

CSIT988/CSIT488
Security, Ethics and Professionalism
Week 13: Subject Revision

Subject Coordinator: Dr Khoa Nguyen
School of Computing and Information Technology
Autumn 2025

Roadmap

- **Subject Revision**
 - Key Concepts
 - The Final Exam
 - Q & A



shutterstock.com • 1681582195

Key Concepts

Basics of Information Security

- What is information security?
- Communities of interest: InfoSec, IT, general business
- The CNSS security model and its three dimensions
- C.I.A triangle: confidentiality, integrity, availability
- Privacy, identification, authentication, authorisation, accountability

InfoSec Management

- What is management?
- POLC principles: Planning, Organizing, Leading, Controlling
- The six P's of InfoSec management: Planning, Policy, Programs, Protection, People, Projects
- PMBoK (Project Management Body of Knowledge) knowledge areas: Integration, Scope, Time, Cost, Quality, Human resource, Communications, Risk, Procurement
- Project Management tools: Work Breakdown Structure (WBS), Program Evaluation and Review Technique (PERT), Gantt Charts
- Critical path, Slack time

Planning for Security

- What is planning?
- Foundational documents: Values statement, Vision statement, Mission statement
- Strategic planning: creating a strategic plan, planning levels, planning and the CISO
- The IDEAL model governance framework: Initiating, Diagnosing, Establishing, Acting, and Learning
- Planning for InfoSec implementation
 - Bottom-up approach vs Top-down approach
- SecSDLC (Security Systems Development Life Cycle):
 - Waterfall methodology: Investigation, Analysis, Logical Design, Physical Design, Implementation, Maintenance and Change.
- Threats to InfoSec, attacks, vulnerabilities, etc.

Planning for Contingencies

- Fundamentals of contingency planning (CP)
 - What is CP? Why is it important?
- Components of CP: Business impact analysis (BIA), Incident response plan (IR plan), Disaster recovery plan (DR plan), Business continuity plan (BC plan)
- For each component: Why is it important? What are the major concepts?

InfoSec Policy

- Why policy?
 - Bull's-eye model: Policies, Networks, Systems, Applications
- Types of information security policy:
 - Enterprise information security program policy (EISP)
 - Issue-specific information security policies (ISSP)
 - Systems-specific policies (SysSP)
- Goals, components, implementations for each of EISP, ISSP, SysSP
- Guidelines for effective policy: development, distribution, review, comprehension (understanding), compliance (agreement), and uniform enforcement

Developing the Security Program

- Organizing for security
 - Variables involved in structuring an InfoSec program
 - Functions needed to implement the InfoSec program
 - Security in large, medium-size and small organizations
- Placing InfoSec within an organization:
 - Charles Wood's five options on InfoSec program positioning
 - Other options
 - Advantages and limitations of each reporting structure
- InfoSec roles and titles: CISO, security managers, security administrators and analysts, security technicians, security consultants, security officers and investigators, etc.
- SETA (security education, training, and awareness) programs: purpose, benefits, effective implementations

Security Management Models

- Blueprints, frameworks, security models
- Access control models
 - Definitions of access control
 - Essential processes (identification, authentication, authorization, accountability),
 - Key principles (least privilege, need-to-know, separation of duties)
 - Categories of access control: Based on inherent characteristics, Based on operational impact, Based on the degree of authority
 - Data classification models, Security clearances
- Security architecture models: Trusted Computing Base, Information Technology System Evaluation Criteria, The Common Criteria
- The Bell-LaPadula Confidentiality Model & the BiBa Integrity Model
- Security management models: ISO 27000 series, NIST Security Models

Security Management Practices

- Benchmarking: goals, categories (standards of due care/due diligence, best practices), selecting recommended practices, limitations
- Baselineing, supports for baselining and recommended practices
- Performance measurement in InfoSec management: definitions, types, critical factors to the success of InfoSec performance programs
- Trends in certification and accreditation

Risk Management: Identifying and Assessing Risks

- What is risk management? What are its key areas of concern? Who should be responsible? Who should take the lead?
- Risk identification: goal and importance, main tasks
 - TVA worksheet
- Risk assessment: goals, concepts, formulas for calculating risks, possible controls, documenting
 - Likelihood, value of information asset, current controls, uncertainty

$$R = (L_v \times I) \times (1 - R_c + U)$$

where

- R is the **risk** rating factor;
- L_v is the **likelihood** of vulnerability occurrence;
- I is the **impact value** of the information asset;
- R_c is the percentage of risk mitigated by **current controls**;
- U is the **uncertainty** of current knowledge of the vulnerability.

Risk Management: Controlling Risks

- Risk control strategies: defense, transference, mitigation, acceptance, termination
- Managing risks: Risk appetite, Residual risk, Guidelines for risk control strategy selection
- **Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA)**
 - Economic feasibility, cost, benefit, assess valuation, potential loss
 - Assess value (AV), Exposure factor (EF), Annualized loss expectancy (ALE), single loss expectancy (SLE), annualized rate of occurrence (ARO),
 - **$SLE = \text{asset value (AV)} \times \text{exposure factor (EF)}$**
 - **$ALE = SLE * ARO$**
 - **$CBA = ALE(\text{prior}) - ALE(\text{post}) - ACS$**

Protection Mechanisms

- Four processes of access control: identification, authentication, authorization, accountability
- **Firewalls:** the development of firewalls (1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th generations), firewall architectures
- **IDPSs:** types (host-based and network-based) and detection methods (signature-based and anomaly-based)
- **Cryptography:**
 - Components of cryptology (cryptography, cryptanalysis)
 - Encryption, decryption, key, key space, plaintext, ciphertext
 - Symmetric encryption vs asymmetric encryption
 - Digital certificates, PKI, hybrid cryptosystems
 - Notable cryptographic protocols

Personnel and Security, Laws and Ethics

- Staffing the security function:
 - InfoSec positions: those who define, those who build, those who administer; CISO, managers, administrators, technicians, etc.
 - Qualifications and requirements
- InfoSec professional credentials: CISSP, SSCP
- Employment policies and practices:
 - Hiring: interview, orientation, training, check, contract
 - Firing: hostile vs friendly departures
 - Methods of monitoring and controlling employee
 - Security considerations for non-employees
- Laws and Ethics
 - Laws, policies, ethics – similarity and difference
 - InfoSec laws: US, international, Australia

The Final Exam

Assessments

Assessment	%	Type	Date
1. Assignment 1: Quiz	5	Individual	DONE
2. Assignment 2: Report	15	Individual	DONE
3. Assignment 3: Group Report	30	Group	DONE
4. Final Exam	50	Individual	Monday, 16 June, 2025, 09:00am – 12:00pm

Technical Fail

- To be eligible for a Pass in this subject a student must achieve a mark of at least **40% (20 out of 50)** in the Final Exam.
- Students who fail to achieve this minimum mark & would have otherwise passed may be given a TF (Technical Fail) for this subject.

Final Exam: Restrictions

The exam is

- Paper-based, venue specified in you timetable
- RESTRICTED - only specified reference materials permitted.

You may bring:

- **10 A4 pages of hand-written or printed notes.**
 - ✓ No restriction on what are written/printed on the 10 A4 pages.
- **UOW Approved Calculator**

Final Exam: Question Structure

Total marks: 50

- **10 MCQ questions (2 marks each)**
- **10 short-answer questions (2 marks each)**
- **1 case study question (2 sub-questions, 5 marks each)**

Final Exam: MCQ Questions

- Each question has 5 choices
- The number of correct choices could be either 1, or 2 or 3.
- Mark deductions applied for incorrect choices.
- If there are X ($1 \leq X \leq 3$) correct answers
 - For each correct choice: **+100/X % of the mark**
 - For each incorrect choice: **-100/(5-X) % of the mark**
- **For each question, the mark you can get is at least 0 and at most 2. That is the mark is never negative and you should attempt to answer all questions.**

Examples of MCQ Questions

Which of the following statements are true?

Select one or more:

- A.** It is extremely uncommon for a CISO to have a CISSP.
- B.** InfoSec consideration should be part of the hiring process.
- C.** A background check should be conducted before the organization extends an offer to any security technician.
- D.** Job rotation is based on the principle of least privilege.
- E.** Ethics are rules adopted and enforced by governments.

Examples of MCQ Questions

Which of the following statements are true?

Select one or more:

- A. It is extremely uncommon for a CISO to have a CISSP. (-33.33%)**
- B. InfoSec consideration should be part of the hiring process. (+50%)**
- C. A background check should be conducted before the organization extends an offer to any security technician. (+50%)**
- D. Job rotation is based on the principle of least privilege. (-33.33%)**
- E. Ethics are rules adopted and enforced by governments. (-33.33%)**

Examples of MCQ Questions

Which of the following statements are true?

Select one or more:

- A.** The BiBa integrity model is based on the principle of "no read up, no write down".
- B.** Asymmetric encryption systems are usually less efficient than symmetric encryption systems.
- C.** The values statement describes what an organization wants to become.
- D.** Risk analysis is a major component of risk management.
- E.** An example of technical attack to InfoSec is shoulder surfing.

Examples of MCQ Questions

Which of the following statements are true?

Select one or more:

- A. The BiBa integrity model is based on the principle of "no read up, no write down". (-25%)**
- B. Asymmetric encryption systems are usually less efficient than symmetric encryption systems. (+100%)**
- C. The values statement describes what an organization wants to become. (-25%)**
- D. Risk management is a major component of risk analysis. (-25%)**
- E. An example of technical attack to InfoSec is shoulder surfing. (-25%)**

Final Exam: Short-Answer Questions

- Similar to the short-answer questions in the workshops
- **Example:** *What is access control? What are the essential processes of access control? What are the key principles on which access control is founded?*
- There could be question(s) involving simple calculations.

Final Exam: Case Study

- You are given a case in InfoSec management.
 - Similar to the case of Hillside hospital in Assignment 3.
- You are asked to answer **two questions** regarding the case.
 - 5 marks for each question.

Some Advices for the Final Exam

- Study the textbook, lecture notes and workshop materials
- Prepare the notes! (Up to 10 A4 pages)
- Attempt to answer **ALL** questions

GOOD LUCK!

Your questions?