

Fall 2020 CIS 3362 Homework #7: Your Choice!!!
Check WebCourses for the due date

For this assignment, instead of solving problems, I will let you investigate something cryptography related and write a short, researched paper on it. Please limit what you do to one of these categories:

1) Investigate a cryptographic protocol that we did not cover in class. It doesn't have to be one that is currently used, but one that was used for at least some period of time and thought to be secure. Clearly delineate the following about your protocol:

- a. When it was created.
- b. Whether it is private key or public key.
- c. Exactly how it works. (So this part will probably have equations of some sort)
- d. Its perceived strengths at the time.
- e. Its perceived weaknesses of the time.
- f. Any relevant historical context.

You can do something from classical times through modern times.

2) Research a story in history related to cryptography that I didn't tell in class and recount that story in a summary paper. If you choose this prompt, there's no need to mathematically explain the cipher in question, rather focus on the history and give analogies to intuitively describe the cipher. (If it's easy enough, you can still mathematically describe any relevant ciphers.)

3) Research a relatively recent hacking story and write a summary of what happened and how the hack occurred (to the best of our knowledge). Some of these are difficult to get good information on, so what you choose is limited by the reasonably validated information out there.

Paper Requirements

Paper very clearly fits into one of the prompts

Minimum Word Count: 1200

Minimum Number of Sources: 3 (Listed at the end of the paper)

List a Title for your paper at the top of the first page, as well as your name (top right corner).

No Plagiarism

Grading Guidelines

Grades will be based on the following components:

Plagiarism (any indication of this will yield a grade of 0)

Grader's perception of how clearly the paper fits into one of the three prompts.

A proper listing of sources (use any standardized format)

Listing the word count at the end of the paper.

Turning in a .doc or .docx file. (No other file types will be accepted. Note: Google Docs has a save as .docx feature.)

Proper grammar

Writing style and writing level appropriate for a research paper

Accuracy of the content

Depth of the content for the prescribed word length

What To Submit: A single .doc or .docx file with your paper.