Department of Computer & Electrical Engineering
and Computer Science
Florida Atlantic University
Course Syllabus

1. Course title/number, number of credit hours	
Foundations of Cybersecurity CNT 4403/COT 5930	3 credit hours

2. Course prerequisites, corequisites, and where the course fits in the program of study	
Prerequisites: N/A	

3. Course logistics	
Term: Spring 2021 *Class location and time*: Live Lecture, Tuesdays and Thursdays: 09:30~10:50.	

4. Instructor contact information	
Instructor's name *Office address* *Office Hours* *Contact telephone number* *Email address*	Mehrdad Nojoumian EE96, Room 503A Tuesdays and Thursdays: 11:00 to 01:00. 561.297.3411 mnojoumian@fau.edu

5. TA contact information	
TA's name *Office address* *Office Hours* *Contact telephone number* *Email address*	N/A

6. Course description	
This is a course on foundations of cybersecurity. The following components are covered in the course: Overview of computer security concepts, cryptographic tools, user authentications, access control, malicious software, software security, operating system security, IT security management and risk assessment, legal and ethical aspects, wireless network security, and hot topics in cybersecurity.	

7. Course objectives/student learning outcomes/program outcomes	
Course objectives	Enable the students to learn fundamental concepts of computer security and cryptography and utilize these techniques in computing systems.
Student learning outcomes & relationship to ABET a-k objectives	CS-SO2: Design, implement, and evaluate a computing-based solution to meet a given set of computing requirements in the context of the program's discipline. CS-SO5: Function effectively as a member or leader of a team engaged in activities appropriate to the program's discipline. CS-SO6: Apply computer science theory and software development fundamentals to produce computing-based solutions.

8. Course evaluation method	

Subject to changes:		**Project:** students are supposed to select one of the following options: (a) Develop new models and protocols, (b) Improve existing cybersecurity systems, (c) Implement existing security systems, or (d) Prepare an essay on a hot cybersecurity topic.
Homework & Participation:	10%	
Presentation:	20%	
Final Project:	20%	
Exams:	50%	

9. Course grading scale

Grading Scale:
90 and above: "A", 87-89: "A-", 83-86: "B+", 80-82: "B", 77-79 : "B-", 73-76: "C+", 70-72: "C", 67-69: "C-", 63-66: "D+", 60-62: "D", 51-59: "D-", 50 and below: "F."

10. Policy on makeup tests, late work, and incompletes

All assignments are due at 11:59 pm on the due date. Late assignments will lose 10% of the total points for each day they are late and they will not be accepted after three days. However, appropriate accommodations will be made for students having a valid medical excuse. Makeup tests are given only if there is solid evidence of a medical or otherwise serious emergency that prevented the student of participating in the exam. Final exam will not have a makeup test under any circumstances. Unless there exists an evidence of medical or emergency situation, incomplete grades will not be given.

11. Special course requirements

Course Delivery Method: This course is delivered online and live through Cisco Webex, at the hours and days mentioned above. The students are expected to join the live class and participate at every scheduled class session. All course material and exams would be delivered through Canvas. The student must log into Canvas with their FAU ID and Password to access the materials/assignments in this course.

Exam Administration Method: All quizzes will be held using LockDown Browser and/or Respondus Monitor, or similar features, as determined by the instructor. The midterm and final exams would administered by HonorLocks. The details would be laid out by the instructor prior to the examination. The students must ensure to install the necessary software add-ons to their computers prior to the examination dates.

Technology Requirements: The students are required to have their own personal computers which must be equipped with speakers, microphones, and webcams. The students must have access to reliable broadband internet connection throughout the semester.

Course Assessments/Assignments and Grading Policy: All assignments, homework, projects, programs, quizzes, and exams in this course must be individual effort. All programming assignments are individual work, the best way to learn how to program is to write your own code. Sharing code is considered cheating. Sharing code includes posting completed work before the assignment official deadline onto sites, emailing code to other students, allowing any access to your work before the official deadline has passed. Other code sharing offenses include submitting another person's work as your own, this includes taking code off sites in the internet. Modifying code and submitting it as your own is a fraudulent practice—specifically, plagiarism— and is no different than copying paragraphs of information from a book or journal article and calling it your own. Make sure that you work independently and submit only your own code. We do have access to software that can easily detect plagiarism, and students would be given zero automatically.

Other Matters: Periodic quizzes would be administered throughout the semester to ensure that the

students are on track with the material. The quizzes would be taken on Canvas. Once the grades are published for any assignment, lab, exam or quiz, the students are given one week time to report to the instructor any concerns or questions regarding that grade. Discussion boards are a great way to communicate with the entire class, and answer course-related questions. All questions must be posted publicly through Canvas discussion boards, so other students also benefit from the answers. Only personal or confidential matters should be sent via email to the professor, all others will be ignored.

12. Classroom etiquette policy

Plagiarism is unacceptable in the University community. Academic work must be an original work of your own thought, research, or self-expression. When students borrow ideas, wording, or organization from another source, they must acknowledge that fact in an appropriate manner. Plagiarism is the deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without identifying the source and trying to pass off such work as one's own. Any student who fails to give full credit for ideas or materials taken from another has plagiarized. This includes all discussion board posts, journal entries, wikis, and other written and oral presentation assignments. If in doubt, cite your source.

Due to the casual communication common in the online environment, students are sometimes tempted to relax their grammar, spelling, and/or professionalism. Please remember that you are adult students and professionals—your communication should be appropriate. For more in-depth information, please see the FAU statement on netiquette.

Disruptive behavior is defined in the FAU Student Code of Conduct as "... activities which interfere with the educational mission within classroom." Students who disrupt the educational experiences of other students and/or the instructor's course objectives in a face-to-face or online course are subject to disciplinary action. Such behavior impedes students' ability to learn or an instructor's ability to teach. Disruptive behavior may include but is not limited to non-approved use of electronic devices (including cellular telephones); cursing or shouting at others in such a way as to be disruptive; or, other violations of an instructor's expectations for classroom conduct. For more information, please see the FAU Office of Student Conduct.

University policy requires that in order to enhance and maintain a productive atmosphere for education, personal communication devices, such as cellular phones and laptops, are to be disabled in class sessions.

13. Attendance policy statement

Since the course is online, you should access the course at regularly to ensure you do not miss pertinent postings, messages, or announcements. It is imperative that you meet course deadlines and stay active in discussion boards. If you are experiencing major illness, absences due to University duties, or other large-scale issues, contact the instructor immediately to formulate a resolution.

Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance.

Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities.

It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence.

14. Disability policy statement

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at www.fau.edu/sas/.

15. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center

Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to
http://www.fau.edu/counseling/

16. Code of Academic Integrity policy statement

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see University Regulation 4.001. If your college has particular policies relating to cheating and plagiarism, state so here or provide a link to the full policy—but be sure the college policy does not conflict with the University Regulation.

17. Required texts/reading
To reduce costs for our students, we strongly encourage you to explore the adoption of open educational resources (OER), textbooks and other materials that are freely accessible. We also encourage you to clearly state in the syllabus if course materials are available on reserve in the Library.

N/A

18. Supplementary/recommended readings

Computer Security: Principles and Practice (4th edition), Stallings and Brown, Pearson.
Security in Computing (5th edition), Pfleeger, Pfleeger and Margulies, Pearson.
Cryptography Theory and Practice (4th edition), Stinson, Chapman & Hall/CRC.
Introduction to Modern Cryptography (2nd edition), Katz and Lindell, Chapman & Hall/CRC.
Handbook of Applied Cryptography, Menezes, Oorschot, Vanstone, Chapman & Hall/CRC.

19. Course topical outline, including dates for exams/quizzes, papers, completion of reading

Subject to Changes: The following concepts and topics will be covered with different levels of emphasis. Some topics will be covered in-depth and some other topics will be reviewed briefly.

1. Overview of Computer Security Concepts

2. Cryptographic Tools

3. User Authentications

4. Access Control

5. Malicious Software

6. Software Security

7. Operating System Security

8. IT Security Management and Risk Assessment

9. Legal and Ethical Aspects

10. Wireless Network Security

In addition, bonus lectures on hot cybersecurity topics such as Blockchain and Digital Currencies, Automotive Attack Surfaces, Modern Cybersecurity Attacks, etc.