

## **PUBP/CS 6725 Syllabus**

Information Security Policies and Strategies,

Sections: MM, A

3 credits

Fall 2026

### **Instructor Information**

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**Instructor: Dr Milton L Mueller**

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### **General Course Information**

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#### **Description**

This course introduces students to the policy and management aspects of cybersecurity. It is based on the idea that cybersecurity policy problems can be sorted into three different levels of social organization: the organizational level, the national level, and the transnational level. The course is divided into four modules. The first module exposes students to basic concepts and definitions regarding policy, governance, and threats. The second module deals with cybersecurity policy at the organizational level; the third module deals with cybersecurity public policy at the national level; the fourth module deals with cyber conflict, policy and diplomacy at the transnational level. Student deliverables include small group projects as well as individually completed quizzes, discussions, and a final term paper. This is a required core course for all tracks in the MS Cybersecurity degree program.

#### **Course Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Recognize the different governance structures used to promote cybersecurity
2. Identify key cybersecurity policy frameworks and standards
3. Write a cybersecurity policy for an organization
4. Analyze and assess the effects of existing and proposed cybersecurity laws and regulations

5. Propose actions or strategies that respond to the geopolitical dimension of cyber conflict
6. Recognize the intersections of cybersecurity governance with the governance, standards, and operations of the Internet

### **Required Course Materials**

This class will use Canvas to deliver course materials to online students and Ed Discuss for out of classroom messages and questions. Due to the dynamic nature of our subject matter, no single book exists that meets all course requirements. Each topical area has one or two required readings, which are listed in the course schedule under the “Readings” column. All required readings are available as pdfs or via the Georgia Tech library. Doing the readings is very important and forms a significant portion of your grade by means of quizzes that assess your comprehension of the readings. Additional recommended or supplemental materials may be posted in the Canvas site in response to relevant ongoing events in cybersecurity.

### **Grading Policy:**

There are four assignments and four quizzes. Grading of assignments is not “curved;” students will be graded based on how well they have met the requirements of the assignment and accomplished specific learning objectives. Except for quizzes, most assignments will have a rubric associated with them so that students can see what criteria are used for grading and what weight is given to them.

### *Assignments*

- Assignment #1 Develop a phishing email (group) 15%
- Quiz on Module 1 (7%)
- Assignment #2 Develop an organizational policy (group) 15%
- Quiz on Module 2 (7%)
- Assignment #3 Debate and vote on proposed legislation (Individual) 15%
- Quiz on Module 3 (7%)
- Assignment #4 Write a final paper (individual) 20%
- Quiz on Module 4 (7%)

### **Description of Graded Components**

The first two assignments are group projects; students are assigned to groups by the instructor and all group members receive the same grade. The third and fourth assignments are individual projects. Near the end of each course module, students take a quiz that covers the material in the lectures and readings.

## Course Policies

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### **Attendance and/or Participation**

Attendance is expected and graded. It accounts for 7% of the grade. Attendance scores are binary – either you are present within 15 minutes of class start or not; no advance notice or explanations are required or considered. For students who miss a class, slide sets are available and asking colleagues for notes is recommended.

### **Academic Integrity**

Georgia Tech aims to cultivate a community based on trust, academic integrity, and honor. Students are expected to act according to the highest ethical standards. Review [Georgia Tech's Honor Code](#) and the student [Code of Conduct](#).

Any student suspected of cheating or plagiarism on a quiz, exam, or assignment will be reported to the Office of Student Integrity, who will investigate the incident and identify the appropriate penalty for violations.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, [contact the Office of Disability Services](#) (404-894-2563) as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in order to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

### **Student-Faculty Expectations Agreement**

At Georgia Tech, we believe that it is important to strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgement, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. [The Student-Faculty Expectations](#) articulate some basic expectations that you can have of me and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. Therefore, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech while in this class.

### **Use of Generative AI**

Generative AI tools can be used to locate data about cybersecurity incidents, government laws and regulations, or to summarize facts and data used for papers. Students should cite the tool and prompts used in footnotes or appendices. Students are strongly encouraged not to use gen AI to avoid formulating their thoughts. Instructors and TAs can run tests to assess how much reliance on AI tools a paper had.

### **Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams**

3% per day is deducted for late assignments. Most assignments and quizzes are available for a week or more before they are due, so short illnesses or “approved Institute activities” (e.g., field trips, career fairs and athletic events) are not considered exemptions from assignment deadlines. Plan ahead and get assignments in on time if you plan to attend these events. Notify the instructor **only** in the case of long-term illnesses, deaths in the family or other unexpected events that will lead to an absence of **4 or more days**, and suitable adjustments will be made.

### **Additional Course Policies**

- *No Food in the classroom*
- *No recording of class activities*

## **Campus Resources for Students**

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### **Graduate Student Academic and Professional Success Resources:**

A list of resources for graduate students is given on the [Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Education](#) website. Specific information for [current graduate students](#) includes

- [Academic Resources](#) such as the Communications Center, Language Institute, Library, Catalog, Registrar, resources for conducting research, Advocacy and Conflict Resolution resources, and how to manage unexpected situations that may impact your academic performance.
- [Student Resources](#) such as Campus Services, Child Care/Family programs, Health & Wellness, Career Services, and the Student Resource Guide; and
- [Professional Development](#) such as the programming from the Career Center and other professional development resources and events”