ITEC852
Network and Systems Security
S2 Evening 2014
Computing

Contents

General Information 2
Learning Outcomes 2
General Assessment Information 3
Assessment Tasks 5
Delivery and Resources 8
Unit Schedule 8
Policies and Procedures 9
Graduate Capabilities 10

Disclaimer
Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.
## General Information

**Unit convenor and teaching staff**  
Vijay Varadharajan  
[mailto:vijay.varadharajan@mq.edu.au](mailto:vijay.varadharajan@mq.edu.au)  
Contact via 98509536  
E6A 336

**Administration**  
Andrina Brennan  
[mailto:andrina.brennan@mq.edu.au](mailto:andrina.brennan@mq.edu.au)  
Contact via 98509536  
E6A 336

**Credit points**  
4

**Prerequisites**  
COMP347

**Corequisites**

**Co-badged status**

**Unit description**  
As organisations and users increasingly rely upon networked applications for assessing information and making critical business decisions, securing distributed applications is becoming extremely significant. The unit is concerned with the protection of information in computing systems and networks. It will address concepts and techniques for securing distributed applications.

## Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at [https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates](https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates)

## Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse key security requirements and trends in a distributed networked computing environment
2. Develop and/or advance skills of research and critical analysis in a manner consistent
with the completion of a postgraduate degree.

3. Evaluate authentication and access control security functionalities in distributed systems and networks

4. Apply security techniques and mechanisms to develop security protocols

5. Analyse the security threats and develop security architecture and functionalities to counteract the security threats

General Assessment Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HD | Demonstrates deep and critical understanding of key security requirements and shows substantial originality in their analysis and evaluation |
<p>| A critical understanding of security threats and able to develop threat model. Able to design appropriate security functionalities and develop an overall security architecture |
| Demonstrates the ability to apply security techniques and mechanisms to identify flaws in security protocols. Demonstrate the ability to design secure protocols and carry out security analysis. |
| Demonstrates the ability to design security services for distributed systems and networks and carry out their security analysis. |
| Demonstrates significant originality and insight in critical evaluation of security solutions. Communicates effectively the analysis and the arguments. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Demonstrate good understanding of the security requirements and shows some originality in their analysis</th>
<th>Demonstrates a clear understanding of threats and threat models. Demonstrates the ability to describe the design of security architecture and its functionalities</th>
<th>Demonstrates the ability to apply security techniques and mechanisms to identify security flaws in protocols and carry out security analysis.</th>
<th>Demonstrates a clear understanding of authentication and access control services in distributed systems and networks. Good presentation of ideas and arguments</th>
<th>Demonstrates insights in solving security problems. Good presentation of ideas and arguments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Credit</td>
<td>Reasonable understanding of key security requirements and able to describe their characteristics</td>
<td>Shows substantial understanding of security threats. Able to understand the security functionalities in a security architecture</td>
<td>Demonstrates the ability to apply security techniques and mechanisms to describe security protocols and carry out some analysis.</td>
<td>Good understanding of authentication and access control functionalities in distributed systems and networks. Able to carry out basic evaluation of these security services.</td>
<td>Provides evidence of a clear understanding of the security concepts and their applications. Clear communication of ideas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>Basic understanding of some of the security requirements</td>
<td>Recognizes the security threats in a system. Demonstrates a basic understanding of the security functionalities needed to counteract the threats</td>
<td>Demonstrates the ability to apply security techniques and mechanisms to understand security protocols.</td>
<td>Basic understanding of authentication and access control functionalities in distributed systems and networks</td>
<td>Provides sufficient evidence of security concepts and their applications. Communication of information and ideas adequately.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Fail (F):** does not provide evidence of attainment of all learning outcomes. There is missing or partial or superficial or faulty understanding and application of the fundamental concepts in the field of study; and incomplete, confusing or lacking communication of ideas in ways that give little attention to the conventions of the discipline.

- **Pass (P):** provides sufficient evidence of the achievement of learning outcomes. There is demonstration of understanding and application of fundamental concepts of the field of study; and communication of information and ideas adequately in terms of the conventions of the discipline. The learning attainment is considered satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in relation to the specified outcomes.
• **Credit (Cr)**: provides evidence of learning that goes beyond replication of content knowledge or skills relevant to the learning outcomes. There is demonstration of substantial understanding of fundamental concepts in the field of study and the ability to apply these concepts in a variety of contexts; plus communication of ideas fluently and clearly in terms of the conventions of the discipline.

• **Distinction (D)**: provides evidence of integration and evaluation of critical ideas, principles and theories, distinctive insight and ability in applying relevant skills and concepts in relation to learning outcomes. There is demonstration of frequent originality in defining and analysing issues or problems and providing solutions; and the use of means of communication appropriate to the discipline and the audience.

• **High Distinction (HD)**: provides consistent evidence of deep and critical understanding in relation to the learning outcomes. There is substantial originality and insight in identifying, generating and communicating competing arguments, perspectives or problem solving approaches; critical evaluation of problems, their solutions and their implications; creativity in application.

### Assessment Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>November 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>26/27 Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>14/15 Sept</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Exam**

Due: **November 2014**

Weighting: **60%**

Due: November 2014

Weighting: 60%

Date to be confirmed by University in due course

Note: Need to obtain at least 25% out of 60% of the Exam component to pass the Unit

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Analyse the security threats and develop security architecture and functionalities to counteract the security threats
• Apply security techniques and mechanisms to develop security protocols
• Develop and/or advance skills of research and critical analysis in a manner consistent with the completion of a postgraduate degree.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Analyse key security requirements and trends in a distributed networked computing environment
• Develop and/or advance skills of research and critical analysis in a manner consistent with the completion of a postgraduate degree.
• Evaluate authentication and access control security functionalities in distributed systems and networks
• Apply security techniques and mechanisms to develop security protocols
• Analyse the security threats and develop security architecture and functionalities to counteract the security threats

Group Project
Due: 26/27 Oct
Weighting: 30%

Due: 26th Oct, 11.59pm (electronically) and 27th Oct in Class (hard copy)
Weighting: 30%

Project topics allocated during Lectures
Presentations 27th Oct and 3rd Nov 2014

Content and Understanding: 10% (Individually assessed)
Presentation: 10% (Individually assessed)
Project Report: 10% (Assessed as a Group)

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Analyse key security requirements and trends in a distributed networked computing environment
• Analyse the security threats and develop security architecture and functionalities to counteract the security threats
• Apply security techniques and mechanisms to develop security protocols
• Develop and/or advance skills of research and critical analysis in a manner consistent with the completion of a postgraduate degree.

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Analyse key security requirements and trends in a distributed networked computing environment
• Develop and/or advance skills of research and critical analysis in a manner consistent with the completion of a postgraduate degree.
• Evaluate authentication and access control security functionalities in distributed systems and networks
• Analyse the security threats and develop security architecture and functionalities to counteract the security threats

Assignment
Due: 14/15 Sept
Weighting: 10%

Due: 14th Sept, 11.59pm (electronically) and 15th Sept in Class (hard copy)

Weighting: 10%

Handed out Week 4 25th August.

Assignment on Security Mechanisms and Protocols

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Analyse key security requirements and trends in a distributed networked computing environment
• Analyse the security threats and develop security architecture and functionalities to counteract the security threats
• Apply security techniques and mechanisms to develop security protocols

This Assessment Task relates to the following Learning Outcomes:
• Evaluate authentication and access control security functionalities in distributed systems and networks
• Apply security techniques and mechanisms to develop security protocols
**Delivery and Resources**

**Technology**
- Presentation using Powerpoint and other Computer Related Material

**Lecture and Tutorial**
- Provided in Unit Schedule

**Unit Schedule**

**Information**
- All unit information will be posted on iLearn (https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/MQ/). We assume that students will regularly check iLearn for information regarding lecture notes, practical material and other related resources.

- All emails related to ITEC852 should be sent to vijay.varadharajan@mq.edu.au and cc: andrina.brennan@mq.edu.au (Andrina Brennan, Executive Assistant to Prof. Vijay Varadharajan) and must include your full name and your student id number.

**Other Material**

**References**


- Dieter Gollman, Computer Security, John Wiley


**Tentative Lecture Schedule ITEC 852 S2 2014 (may vary depending upon progress)**
- 11 Aug: Lecture 2: Security Architecture
- 18 Aug: Lecture 3: Threat Modelling
- 25 Aug: Lecture 4: Cryptography and Key Management
Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html


Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/
Late Submissions

No extensions will be granted. Students who have not submitted the task prior to the deadline will be awarded a mark of 0 for the task, except for cases in which an application for special consideration is made and approved.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

Student Enquiry Service

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

Equity Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/

When using the University’s IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse key security requirements and trends in a distributed networked computing environment
• Develop and/or advance skills of research and critical analysis in a manner consistent with the completion of a postgraduate degree.
• Evaluate authentication and access control security functionalities in distributed systems and networks
• Apply security techniques and mechanisms to develop security protocols
• Analyse the security threats and develop security architecture and functionalities to counteract the security threats

Assessment tasks

• Exam
• Group Project
• Assignment

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

• Analyse key security requirements and trends in a distributed networked computing environment
• Develop and/or advance skills of research and critical analysis in a manner consistent with the completion of a postgraduate degree.
• Evaluate authentication and access control security functionalities in distributed systems and networks
• Apply security techniques and mechanisms to develop security protocols
• Analyse the security threats and develop security architecture and functionalities to counteract the security threats

Assessment tasks

• Exam
• Group Project
• Assignment
PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability
Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse key security requirements and trends in a distributed networked computing environment
- Develop and/or advance skills of research and critical analysis in a manner consistent with the completion of a postgraduate degree.
- Evaluate authentication and access control security functionalities in distributed systems and networks
- Apply security techniques and mechanisms to develop security protocols
- Analyse the security threats and develop security architecture and functionalities to counteract the security threats

Assessment tasks

- Exam
- Group Project
- Assignment

PG - Effective Communication
Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Analyse key security requirements and trends in a distributed networked computing environment
- Analyse the security threats and develop security architecture and functionalities to counteract the security threats

Assessment tasks

- Exam
PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Analyse key security requirements and trends in a distributed networked computing environment
- Develop and/or advance skills of research and critical analysis in a manner consistent with the completion of a postgraduate degree.
- Analyse the security threats and develop security architecture and functionalities to counteract the security threats

**Assessment tasks**

- Exam
- Group Project

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

**Learning outcomes**

- Analyse key security requirements and trends in a distributed networked computing environment
- Develop and/or advance skills of research and critical analysis in a manner consistent with the completion of a postgraduate degree.
- Evaluate authentication and access control security functionalities in distributed systems and networks
- Analyse the security threats and develop security architecture and functionalities to counteract the security threats
Assessment tasks

- Exam
- Group Project