

2026 Fall CJ 2360 Introduction to Cybercrime Investigations
Course Syllabus

Sul Ross State University
The Homeland Security and Criminal Justice Department

COURSE DESCRIPTION

CJ 2360 Cybercrime Investigations

- This course surveys the fundamentals of cybercrime topics and investigation techniques.
- This course also builds to add more tools and techniques to your cybercrime investigation toolbox.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

When you finish this course, you will know how to:

- Define and describe the nature and scope of cybercrime
- Identify the methods and techniques used by cybercriminals
- Analyze and discuss the challenges in investigating and combatting cybercrime
- Describe the process for collecting and preserving digital evidence
- Apply current cybercrime investigation techniques using hands-on activities

TEXTBOOK

- There is no required textbook for this course.
- We will follow the module presentations, videos, and academic papers.

CLASS VIRTUAL MEETINGS:

- This class is fully online.
- We will meet three times during the semester:
 - First week: Introductions and overview of the course modules.
 - Before midterm break: Review of the modules covered so far.
 - Final week: Final presentations.

INSTRUCTOR INFO

- Said Varlioglu, PhD
 - Google Scholar Link: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=AsQxeNsAAAAJ&hl=en>
 - Email: msv20iy@sulross.edu
 - Office Hours: Video Calls by appointment

COURSE CALENDAR:

Module	Begin Date	Topic	Assignments
1	Week 1	- Introduction to Cybercrime Investigations - The Basics of Computer Networks	- Discussion Board 1 - Module 1 Assignment
2	Week 2	- Email Hacking Investigations - Examination of Sign-In Logs and Inbox-Forwarding Rules	- Discussion Board 2 - Module 2 Assignment
3	Week 3	- Phishing Email Investigations - Email Header Analysis	- Discussion Board 3 - Module 3 Assignment
4	Week 4	- Ransomware Investigations	- Discussion Board 4 - Module 4 Assignment

2026 Fall CJ 2360 Introduction to Cybercrime Investigations

Course Syllabus

5	Week 5	- Website Hacking Investigations	- Discussion Board 5 - Module 5 Assignment
6	Week 6	- Open-Source Investigations (OSINT) in Cybercrime	- Discussion Board 6 - Module 6 Assignment
7	Week 7	- VPN, Proxy and TOR Challenges in Investigations	- Discussion Board 7 - Module 7 Assignment
-	-	SEMESTER BREAK	No Assignment
8	Week 8	- Dark Web Investigations	- Discussion Board 8 - Module 8 Assignment
9	Week 9	- Bank Card Skimming and Bank Account Hacking Investigations	- Discussion Board 9 - Module 9 Assignment
10	Week 10	- Online Child Abuse Investigations	- Discussion Board 10 - Module 10 Assignment
11	Week 11	- Introduction to Digital Forensics	- Discussion Board 11 - Module 11 Assignment
12	Week 12	- Windows Memory Forensics Basics	- Discussion Board 12 - Module 12 Assignment
13	Week 13	- Windows OS Forensics Basics	- Discussion Board 13 - Module 13 Assignment
14	Week 14	- macOS Forensics Basics	- Discussion Board 14 - Module 14 Assignment
-	-	- Final Week – Course Evaluation - PowerPoint Presentations as the Final Assignment	- Course Evaluation - Final Presentation

PERSONAL COMPUTER REQUIREMENT

You are expected to have a personal computer during the course.

COURSE POLICIES

Instructor Communication

Email is the best way to reach me. We can also meet in a video call if you need. The zoom link is above. As an Adjunct Instructor, I do not have an office on campus.

Grading

Your grade in this course will consist of the following categories.

Grading Scale:

- 90 - 100 = A
- 80 – 89 = B
- 70 - 79 = C
- 60 – 69 = D
- <60 = F

Grade Book Item	Weights
Assignments	70%
Discussion Boards	20%
Final Presentation	10%

2026 Fall CJ 2360 Introduction to Cybercrime Investigations

Course Syllabus

Total	100%
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SRSU LIBRARY SERVICES

The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, www.library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123).

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.

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.

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with 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 Rebecca Greathouse Wren, LPC-S, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email rebecca.wren@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

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 <https://www.sulross.edu/section/311/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 432-837-8523 (M-F 09:00 am-06:00 pm). You can get The Distance Education Handbook at <https://tvpb.sulross.edu/start/index.html>