Hours: https://calendly.com/dhendrawirawan-1/ut-austin-msisp
Office Location: By online only

Elizabeth Rogers
earogers@michaelbest.com
Office Hours: By appointment only
Office Location: By online only

Teaching Assistant: Het Patel
Communication preference: hetpatel@utexas.edu

Course Textbooks:
Required:
- Solove, D. J., & Schwartz, P. M. (2022). Privacy Law Fundamentals Sixth Edition, 2022. International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP). ISBN 978-1-948771-60-3.
- Schreider, Tari (2017). Manager's Guide to Cybersecurity Law: Essentials for Today's Business. Rothstein Publishing. ISBN: 1944480307, 9781944480301.
- Solove, D. J., & Hartzog, W. (2022). Breached! Why Data Security Law Fails and How to Improve It. Oxford University Press. ISBN 978–0–19–094055–3

Recommended & Optional:
- Sclar, David (2021). Workplace Strategies for Technology Lawyers. Independently published. ISBN: 979-8-59714-186-2

Course Meeting Dates and Times:
Class meets 8 am- 12 pm in TCC 1.124
- January 13-14
- February 10-11
- March 3-4
- March 31 & April 1
- April 21-22

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Course Overview:

Examine laws and other policy instruments related to information security and privacy, different classes of protected information, and multiple genres of legal information and legal writing. Explore legal requirements and social responsibilities as they pertain to data protection and the prevention of different types of individual rights violation, fraud and abuse, and information crime. Prepare leaders to design and implement an effective information security and privacy legal compliance program.

Course Learning Goals:

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify, categorize, and understand information security and privacy related laws, standards, policy instruments, guidance, and principles.
2. Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the core legal issues in information privacy, data breach handling, and penetration & security testing (hacking and research).
3. Demonstrate an awareness of key provisions within a variety of related information security and privacy rules, regulatory standards, and legal instruments.
4. Understand the trends and implications of emerging technologies and how the laws affecting them are shaping.
5. Understand how security & privacy intersects with other domains of laws & regulations.
6. Develop a holistic program, including organizational model, policy and procedure, and roadmap for an organization to avoid and/or recover from legal challenges.
7. Understand the capabilities of technologies, tools, and frameworks that helps make the management of legal and regulatory compliance more practical.

Beyond this Course:

This course provides a broad introduction to the various laws and legal issues surrounding information security and privacy. The goal is to prepare you as business and/or risk leaders with the knowledge, practical skills, and tools to aid in critical reasoning, policy-making, and operational execution of the relevant tasks to address the requirements of current and emerging laws and regulations.

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Grading policy:

Course Evaluations

This course grade will comprise of the following:

- Case Study: 60%

- Discussion Board: 30%

- Attendance & Participation: 10%

Grading Guidelines

Case Study: 60%

There will be four (4) case study write-ups over the semester. Based mainly on the textbook or related reading materials, you will need to respond to a few prompt questions. These will test your comprehension of the assigned materials and ability to identify relevant concepts accurately.
- Case write-ups are INDIVIDUAL assignments. You should analyze the assignment case yourself and develop your own unique answers to the prompt questions.
- Please address the cases by (i) utilizing relevant conceptual frameworks, concepts, ideas from class, and (ii) analyzing case facts and evidence.
- Approximately ~500-750 words total for the entire case write-up.
- Due on Sundays <u>before the class weekend</u>, at 11:59 pm. For example, the first write up is due on Sunday, February 5th, prior to the lecture session on that Friday, February 10th.
- <u>Grade will be based on your top three scores.</u>

Discussion Board: 30%
There will be four (4) opportunities to participate on the discussion board.

- Please share your takeaways, ideas, or thought-provoking questions, referencing the class lectures or discussions.
- You are encouraged (but not required) to relate contents from outside sources and current events.
- You may post a response to one or more of my questions, post a reaction/follow-up question to another student's response, or both.
- Grading will be based primarily on your content's coherence, relevance, and thoughtfulness.
- The suggested length of your total responses (for one post or cumulative of several posts to address multiple questions/peer's posts) is ~250-500 words. I will not hold this rigidly, this is just a suggested length. I would appreciate you trying to stay close to that range.
- Due on Sundays <u>following the class weekend</u>, at 11:59 pm. For example, the first discussion board assignment, after our lecture on January 14th is due on Sunday January 22nd.
- <u>Grade will be based on your top three scores.</u>

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<u>Attendance & Participation: 10%</u>

Participation includes attendance, active engagement, and contribution. Students are expected to actively contribute to their own learning by asking relevant questions, making thoughtful comments, and analyzing arguments on issues covered in the lectures and in-class discussions. Please note that <u>watching video recordings is NOT a replacement for attendance</u>.

Late work

Assignments must be turned in by the day and time indicated on the syllabus/Canvas. No late work will be accepted unless an emergency or extraordinary circumstances prevents your completing your work on time. Please contact me as soon as possible to arrange for an extension or make-up assignment. Determination of absences as excused or unexcused will be handled on a case-by-case basis. You will lose 10% for turning in homework within 24 hours of the due date. You will lose an additional 10% for each late day after that. Reasonable extensions will be granted to students with documented medical absences or extenuating circumstances.

Grading Policies and Disputes

While I am always willing to discuss reasonable questions and disputes about grades, <u>no changes will be considered more than one week after an assignment has been graded</u>. Please submit any grade disputes in writing via email directly to the professor. Be specific in linking your reasons for disputing the grade to specific examples with page numbers, etc., both in your assignment and class materials.

Excused Absences
Attendance is mandatory for all MSISP classes. Students must attend classes in-person or remotely via Zoom. While class lectures are recorded in support of students' studies, review of class recordings does not constitute attendance. Only extraordinary, documented requests submitted at least 72 hours in advance of class time will be considered for absences. There must be a compelling reason for any requests not submitted 72 hours in advance of class start. Acceptance of excused absences will be considered by the faculty instructor in consultation with the MSISP Program Director.

Flexibility

Flexibility: I recognize that you are juggling between job(s), life, and other obligations outside of the class. It is my goal to provide the flexibility to allow you to thrive in this class by working smart and hard. As described in the course grading section above, each student has the option of pursuing a special project to gain up to 20% of the course grade. This essentially serves as an alternative to my allowing you to drop the lowest grade in particular assignment categories, which may be the case in other courses.

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This will give flexibility when something unexpected happens not covered by these policies and allow you to strategically balance your course workload and other commitments. You can also leverage the special project to benefit your other class (e.g., writing blog contents that can be recycled for a whitepaper) or by leveraging your ongoing effort at work or community involvement. Please let me know if you face difficulties this semester in accessing course resources or completing work.

Regrade Requests: Request for regrading an assignment must be made <u>in writing</u> within one (1) week of the graded assignment being made available to students in the class.

Assignment of Final Course Letter Grades

Weighted average of the grade components will be used to assign final letter grades. The following tables are used to convert weighted grade averages to final letter grades.

Weighted average of grade components	Letter grade category
90-100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
0 – 59	F

The Instructor reserves the right to adjust numeric ranges, provided all adjustments are made fairly and uniformly for the entire class and to the benefit of the student.

Schedule

Date	Instructor/Topic	Reading	Assignment Due
13-Jan	• Introduction and Class Overview • Intro to Legal and Regulatory Framework • Overview of US Cybersecurity Law	(Scheider) "Manager's Guide" Ch. 1 (Intro), 2 (Overview of US)	
14-Jan	• Fundamentals of Data Breach Preparedness Program • State data breach notification laws • Overview of International Data Security Law		
22-Jan			1. Discussion Board #1
5-Feb			2. Case Study #1

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Date	Topics	Readings	Assignments
10-Feb	• Overview of Privacy & Data Protection Law • Consumer Data Privacy • International Privacy Laws	(Scheider) Ch. 3 (Cyber Privacy Data Protection) (Solove & Schwartz) "Privacy Law Fundamental" Ch. 8 (Consumer Data), 9 (Data Security), 12 (Int'l Privacy)	
11-Feb	• Trending US federal and state legal and regulatory standards • Federal Trade Commission common law • The California Consumer Privacy Act		
19-Feb			3. Discussion Board #2
26-Feb			4. Case Study #2
3-Mar	• Guest Speaker: Data Breach Handling & Notification • Hacking & Security Testing Laws • Data Retention & Destruction	(Solove & Hartzog) "Breached!" from Ch. 3 (Failure of DS Law) to Ch. 9 (Conclusion)	
4-Mar	• Guest Speaker: Contractual Obligations for Data Marketplace • Law Enforcement, Subpoena Authority, and Compliance • Legal & Regulatory Tech Part 1		
12-Mar			5. Discussion Board #3
26-Mar			6. Case Study #3
31-Mar	• Guest Speaker: Data Subject Request Handling • US Federal Statutory (GLBA, HIPAA, NY DFS, etc.) • Content and Media Regulations	(Scheider) Ch. 5 (Future Developments) (Solove & Schwartz) Ch. 2 (Privacy & Media), 5 (Health Privacy), 7 (Financial Data)	
1-Apr	• Guest Speaker: Internet Tracking & Commercial Surveillance • Industry Self-Regulation (SOX, PCI, HITRUST) • Product Safety and Algorithmic Risk Regulations		
9-Apr			7. Discussion Board #4
16-Apr			8. Case Study #4
21-Apr	• Guest Speaker: Emerging Cyber Crimes and AI and Data Abuse • Developing Information Security & Privacy Law Program • Cryptography, Digital Forensics, and Evidence Rules	(Scheider) Ch. 4 (Cryptography & Digital Forensics), 6 (Creating Law Program) (Solove & Schwartz) Ch. 3 (Law Enforcement), 4 (National Security)	
22-Apr	• Guest Speaker: Data Residency, Sovereignty, and Cross-Border Transfer		

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	• National Security & Foreign Intelligence • Legal & Regulatory Tech Part 2		

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University of Texas and MSISP grading policies

Examinations and Grades

The faculty instructors for each course will determine if exams are necessary as well as exam schedules and grading criteria if exams are included.

Grading

This course must be taken on a letter grade basis. Candidates for the master's degree must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 in core courses. Per University policy, any graduate student whose cumulative grade point average falls below 3.00 at the end of any semester will be placed on scholastic warning status, and must bring their cumulative GPA to at least 3.00 during the next semester, or be subject to dismissal from the program.

Official grade point averages are calculated by the UT Registrar and appear on the student's academic record maintained by the Registrar.

Learning and Growth

Throughout the course, your learning and growth in theory and practice of the information security and privacy profession are important. We all need accommodations because we all learn differently, and the current pandemic makes accommodations all the more important. If there are aspects of this course that prevent you from learning or exclude you, please let me know as soon as possible. Together we will develop strategies to meet your needs and the course requirements. I also encourage you to reach out to the resources available through UT and the MSISP program. Many are included on this syllabus.

Academic Integrity

Each student is expected to abide by the UT Honor Code: ``As a student of The University of Texas at Austin, I shall abide by the core values of the University and uphold academic integrity.'' If you use words or ideas that are not your own (or that you have used in a previous class), you must cite your sources. Otherwise, you might be in violation of the university's academic integrity policies. Please see [Student Conduct and Academic Integrity](#).

Use of Electronics

To help you connect the pieces of the class together, please focus the use of electronics on the content in lecture and laboratory.

Video Recordings

Video recording of class activities are reserved for students and TAs in this class only for educational purposes and are protected by [FERPA](#) laws if any students are identifiable in the video. Video recordings should not be shared outside the class in any form. Students violating this university policy could face misconduct proceedings.

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Students with Disabilities

The university is committed to creating an accessible and inclusive learning environment consistent with university policy and federal and state law. Please let me know if you experience any barriers to learning so I can work with you to ensure you have equal opportunity to participate fully in this course. If you are a student with a disability, or think you may have a disability, and need accommodations please contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Here are some examples of the types of diagnoses and conditions that can be considered disabilities:Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorders (ADHD), Autism, Blind & Visually Impaired, Brain Injuries, Deaf & Hard of Hearing, Learning Disabilities, Medical Disabilities, Physical Disabilities,Psychological Disabilities and Temporary Disabilities. Please refer to SSD's website for contact and more information. If you are already registered with SSD, please deliver your Accommodation Letter to me as early as possible in the semester so we can discuss your approved accommodations and needs in this course.

Mental Health Counseling

College can be stressful and sometimes we need a little help. Luckily, we have a wealth of resources and dedicated people ready to assist you, and treatment does work. The Counseling and Mental Health Center provides counseling, psychiatric, consultation, and prevention services that facilitate academic and life goals and enhance personal growth and well-being. Counselors are available Monday-Friday 8am-5pm by phone (512-471-3515) and Zoom.

If you are experiencing a mental health crisis (e.g. depression or anxiety), please call the Mental Health Center Crisis line at 512-471-CALL(2255). Call even if you aren't sure you're in a full-blown crisis, but sincerely need help. Staff are there to help you.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

- You have a right to a learning environment that supports mental and physical wellness.
- You have a right to respect.
- You have a right to be assessed and graded fairly.
- You have a right to freedom of opinion and expression.
- You have a right to privacy and confidentiality.
- You have a right to meaningful and equal participation, to self-organize groups to improve your learning environment.
- You have a right to learn in an environment that is welcoming to all people. No student shall be isolated, excluded or diminished in any way.

With these rights come responsibilities:

- You are responsible for taking care of yourself, managing your time, and communicating with the teaching team and others if things start to feel out of control or overwhelming.
- You are responsible for acting in a way that is worthy of respect and always respectful of others.

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- Your experience with this course is directly related to the quality of the energy that you bring to it, and your energy shapes the quality of your peers' experiences.
- You are responsible for creating an inclusive environment and for speaking up when someone is excluded.
- You are responsible for holding yourself accountable to these standards, holding each other to these standards, and holding the teaching team accountable as well.

Official Correspondence

UT Austin considers e-mail as an official mode of university correspondence. You are responsible for following course-related information on the course Canvas site.

Religious Holy Days

In accordance with section 51.911 of the Texas Education code and University policies on class attendance, a student who misses classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day should inform the instructor as far in advance of the absence as possible so that arrangements can be made to complete an assignment within a reasonable period after the absence. A reasonable accommodation does not include substantial modification to academic standards, or adjustments of requirements essential to any program of instruction. Students and instructors who have questions or concerns about academic accommodations for religious observance or religious beliefs may contact the Office for Inclusion and Equity. The University does not maintain a list of religious holy days.

Absence for Military Service

In accordance with section 51.9111 of the Texas Education code and University policies on class attendance, a student is excused from attending classes or engaging in other required activities, including exams, if he or she is called to active military service of a reasonably brief duration. The maximum time for which the student may be excused has been defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board as ``no more than 25 percent of the total number of class meetings or the contact hour equivalent (not including the final examination period) for the specific course or courses in which the student is currently enrolled at the beginning of the period of active military service.'' The student will be allowed a reasonable time after the absence to complete assignments and take exams.

COVID-19 Guidance

To help preserve our in-person learning environment, the university recommends the following.

- Adhere to university mask guidance.
- Vaccinations are widely available, free and not billed to health insurance. The vaccine will help protect against the transmission of the virus to others and reduce serious symptoms in those who are vaccinated.
- Proactive Community Testing remains an important part of the universityâ€™s efforts to protect our community. Tests are fast and free.

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- Visit [Protect Texas Together](#) for more information

Safety Information (http://www.utexas.edu/safety)

If you have concerns about the safety or behavior of students, TAs, Professors, or others, call the Behavorial Concerns Advice Line at 512-232-5050. Your call can be anonymous. If something doesn't feel right, it probably isn't. Trust your instincts and share your concerns.

Occupants of buildings are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside.

- Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. The nearest exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building.
- Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class.
- In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors. Do not re-enter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, UT Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services.
- [Information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures](#).

Sanger Learning Center

More students use the Sanger Learning Center each year to improve their academic performance. All students are welcome to join their classes and workshops and make appointments for their private learning specialists, peer academic coaches, and tutors. For more information, see the [Sanger Web site](#) or call 512-471-3614 (JES A332).

Title IX Reporting

Title IX is a federal law that protects against sex and gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual misconduct, dating/domestic violence and stalking at federally funded educational institutions. UT Austin is committed to fostering a learning and working environment free from discrimination in all its forms where all students, faculty, and staff can learn, work, and thrive. When sexual misconduct occurs in our community, the university can:

1. Intervene to prevent harmful behavior from continuing or escalating.
2. Provide support and remedies to students and employees who have experienced harm or have become involved in a Title IX investigation.
3. Investigate and discipline violations of the university's relevant policies.

Faculty members and certain staff members are considered ``Responsible Employees'' or ``Mandatory Reporters,'' which means that they are required to report violations of Title IX to the Title IX Coordinator at UT Austin. **I am a Responsible Employee and must report any Title IX related incidents** that are disclosed in writing, discussion, or one-on-one. Before talking with me, or with any faculty or staff member about a Title IX related incident, be sure to ask whether they are a responsible employee. If you want to speak with someone for support or remedies

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without making an official report to the university, email advocate@austin.utexas.edu. For more info about reporting options and resources, visit the campus resources page or e-mail the Title IX Office at titleix@austin.utexas.edu.

Campus Carry

``The University of Texas at Austin is committed to providing a safe environment for students, employees, university affiliates, and visitors, and to respecting the right of individuals who are licensed to carry a handgun as permitted by Texas state law." More information.