Sul Ross State University
Cybercrime Law and Policy
SPRING 2026
CJ 4367 Syllabus

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Class hours/ Classroom: Online

Office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday between 1:00 PM and 3 PM

RECOMMENDED READINGS

Course readings (e.g., articles, reports) will be posted on Blackboard.

Regarding scientific journal articles, BYRIAN WILDENTHAL MEMORIAL LIBRARY OF SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY has an extensive database infrastructure. You can get detailed information and advice from libraries website https://library.sulross.edu/#

Once you logged in to your Sul Ross Account on Blackboard you should be automatically connected to the library webpage as well. Thus, you can browse the online databases of the University and reach the articles on the reading list.

The Syllabus is subject to updates and changes always look to the course announcements and reminders for updates. The faculty member reserves the right to amend this syllabus as needed.

CONNECTING WITH STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS INITIATIVE

This course will be participating in an initiative at SRSU referred to as "Connecting with Students for Success". This study is aimed at connecting with students in a way that sets them up for better success, overall. As a part of this study, each student will be required to meet with me at least once during the Fall 2025 semester. The reasoning behind this is that I would like to personally speak to each of you about how you feel regarding your master's program, discuss how you feel about the class overall, and your time at Sul Ross State University. This

will be a 10-15-minute online meeting, and I will share the available dates and the time after the semester starts. I will be flexible in scheduling these appointments with you.

SOME USEFUL WEBSITES FOR RESEARCH DATA

1- Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section (CCIPS) of the Department of Justice https://www.justice.gov/criminal-ccips

2- CCIPS Press Releases – 2019 https://www.justice.gov/criminal-ccips/ccips-press-releases-2019

3- FBI The Uniform Crime Reports https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr

4- DOJ Bureau of Justice Statistics https://www.bjs.gov/

5- National Crime Victimization Survey http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=dcdetail&iid=245

6- National Computer Security Survey http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=dcdetail&iid=260

7- International Crime Victim Survey http://www.unicri.it/services/library_documentation/publications/icvs/

8- General Social Survey https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/catalogue/89F0115X

9- Executive Order 13636 https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/02/12/executive-order-improving-critical-infrastructure-cybersecurity

10- NIST Cybersecurity Framework https://www.nist.gov/cyberframework

11- UNODC Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime https://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/cybersecurity-capacity/content/unodc-comprehensive-study-cybercrime

12- Internet Crime Complaint Center https://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx

RECOMMENDED VIDEO RESOURCES FOR THE COURSE

1. Targeted Cyber Attack Reality—Don't Be a Victim—Trend Micro, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hs8rc2u5ak

2. Three Alleged International Cyber Criminals Charged for Creating & Distributing the Gozi Virus, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yk32_8UFL8w

3. Cesare Lombroso, Left Handedness, and the Criminal Mind, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HmdAYqqc8gc

4. Kevin Mitnick, The Cyberspace Kid, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQKF3m45-rI

5. Anonymous - The Hacker Wars Full Documentary https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ku9edEKvGuY

6. Hackers National Geographic Full documentary https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eqdkSizQLRk

7. Stalking Amanda Todd: The Man in the Shadows—The Fifth Estate, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GRidpO7kUO0

8. Cyberstalking Documentary—Crime & Investigation Channel, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BZ6LByl0pgw

9. Navigating the Underground Darknet Black Markets and Tor Hidden Services https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wPMg4ALAKok

10. The Silk Road: The Rise and Fall of the World's Largest Online Black Market, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LkRhBOZSw38

11. The Mix: Cyber-terrorism's Threat, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1lF3eywqD-I

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is intended to introduce you to several laws and policies and their applicability to various cybercrimes. During the semester through your readings, you will gain knowledge about different cybercrime typologies, national and international statues and institutions and their roles

about cybercrimes. This course will also provide an introduction to basic concepts of cyber networks, cyber investigations, and digital forensics. Moreover, the course designed to give information to students about the relationship between cybercrime and organized crime and political crimes.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES

This course is designed to provide knowledge about various laws and policies about cyberspace and their applicability to cybercrimes. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

LO1- Gain knowledge and basic understanding of the key elements and basic concepts of the architecture of internet and cyber networks.

LO2- Identify and understand the definition, problems, and application of cyber jurisdiction

LO3- Define and discuss different types of cybercrimes.

LO4- Identify the key national and global institutions and their roles on international cybersecurity policies and standards about cybercrime.

LO5- Explain the legal and operational challenges for cybercrime investigations. Identify several issues in digital forensics

LO6- Identify and discuss the relationship between cybercrime, individual rights, and democracy

LO7- Become familiar with key national and international laws and policies regarding cybercrimes.

LO8- Identify and discuss major cybercrime prevention strategies and applications.

LO9- Identify and learn the common methods political cybercrimes.

L10- Identify and discuss the relationship between organized crime and cybercrimes.

<u>MARKETABLE SKILLS:</u>

This course is designed also to help the students for building various marketable skills to use in their in careers Criminal Justice related professions. Specifically, in this course, the following marketable skills, which are some of the most important skills for such careers, will be emphasized during this course:

MS 1- Written Communication Skills

MS 2- Critical Thinking and Observation

MS 3- Multicultural Understanding.

MS 4- Accessing Resources with Crime Data and the most current updates of legal codes and procedures.

MS 5- Analyzing the Factors Contributing to Crime

CLASS ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION:

Given that this is a fully online course; you cannot attend class in a traditional sense. However, students are expected to log into the class at the earliest opportunity to check the class web site every day for announcements. Weekly reaction papers and quizzes are a required part of class participation.

REACTION PAPERS (10 POINTS EACH)

You will write a reaction paper every week. Each paper must be 1 page and 1.5-spaced in 12-point Times New Roman font. Reaction papers will be related to the reading of the week. When there is more than one reading assignment, then the students **SHOULD READ ALL REQUIRED READINGS BUT WRITE REACTION PAPER ON ONE OF THEM**. A reaction paper is not a summary; rather, it should include your perspective, ideas, and critique about the reading. The due dates for the reaction papers will be Sunday at 11:00 pm each week.

WEEKLY QUIZZES (10 POINTS EACH)

You will take a quiz every week to measure the knowledge of the week's required readings. The questions will be posted on Friday at 1:00 pm and the due date will be Sunday at 11:00 pm every week.

MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAMS (200 POINTS EACH)

There will be 2 major exams throughout the semester, with questions drawn from the readings and the supplemental materials posted by the professor. These 2 exams will be worth 200 points each. There will be no makeup exams.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Sul Ross State University students are responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by the Sul Ross Student Code of Conduct."   Student Code of Conduct, Responsibilities, Procedures, and Rights are found in the University website. Sul Ross State University and the instructor of this course both place a high priority on the academic integrity of their student scholars. As a result, all institutional guidelines and instructional policies concerning academic integrity will be strictly and uniformly enforced with all students regardless of context.

Academic integrity includes, but is not limited to, the following activities: cheating, plagiarism, collusion, fabrication, obtaining an unfair advantage, and falsifying academic records. In addition, academic dishonesty can include both actions and omissions to act in regards to academic exercises and activities. Cheating is defined here as the obtaining of information (electronic or otherwise) during an examination, the unauthorized use of books, notes, or other sources of information prior to or during an examination, the unauthorized use of books, the removal of faculty examination materials, the alteration of documents or records, or actions identifiable as occurring with the intent to defraud or use under false pretenses. Collusion is defined here as helping other students engage in acts of academic dishonesty, whether the student involved obtains any direct academic advantage from these acts. Plagiarism is defined here as the submission of the ideas, words, or artistic productions of another, without giving due credit or when attempting to falsely represent them as one's own. See https://sulross.libguides.com/citation/plagiarism for more information.

POLICY ON THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TOOLS:

In this course, you are not required to use any form of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT, Gemini, Copilot, etc. However, if you choose to use any AI tools as part of your assignments—other than for brainstorming, proofreading, etc.—you must provide proper citation. We use APA citation format in all of our CJ courses. For more information about proper APA citation, please visit SRSU Library Teaching and Learning Guides.

Using AI tools to complete any assignment without proper citation violates academic integrity and will be considered a form of plagiarism, which is a violation of the SRSU Academic Honesty Policy under the Student Handbook. If you are unsure whether something is considered an AI tool, please check with your instructor.

You are permitted to use AI tools for spell check, grammar check, and proofreading. Rephrasing sentences or reorganizing paragraphs you have drafted yourself is also allowed. However, remember that the most important part is that all work you submit must be your own. You should never include anything in your assignment that was not written directly by you without proper citation. DO NOT copy and paste directly from any AI tools.

APA STYLE:

This course will use the American Psychological Association (APA) formatting and style guide for all written assignments. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the use of APA a number of resources have been provided below. Please note that all external sources must be appropriately cited. A failure to do so constitutes plagiarism and is a violation the course academic honesty standards. See SRSU Library Teaching and Learning Guides for help with APA.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AND BLACKBOARD HELP DESK

Sul Ross State University has established a variety of programs to help students meet the challenges of college life. Support to students includes advising, counseling, mentoring, tutoring,

supplemental instruction, and writing assistance. For a complete list of academic support services, visit the Student Support Services. For more information, students are encouraged to contact SSS at (432) 837-9118 or visit Ferguson Hall Room 105. For Blackboard help visit https://www.sulross.edu/bb or call 432-837-8888 (M-F 08:00 am-05:00 pm).

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

All full-time and part-time students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Student Handbook and the Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog and for abiding by the University rules and regulations. Additionally, students are responsible for checking their Sul Ross email as an official form of communication from the university. Every student is expected to obey all federal, state and local laws and is expected to familiarize themselves with the requirements of such laws.

DISTANCE EDUCATION STATEMENT

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.

Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires a secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

SERVICE STATEMENT:

I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports a diversity of thoughts,
perspectives and experiences, and honors your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, socioeconomic class, age, nationality, etc.). I also understand that the crisis of pandemics, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events could impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create an inclusive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you.

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:

SRSU Accessibility Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Ronnie Harris, LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Director at 432-837-8203 or email ronnie.harris@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall, room 112, and our mailing address is P.O. Box C122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine. Texas, 79832.

LATE ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION POLICY:

Students are supposed to finish their coursework on time and assignments must be submitted before the deadlines. Students are expected to show appropriate cause for missing or delaying major assignments or examinations. Late assignments will not be accepted unless there

is an excuse that is recognized by the university. Discussion board posts will not be accepted for credit once the discussion board closes.

GRADING:
There will be 1 midterm exam, 1 final exam, weekly quizzes and reaction papers throughout the semester. Questions for exams and quizzes will be drawn from the readings and the supplemental materials posted on Blackboard. The midterm exam and final exam will be worth 200 points each. There will be no makeup exam. Every week there will be a quiz for the related chapter(s). Each quiz will worth 10 points. The total grade will be 130 for all quizzes. Weekly reaction papers will be 10 points each. The total grade for papers will be 130.

Midterm Exam	**200 pts**
Weekly Quizzes	**140 pts (14 quizzes, 10 points each)**
Reaction papers	**140 pts (14 papers, 10 points each)**
Final Exam	**200 pts**
Total	**680 pts**

 Scale:
A   680-580   B   579-480   C   479-380   D 379-280   F 279 & below

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

W	DATES	TOPICS	READINGS
1	January 14-18	Introduction of the course and syllabus	
2	January 19-25	Understanding the Architecture of Internet and Basic Concepts of Network	University of Notre Dame (n.d.) *Introducing Basic Network Concepts.* - Shuler, R. (2002). How Does the Internet Work? Paper 1 Quiz 1
3	Jan.26-Feb.1	Definition and Types of Cybercrime	ITU (2012) Understanding cybercrime: Phenomena, challenges and legal response pg: 11-42 -UNODC. (2013). Draft Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime (pp. 11-22). Paper 2 Quiz 2
4	February 2-8	Cyber Jurisdiction	Brenner, S.W and Koops, B.J. (2004). Approaches to Cybercrime Jurisdiction. -Moore, E.S. (2002). Cyber Jurisdiction. Paper 3 Quiz 3
5	February 9-15	Cybercrime Investigation	Harkin, D. Whelan, C. & Chang, L. (2018). *The challenges facing*

			specialist police cyber-crime units: an empirical analysis Paper 4 Quiz 4
6	February 16-22	Issues in Digital Forensics	ENFSI (2015). [Best practice manual for the forensic examination of digital technology](#) Paper 5 Quiz 5
7	Feb. 23-Mar.1	Cybercrime, Individual Rights, and Democracy	Drazdova, E.A. [Civil Liberties and Security in Cyberspace](#) Paper 6 Quiz 6
8	March 2-8	Open Source intelligence and information gathering	Brandl, Chapters 9 Paper 7 Quiz 7
	March 9-13	**SPRING BREAK**	
9	**March 16-22**	**MIDTERM EXAM** American Laws and Cyber Crime Constitution Institutions Criminal Laws-1	-1st, 4th, 5th, Amendments - Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA) Paper 8 Quiz 8
10	March 23-29	American Laws and Cyber Crime Criminal Laws-2	- Wire Fraud (18 USC 1343) - ID Crimes (18 USC 1028/1029) -TX State Criminal Laws for Cybercrime Paper 9 Quiz 9
11	Mar. 30-April 5	Intellectual Property and Cyber Crime Copyright/ Digital Rights Consumer Privacy	Grimmelmann, J. (2019). Chs.4-6, and 7 Paper 10 Quiz 10
12	April 6-12	Cyber Organized Crime	Maras, M. Ch 13 Paper 11 Quiz 11
13	April 13-19	The Investigation of Fraud and Other Computer-Related Crimes	Brandl, Chapter 14 Paper 12 Quiz 12
14	April 20- 26	Political Cybercrime	Maras, M. Ch 13 Paper 13 Quiz 13
15	April 25- 30	International cooperation for cybercrime enforcement	- [Budapest Convention on Cybercrime](#) - Kharbanda, V. (2019).[International Cooperation](#)

			in Cybercrime: The Budapest Convention Paper 14 Quiz 14
16	**May 1,5-6**	**FINAL EXAM**	

END OF COURSE EVALUATIONS:
Student evaluations of faculty are administered online at the end of each term/session for all courses with five or more students. Students will receive an email containing a link to a survey for each course in which they are enrolled. All responses are anonymous.