
PETERS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS: CYBER-SECURITY AND THE LAW

Course Overview and Essential Skills

Computers, the Internet, and mobile information technologies have become routine elements of our daily lives. The percentage of our social, professional, and political discourse mediated by information systems increases each year. Critical infrastructure likewise follows suit, with financial, healthcare, energy and other utilities leveraging the Internet to increase both capability and efficiency. In the physical world, we publish rules (laws) to govern our interactions with one another. In cyberspace, where these rules exist - and what they require - are less clear. This course explores questions surrounding how we "govern" cyberspace in the context of cybersecurity and privacy issues. We will examine a series of examples, both real-world and hypothetical, to investigate what policy "tools" are in-place, available, and *should be available* to address Internet security and privacy issues.

Course Textbook and Required Materials

- Computer (provided by school)
- Cyberlaw: The Law of the Internet and Information Technology
- Access to school technology digital storage

Course Outline of Materials Covered

Unit or Topic	Concepts/Skills/Resources	Timeframe
Cyberspace Law	<u>Background of course structure and information surrounding differences in cyberspace and reality</u>	2 weeks
<u>Copyright Law and Defenses</u>	<u>Copyright and trademark. Establishing grounds for defenses</u>	<u>1 week</u>
<u>Social Networking</u>	<u>Brief history of social networking.</u> <u>Burden of privacy within public networks.</u> <u>Evolving law and protections.</u>	<u>2 weeks</u>
<u>Virtual Communities</u>	<u>Future Shock, Third Wave, Powershift - Online in Theory (Toffler)</u> <u>Establishment of Virtual Worlds</u> <u>Crimes in and within the virtual world</u>	<u>1 week</u>
<u>Online Behavioral Advertising and Data Aggregation</u>	<u>Internet search queries</u> <u>Attempts to self-regulate</u> <u>Governmental regulations</u>	<u>1 week</u>
<u>Financial Network Security and Identity Theft</u>	<u>Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (189-190)</u> <u>Wire Fraud and Federal Wiretap Act (Title III)</u> <u>Identity Theft</u>	<u>1 week</u>
<u>Mobile Devices and Location Services</u>	<u>Mobile Device location services</u> <u>Power of smart phones and dumb people who use them</u>	<u>1 week</u>
<u>Content Aware Computing</u>	<u>Cookies, history, and targeting</u>	<u>1 week</u>
<u>Privacy and Security of Health Information</u>	<u>HIPAA</u> <u>HITECH</u> <u>Electronic Health Records (EHRs)</u> <u>Medical Identity theft</u>	<u>1 week</u>

<u>Critical Infrastructure Issues (Homeland Security)</u>	<u>Chemical Sector</u> <u>Commercial Facilities Sector</u> <u>Communications Sector</u> <u>Critical Manufacturing Sector</u> <u>Dams Sector</u> <u>Defense Industrial Base Sector</u> <u>Emergency Services Sector</u> <u>Energy Sector</u> <u>Financial Services Sector</u> <u>Food and Agriculture Sector</u> <u>Healthcare and Public Health Sector</u> <u>Information Technology Sector</u> <u>Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector</u> <u>Transportation Systems Sector</u> <u>Water and Wastewater Systems Sector</u> <u>Possibility of Voting</u>	<u>1 week</u>
<u>Cyber Investigations</u>	<u>Criminal vs Civil Investigations</u> <u>E-Discovery Issues</u> <u>Cyberbullying and Sexting</u> <u>CAN-SPAM Act</u> <u>Child Pornography Statutes</u> <u>Criminal Copyright Infringement and Digital Millennium Copyright Act</u>	<u>1 week</u>
<u>Electronic Privacy and Security in Employment</u>	<u>Constitutional right to Privacy (never explicitly stated, but...)</u> <u>Privacy Act of 1974 (Privacy Act)</u> <u>Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)</u> <u>Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act</u>	<u>1 week</u>
<u>Responsibilities of "Network Operators"</u>	<u>Network burdens on security and changing role of law</u>	<u>1 week</u>
<u>Trans-National Issues and Additional Topics</u>	<u>Issues that supersede US law</u>	<u>1 week</u>
<u>Current Events</u>	<u>Supplemental issues within current case law.</u>	<u>2 weeks</u>

**Depending on the needs of the class or changes in the school year, the course outline is subject to change.*