

**San José State University**  
**Department of Justice Studies**  
**JS 161: Introduction to Cybercrime**  
**Fall 2016**

**Course and Contact Information**

|                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Instructor:</b>      | Dr. Bryce Westlake          |
| <b>Office Location:</b> | MacQuarrie Hall 529         |
| <b>Telephone:</b>       | (408) 924.2743              |
| <b>Email:</b>           | Bryce.Westlake@sjsu.edu     |
| <b>Office Hours:</b>    | Friday 10:00 am to 12:00 pm |
| <b>Class Days/Time:</b> | N/A                         |
| <b>Classroom:</b>       | N/A                         |
| <b>Prerequisites:</b>   | JS 100W (or equivalent)     |

**Course Format**

**Technology Intensive, Hybrid, and Online Courses**

I will utilize the [Canvas Learning Management System](#) as a means for distributing course materials such as syllabus, handouts, lecture slides, assignment instructions, and communications about changes to the course. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](#) to learn of updates.

**Catalog Description**

Introduces students to the growing legal, technical, and social issues surrounding crimes committed in cyberspace or assisted by computers. Discusses the nature of cybercrime from an international perspective and how the borderless nature of cybercrime impacts regulation and enforcement.

**Course Description**

This course explores how an interconnected world has modified how existing criminal activity is conducted and how new criminal opportunities have been created. Students will examine the history and complex nature of computer-related crime and how societies have attempted to respond. Students will discuss the different types of cybercriminals, including motives, rationale, and methods of attack. We will also evaluate various legal and regulatory issues in cyberspace, including surveillance, sting operations, current and proposed legislation, user-reporting initiatives, identity filtering/blocking technologies, vigilante movements, individual rights, and international law enforcement cooperation.

## Course Goals

The Department of Justice Studies is committed to scholarly excellence. Therefore, the Department promotes academic, critical, and creative engagement with language (i.e., reading and writing) throughout its curriculum. A sustained and intensive exploration of language prepares students to think critically and to act meaningfully in interrelated areas of their lives—personal, professional, economic, social, political, ethical, and cultural. Graduates of the Department of Justice Studies leave San José State University prepared to enter a range of careers and for advanced study in a variety of fields; they are prepared to more effectively identify and ameliorate injustice in their personal, professional and civic lives. Indeed, the impact of literacy is evident not only within the span of a specific course, semester, or academic program but also over the span of a lifetime.

## Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

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

(CLO 1) distinguish between the different types of cybercrimes, including who/what they target, how/where they are conducted, and why they persist.

(CLO 2) describe the impacts of the Internet on the opportunities created for committing traditional crimes (e.g., bullying) and new crimes (e.g., phishing).

(CLO 3) identify the challenges faced nationally and internationally at combating cybercrime and the steps taking by organizations to address these challenges.

(CLO 4) takes steps to increase their own security and privacy when online.

(CLO 5) take what they have learned in class and apply it to current events.

## Required Texts/Readings

### Textbook

Yar, M. (2013). *Cybercrime and Society* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). Sage Publications. ISBN13: 978-1-4462-0194-7.

Clough, J. (2015). *Principles of Cybercrime* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition). Cambridge University Press. ISBN13: 978-1-107698161.

### Other Readings:

Supplied electronically via Canvas.

### Library Liaison

Silke Higgins ([silke.higgins@sjsu.edu](mailto:silke.higgins@sjsu.edu)), (408) 808.2118.

<http://libguides.sjsu.edu/justicestudies>

## Course Requirements and Assignments

*Online Discussion (20%)*: Each week there will be an online discussion, through Canvas, on a key issue or current event related to that week's overall topic. Students will be expected to provide their viewpoint and critically discuss the implications of the issue or event to our understanding of cybercrime and how it is addressed by societies. This assignment will specifically address CLO's 3, 4, and 5.

*Paper #1 –Online Privacy (15%):* The purpose of this assignment is to provide students with practical experience to explore the concept of personal privacy, or lack thereof, on the Internet. Students will write a short paper (7 pages) on their investigation of two topics. First, students will input their name into a search engine, with minimal other identifying information, and describe whether the data returned was about them, and how they felt about that information being readily accessible. They will describe the age (i.e., how old), personal nature (e.g., address, phone number, banking information), and online profile (e.g., your likes/dislikes, purchases, hobbies) it presented about them. Second, students will use any cyber methods they can devise to find information on the course instructor. Students will be required to record the steps they took (e.g., search terms) to acquire the information and what information they obtained, including where it was found. Students will then describe this process and reflect on the steps others may take to find out personal information about them. This assignment will specifically address CLO 4.

*Paper #2 –Combating Cybercrime Internationally (15%):* The purpose of this assignment is for students to explore the legal issues regarding how governments and social control agencies can police a virtual environment without physical boundaries and borders. Select a type of cybercrime discussed in the course and determine how partnerships/cooperation/resource-sharing could, realistically, be improved between them and the United States. Students will write a short paper (7 pages) on the laws, if any, that exist in each country and what each could learn from the other. Discussion should include how privacy and rights can be balanced with security. This assignment will specifically address CLO’s 3 and 4.

*Midterm and Final Examination (50%):* Students will be administered a midterm and final examination, each worth 25% of their final grade. Each exam is closed book and will cover material from lectures (including all media presented) and assigned readings. The midterm will be held during regularly scheduled class time while the final will be held during the final exam period. Each exam will be non-cumulative and comprised of multiple choice and short answer questions. These examinations will specifically address CLO’s 1, 2, and 3.

### Grading Information

- In order to receive a grade for this course, all course requirements must be met and every assignment must be completed. Failure to complete any one assignment may result in a failing grade for this course.
- Individual assignment rubrics will be provided closer to the due date, on Canvas.
- Late assignments/papers will lose 10% for every calendar day that they are late, including weekend days.
- There will be ONE extra credit assignment available in the course. Information will be provided later.

### Determination of Grades

|          |            |   |            |           |            |
|----------|------------|---|------------|-----------|------------|
| A (plus) | 97% - 100% | A | 93% - <97% | A (minus) | 90% - <93% |
| B (plus) | 85% - <90% | B | 80% - <85% | B (minus) | 75% - <80% |
| C (plus) | 71% - <75% | C | 67% - <71% | C (minus) | 63% - <67% |
| D (plus) | 59% - <63% | D | 54% - <59% | D (minus) | 50% - <54% |
| F        | Below 50%  |   |            |           |            |

### University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ [Syllabus Information web page](http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>”

## JS 161, Introduction to Cybercrime Fall 2016 Course Schedule

*List the agenda for the semester including when and where the final exam will be held. Indicate the schedule is subject to change with fair notice and how the notice will be made available.*

| <b>Week</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Topics</b>  | <b>Readings</b>   |
|-------------|-------------|--|---|
| <b>1</b>    | 08/29/16    | <b>Introduction</b><br>-Computer and Internet Basics<br>-What is Cybercrime?<br>-Cybercrime in Research          | <i>Cybercrime and Society (Yar)</i><br>Chapter 1 (Cybercrime and the Internet)<br><i>Articles</i><br>How does the Internet work (Strickland)<br>How Firewalls Work (Tyson)<br>What is an 'IP Address' (Gil)<br>The Current State of Cybercrime Scholarship (Holt & Bossler)<br>The Internet as a Conduit for Criminal Activity (Wall) |
| <b>2</b>    | 09/05/16    | <b>Computer Crimes</b><br>-Viruses, Worms, Malware, Rootkits, Keyloggers, Ransomware<br>-International Espionage | <i>Principles of Cybercrime (Clough)</i><br>Chapter 4 (Modification or Impairment of Data)<br><i>Articles</i><br>Hackers Manifesto (The Mentor)<br>Koobface: Inside a Crimeware Network (Villeneuve)  |
| <b>3</b>    | 09/12/16    | <b>Hacking</b><br>-Hacker culture<br>-Legal issues<br>-Hacking as a service (DDos & Botnets)                     | <i>Cybercrime and Society (Yar)</i><br>Chapter 2 (Hackers, Crackers, and Viral Coders)<br><i>Principles of Cybercrime (Clough)</i><br>Chapter 1 (Cybercrime) & Chapter 2 (Computer as Target)   |
| <b>4</b>    | 09/19/16    | <b>Copyright Infringement</b><br>-Who Owns the Data on the Internet?<br>-Piracy                                  | <i>Cybercrime and Society (Yar)</i><br>Chapter 4 (Virtual Pirates)<br><i>Principles of Cybercrime (Clough)</i><br>Chapter 8 (Criminal Copyright Infringement)   |
| <b>5</b>    | 09/26/16    | <b>Personal Security</b><br>-Privacy<br>-Surveillance<br>-Personal safety<br>-The Secret War                     | <i>Cybercrime and Society (Yar)</i><br>Chapter 10 (Cybercrimes and Cyberliberties)<br><i>Articles</i><br>The Secret War (Popular Mechanics)<br>The Online Threat (Hersh)  |
| <b>6</b>    | 10/03/16    | <b>Your Online ID</b><br>-Social networks & search engines<br>-ID Theft & Fraud                                  | <i>Cybercrime and Society (Yar)</i><br>Chapter 5 (Cyber-Frauds, Scams, and Cons)<br><i>Principles of Cybercrime (Clough)</i><br>Chapter 7 (Fraud)<br><b>Assignment Due: Paper #1: Online Privacy</b>  |
| <b>7</b>    | 10/10/16    | <b>Email Spam</b><br>-Phishing & Pharming<br>-Legal issues<br>-Legislation efforts                               | <i>Principles of Cybercrime (Clough)</i><br>Chapter 9 ('Spam')  |
| <b>8</b>    | 10/17/16    | <b>MIDTERM EXAMINATION</b>   | <b>NO READINGS</b>  |
| <b>9</b>    | 10/24/16    | <b>Deep Web</b><br>-TOR<br>-Digital currency   | <i>Articles</i><br>Tor Project: Overview (TOR)<br>The Tor System (Philby)   |

| Week | Date     | Topics   | Readings   |
|------|----------|--|--|
|      |          | -The Dark Web  | Why Tor Users Should Watch Out (Meyer)<br>How Bitcoin Works (Forbes)<br>Exploring the Deep Web (Trend Micro)<br>What is the Dark Web (Egan)  |
| 10   | 10/31/16 | <b>Organized Crime</b><br>-Carding,<br>-Money laundering<br>-Drugs & weapons                                     | <i>Articles</i><br>The Great Cyberheist (Verini)<br>A Hacker's Race to Build the Amazon.com of Stolen Credit Cards (WeirderWeb)<br>Carders.cc Hacked (Reusablesec)   |
| 11   | 11/07/16 | <b>Personal Cyber-Crimes</b><br>-Stalking<br>-Bullying   | <i>Cybercrime and Society (Yar)</i><br>Chapter 8 (The Victimization of Individuals Online)<br><i>Principles of Cybercrime (Clough)</i><br>Chapter 12 (Harassment) & Chapter 13 (Voyeurism)   |
| 12   | 11/14/16 | <b>Terrorism &amp; Extremism</b><br>-White Supremacists<br>-Methods of Distribution                              | <i>Cybercrime and Society (Yar)</i><br>Chapter 3 (Political Hacking)<br><i>Articles</i><br>Terrorism and the Internet (Conway)<br>Exploring Stormfront (Bowman-Grieve)<br>How Modern Terrorism Uses the Internet (Weimann)<br>Terror on the Internet (Tsfati & Weimann)          |
| 13   | 11/21/16 | <b>Sex Crimes</b><br>-Trafficking<br>-Child sexual exploitation<br>-Sexting<br>-Revenge pornography              | <i>Cybercrime and Society (Yar)</i><br>Chapter 7 (Child Pornography and Child Sex Abuse Imagery)<br><i>Principles of Cybercrime (Clough)</i><br>Chapter 10 (Child Pornography)<br>Chapter 11 (Grooming)<br><b>Assignment Due: Paper #2: Combating Cybercrime Internationally</b> |
| 14   | 11/28/16 | <b>Cybercrime and the Law</b><br>-Patriot Act<br>-International Challenges<br>-Jurisdiction<br>-Joint Operations | <i>Cybercrime and Society (Yar)</i><br>Chapter 9 (Policing the Internet)<br><i>Principles of Cybercrime (Clough)</i><br>Chapter 14 (Jurisdiction)<br>Chapter 6 (Interception of Data)  |
| 15   | 12/05/16 | <b>Review</b>  | <b>NO READINGS</b>   |
| 16   | TBD      | <b>FINAL EXAMINATION</b>   | <b>NO READINGS</b>   |