

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – CIS 166 Digital Forensics

Basic Course Information

Semester	Spring 2022	Instructor Name	Michael Carr
Course Title & #	CIS 166	Email	michael.carr@imperial.edu
CRN #	20784	Webpage (optional)	
Room	Online	Office	N/A
Class Dates	Scheduled Via Zoom	Office Hours	Scheduled Via Zoom
Class Days	Online	Office Phone Cell/Text Phone	760-332-8197
Class Times	Online		
Units	3 units		

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the methods used to properly conduct a computer forensics investigation beginning with a discussion of ethics, while mapping to the objectives of the International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists (IACIS) certification. Topics covered include an overview of computer forensics as a profession; the computer investigation process; understanding operating systems boot processes and disk structures; data acquisition and analysis; technical writing; and a review of familiar computer forensics tools. (CSU)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Apply digital forensics concepts to diagnose a computer system failure. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
2. Describe the general characteristics of a storage device. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
3. Conduct a computer investigation using proper digital evidence handling. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO 4).

Course Objectives

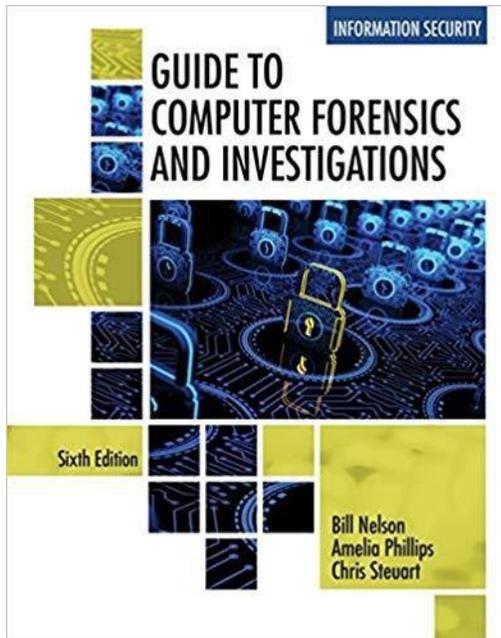
Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Define computer forensics.
2. Summarize how to prepare for a computer investigation.
3. Summarize the certification requirements for computer forensics labs.
4. Measure the different ways for proper data acquisition.
5. Classify the rules for proper digital evidence handling.
6. Analyze how data is stored and managed by an operating system.
7. Analyze various computer forensics tools.
8. Validate the evidence during the analysis process.
9. Identify and reconstruct graphics files.
10. Describe the importance of network forensics.
11. Analyze email investigations.

12. Generate a forensic report.
13. Describe guidelines for testifying in court.
14. Maintain a high level of ethical behavior in their work.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

- Bill Nelson, Amelia Phillips, Christopher Steuart. Guide to Computer Forensics and Investigations. 2018. Cengage Learning. ISBN: 978-1337568944.



Getting Started with Canvas

We will be using Canvas to conduct this class online. Canvas is an online course management system.

Logging into Canvas

- a. Go to <https://www.imperial.edu/students/canvas/> and follow the login instructions to login.
- b. Once logged in, click on the course OR click on 'Courses' on the left menu and click on 'All Courses' to view your courses. Find this course and click on it.
- c. Read the course syllabus.
- d. Read the document under Week 1 entitled "Week 1 Online Things to Do." This outlines exactly what you have to do and by when you have to do it for Week 1.
- e. Become familiar with the course by navigating the system and looking around.

Course Responsibilities

The online version of this course is not self-paced. There are strict weekly deadlines that need to be met. You will be given a list of weekly assignments that you will be responsible for. You can find these under the appropriate weekly heading (ie. Week 1 Things To Do).

Weeks will always begin on a Monday and end on the following Sunday. Assignments are typically due at 11:59pm. We will be following the Pacific Standard Time zone for this course.

Course Workflow

Every week you will have at least 4 assignments:

1. Reading Assignment: You will have to read chapter/s from our assigned book every week.
2. Discussion Assignment: Discussion assignments are how we will be interacting with one another in an online environment. There will be weekly question/s posed for you to answer. Your initial response to the question/s will count as your initial posting. Initial postings will always be due on the Thursday of the week. Your response to a classmate's initial response will count as a reply posting. Every week you will be responsible for an **Initial AND Reply** posting.
3. Test: You will be tested on the weekly readings and content covered throughout the course. These tests will consist of multiple choice questions.
4. Activity Assignment: You will have an assignment to do each week. This will be an assignment in the form of an activity, essay, project, research paper, etc.

Course Navigation

Every week, the best place to visit first is the modules section. There will be weekly modules marked for the appropriate week. Each module will have a detailed 'Things To Do' document. This document will include all the assignments, deadlines, and resources required for the week.

Contacting the Instructor

Here are a few ways to contact me if you have any questions:

1. **Text me @ 760.332.8197**. Include your name and class. This is the fastest way to get a hold of me. =)
2. **Email me** at michael.carr@imperial.edu. Include your name and class as the subject. This is the 2nd fastest way to get a hold of me.
3. Post your questions under **Discussions > Ask the Instructor**. This is a great way to post your questions and it allows your classmates to see my response.

I will typically respond to the above methods of contact within 15 hours. I usually respond within 1 hour unless it is late into the night.

Prerequisite Knowledge, Technical Skills, Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

- Prerequisite knowledge: No prerequisite knowledge is needed to complete this course.
- Technical Skills: If you're comfortable with a computer and surfing the web, you will do just fine in this course. Remember, I am here to help!
- Instructional Materials:
 - A USB thumb drive is recommended for this course (At least 8GB). It will be used to store and backup your assignments.
 - Access to a computer with Internet connectivity is essential.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Assignments 50%

Discussions 20%

Final Project 30 %

**Grade breakdown is subject to change*

Points

- 90-100 A
- 89-80 B
- 79-70 C
- 69-60 D
- 59 – 0 F

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

Online Netiquette

- Grammar: Use proper grammar and college level writing in all class interactions.
- Linked Content: All content linked within the course should be 'safe for work' and appropriate.
- Debate vs Flaming: Debates are encouraged within the discussion forums. People are entitled to their opinions and a difference of opinions are welcomed. Debate the point using facts and researched credible content. Do not use offensive language and/or personal attacks towards other students.
- Respect: Respect one another.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Academic Honesty

- Plagiarism is to take and present as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to correctly 'cite a source', you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials, or assisting others in using materials, which are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question. Anyone caught cheating will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary

action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to the following:

- plagiarism
- copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment;
- communicating test information with another person during an examination;
- allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment
- use of a commercial term paper service

Institutional Policies

- Standards of Student Conduct: Information can be found here: <https://www.imperial.edu/students/student-affairs/standards-of-student-conduct/>

Additional Help – Discretionary Section and Language

- Canvas Support: Can be [found online](#) and/or at the Canvas Hotline: (877)893-9853
- Learning Labs: There are several ‘labs’ on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Learning Services (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program
- Library Services: There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the learning center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6312 if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at <https://www.imperial.edu/students/student-guides/>

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to help students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Speak with our library to learn more about information literacy. <https://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/>

Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Due
Week 1	Syllabus & Introduction	2/21/2022
Week 2	Module 1 Assignments	2/27/2022
Week 3 & 4	Module 2 Assignments	3/13/2022

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Week 5 & 6	Module 3 Assignments	3/27/2022
Week 6 & 7	Module 4 Assignments	4/3/2022
Week 8 & 9	Module 5 Assignments	4/17/2022
Spring Break	No Assignments Due	4/24/2022
Week 10 & 11	Module 6 Assignments	5/8/2022
Week 12 & 13	Module 7 Assignments	5/22/2022
Week 14 & 15	Module 8 Assignments	6/5/2022
Week 16	Finals	6/10/2022

For detailed weekly assignments, check the weekly 'Things To Do' document located in the Modules section of the course.

**Workflow is subject to change.*