

## COURSE SYLLABUS

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### 1 ECE 8476 - Cryptography and Network Security

#### 2 Meeting Information

3 credits, 3 contact hours - one weekly lecture

a. **Section 001:**

Lecture: Thursdays 12-2:30 pm, **CEER 312 (masks required)**

b. **Section DL1:**

Lecture: Thursdays 12-2:30 pm, **either asynchronously (watch recorded video within 2 days) or live on Zoom**

<https://villanova.zoom.us/j/95444640485>

#### 3 Course Instructor(s), TA(s)

a. **Section 001:**

Class Instructor: [Danai Chasaki](#)  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 10-11:30 am, or by appt.  
Link for Office Hours: <https://villanova.zoom.us/j/98122200832>  
TA: None

b. **Section DL1:**

Class Instructor: [Danai Chasaki](#)  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 10-11:30 am, or by appt.  
Link for Office Hours: <https://villanova.zoom.us/j/98122200832>  
TA: None

#### 4 Textbook

This course does not have a prescribed textbook

- a. **Other Supplemental Materials:** Cryptography and Network Security: Principles and Practice by William Stallings, Prentice Hall.

#### 5 Specific Course Information

a. **Catalog Description**

Theory and practice of computer communications security, including cryptography, authentication, and secure electronic mail. Topics include secret and public key cryptography; message digests; password-based, address-based, and cryptographic authentication; privacy and authentication in email; PEM, PGP, and S/MIME. Use of various algorithms.

- b. **Prerequisites:** None; **Co-requisites:** None

- c. Required for Cybersecurity M.S. Degree

## **6 Course-specific Goals**

- a. The goal for students in this course is to learn the fundamentals of cryptography and network security including: secret key cryptography, public key cryptography and message digests, key management, authentication, cipher techniques, security protocols, attacks and defenses on computer systems.

## **7 List of Covered Topics**

1. Introduction to network security
2. Basic cryptography
3. Key management
4. Authentication
5. Security protocols
6. Firewalls, intrusion detection, and other countermeasures

## **8 Tentative Schedule**

Tentative schedules for all sections follow. Be sure to refer to the schedule for your specific section, if more than one is provided.

## Tentative Schedule for All Sections

Week #	Dates	Topics, Reading, etc.
1	8/23 - 8/27	
2	8/30 - 9/3	
3	9/6 - 9/10	
4	9/13 - 9/17	
5	9/20 - 9/24	
6	9/27 - 10/1	
7	10/4 - 10/8	Midterm Exam
8	10/11 - 10/15	Fall break
9	10/18 - 10/22	
10	10/25 - 10/29	
11	11/1 - 11/5	
12	11/8 - 11/12	
13	11/15 - 11/19	
14	11/22 - 11/26	Thanksgiving break
15	11/29 - 12/3	Student presentations
16	12/6 - 12/10	Student presentations, 12/9 last day of classes
17	12/13 - 12/17	Final Exam

## 9 Grading Policy

A composite score (out of 100) will be computed by assigning weights as follows.

Labs: 20%

Midterm Exam: 25%

Final Exam: 25%

Project: 30%

The final grade will be norm-referenced (i.e., "curved").

## 10 HW Assignment and Laboratory Report Submission Policy

Two sets of labs will be assigned during the semester. The assignments will be posted on the class website and announced in class. Students will work individually; the due date for each assignment will be given at the time it is assigned. The reports will be collected at the start of the class in which they are due or latest at the start of the following class.

There will be two exams, midterm and final, scheduled for the week of Oct. 7th and the week of Dec. 16th respectively. Details will be discussed one week prior to the exam.

Students are also expected to actively read the state-of-the-art research papers. Each student will research on a "hot" area and submit a 1-3 page proposal before the mid-term exam. Before the final exam submit a 5-10 page summary reporting your findings, and give one presentation to the rest of the class. The schedule of the presentation will be discussed at a later time. The presentations are meant to update fellow students on current trends, technologies, and issues that related to network security. The grades of the presentation come from evaluation from fellow students in the class as well as the instructor. A list of recommended papers will be distributed later in the class. Students are also encouraged to search for their own papers. In this case, you need to get the approval from the instructor for the topic and papers you select to study.

Assignments are due as posted on the course web page (or stated in the syllabus). Late submissions will not be accepted unless by prior arrangement with the instructor. Scheduling conflicts regarding exams should be reported to the instructor immediately. In case of a medical emergency, late submission or a make-up exam can be requested if a note from a medical professional is provided.

## 11 Attendance Policy

The primary teaching method will be class lectures and discussions. The lectures will discuss topics presented in the textbook and cover additional material. Class attendance is expected in every class. For students who choose to study asynchronously, the definition of attendance is watching the recorded lectures on Blackboard within two days. Please wear your masks at all times in CEER 312.

Whenever possible, students should inform the instructor if they plan to be late or absent from class. In all cases, documentation is required to petition for *excused* absences to the Associate Dean for Student and Strategic Programs, Dr. Stephen Jones. The excused absence form is posted at: <https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/engineering/resources/undergraduates.html>.

Excused absences do not count towards a failure in the course for first year students. Absence from class does not release the student from assigned work. Students who miss an in-class obligation such as an exam, a presentation, etc., due to an excused absence will not be penalized - the instructor may offer a make-up test, arrange an alternative time for a presentation, exempt a student from the assignment, or provide another arrangement. In the case of illness or injury, the form must be submitted within 24 hours of missing a class. The University's list of excused absences for all students includes the following:

1. Participation in NCAA athletic competitions
2. Participation in special academic events such as: conferences, field trips, project competitions, etc., and in official university business such as student representatives attending meetings related to university governance
3. Attendance at significant events of the immediate family such as: funerals, weddings, etc.
4. Religious holidays - see the University's policy on Religious Holidays
5. College-approved participation in placement activities such as: job interviews, graduate school interviews, job fairs
6. Legally required absence such as: jury duty, court appearance, short-term military service
7. Documented serious illness or disability

## 12 Examination Policy

The College of Engineering has adopted the following general examination guidelines:

1. Students must arrive before the start of the examination. Under exceptional circumstances a student may need to arrive late, but he/she can enter the examination room no later than five (5) minutes after the start of the exam.
2. Cell phones must be turned off until the student exits the examination room.
3. The official Villanova class attendance policy must be followed when requesting excuses for absences or lateness to an examination.
4. Each student must write and sign the following statement, "I have neither given nor received any unauthorized assistance in the completion of this examination."
5. For online examinations, the instructor may implement video proctoring or other measures to ensure academic integrity. For consent purposes, the instructor will inform students in advance if (s)he plans to use any form of video-proctoring and whether the examination will be recorded.

### **13 Academic Integrity Policy**

The College of Engineering is committed to creating an environment of academic integrity and ethical decision-making that we hope is reflected in the actions of our students and graduates. As Villanova students, integrity is central to the University mission. As engineers, our code of conduct requires us to place honor and integrity at the forefront of everything we do. As engineering students, it is expected that you will begin to adopt these values and instill them into your work habits. Students violating the academic integrity policy will receive a zero on that assignment or exam and the violation will be reported to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. The University's academic integrity policy can be found on the following web page:

<https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/provost/resources/student/policies/integrity.html>.

### **14 Adherence to the Student Code of Conduct**

Students are expected to act in a professional and respectful manner to their fellow students, faculty, and staff. Students should become acquainted with and understand the responsibilities set forth in the Student Handbook, especially those in the sections on Policy and Regulations. Adherence to university regulations is expected and required for successful completion of the program of studies. Enforcement within the classroom of policies regarding classroom behavior is the responsibility of the faculty member. All other discipline problems are to be referred to the Dean of Students.

### **15 Online Expectations**

To foster a professional environment, please wear appropriate clothes, mute if you are not talking to cut down on background noise, refrain from eating, and select an appropriate setting when we are meeting online.

### **16 Inclusive Classroom**

This classroom is a place where you will be treated with respect; we welcome individuals of all ages, backgrounds, beliefs, ethnicities, gender, gender identities and expressions, sexual orientation, and other visible and non-visible differences. All members of this class are expected to contribute to a respectful, welcoming, and inclusive environment to allow all among us to learn and flourish.

## 17 Students with Disabilities

It is the policy of the university to make reasonable academic accommodations for qualified individuals with disabilities. If you are a person with a disability (non-physical) please register with the office of Learning Support Services (LSS) by emailing [Learning.support.services@villanova.edu](mailto:Learning.support.services@villanova.edu) or by phoning 610-519-5176 as soon as possible. Registration is *required* in order to receive accommodations.

The Office of Disability Services (ODS) collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive and sustainable. The ODS provides Villanova University students with physical disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact and register with Gregory Hannah, advisor to students with disabilities at 610-519-3209 or visit the office on the second floor of the Connelly Center.

## 18 Tutoring Services

Villanova's tutoring services include The Writing Center, The Learner's Studio, and The Center for Speaking and Presentation. These services are offered free of charge to students. Drop in as-needed or book a regular weekly session to supercharge your academic success. Sessions can be 30 or 60 minutes in length.

Register for an account and book sessions in advance at [villanova.mywconline.com](http://villanova.mywconline.com). If you don't see your class listed, request a tutor for a missing subject at: [tutorrequest.villanova.edu](http://tutorrequest.villanova.edu) For more information, contact Juliana Struder at [juliana.studer@villanova.edu](mailto:juliana.studer@villanova.edu) or at 610-519-5862.

## 19 Electronics Policy

The use of electronic devices, such as phones, laptops, tablets, calculators, etc., during class is generally allowed, unless their use causes a disturbance to others. During examinations, the use of any electronic device is prohibited, unless it is expressly authorized by the instructor.

Students are prohibited from making any audio or visual recordings (including taking photographs) of lectures, discussions, or other classroom activities, unless a student (1) has written permission in advance from the instructor, or (2) is permitted to record under terms and conditions as approved by the University's Office of Disability Services or Learning Support Services. Students who have received approval to record classes as an academic accommodation must provide supporting documentation from the Office of Disability Services or Learning Support Services in advance of any recording. Students may use authorized recordings only for the purposes of individual study in the course, and may not disseminate or share them with a wider audience without explicit permission.

## 20 Copyright Policy

The materials used in Villanova University courses ("Course Materials") generally represent the intellectual property of course instructors, third parties and/or the university which may not be disseminated or reproduced in any form for public distribution (e.g., sale, exchange, etc.) without the written permission of the course instructor. Course materials include all written or electronic documents and materials, including syllabi, current and past examination questions/answers, and presentations such as lectures, videos, slides, etc., provided by a course instructor. Course materials may only be used by students enrolled in the course for academic (course-related) purposes.

Published course readings (book chapters, articles, reports, etc.) available in “Blackboard” are copyrighted materials. These works are made available to students through licensed databases or fair use. They are protected by copyright law, and may not be further disseminated or reproduced in any form for distribution (e.g. uploading to websites, sale, exchange, etc.) without the permission of the copyright owner.

Follow these links for more information on [Intellectual Property](#), [Copyright](#), and [Computer Acceptable Use](#).

## 21 Professorial Duties

It is important to note that teaching is one of the many duties that professors perform as part of their job responsibilities. In addition to teaching, professors perform research, advise graduate students, edit journals and review journal articles, serve on committees for the university and professional societies, travel to conferences to remain abreast of current developments and to present their results... to name just a few commitments.