

# Course Syllabus

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## Course Prefix, Number, and Title:

CSC 388 Computer Forensics

## Credits:

3

## University Name:

Dakota State University

## Academic Term/Year:

Spring 2020

## Course Meeting Time and Location:

T/TH 11:00 – 12:15

## Instructor Information:

### Name:

Dr. Ashley Podhradsky

### Office:

East Hall 333

### Phone Number(s):

605-256-5821

### Email Address:

Ashley.podhradsky@dsu.edu

### Office Hours:

By Appointment: T/TH 8:00-9:30 and 1:00-3:00

## Approved Course Description:

### Catalog Description:

This course introduces students to the foundations of public and private computer forensic investigations. Forensic tools will be used to demonstrate the steps of a complete forensic investigation of an NTFS system. Prerequisite(s): CSC 105 and CSC 130 or CSC 150

## Additional Course Information:

You must have a system capable of accessing our VMs, and a windows-based system to install other applications locally.

## Prerequisites:

### Course Prerequisite(s):

CSC 105 and CIS 130 or CSC 150

### Technology Skills:

Windows administration, networking, hardware, registry and software

## Course Materials:

### Required Textbook(s):

Guide to Computer Forensics and Investigations, 6th edition

ISBN13: 9781337568944

ISBN10: 1337568945

### Required Supplementary Materials:

none

### Optional Materials:

none

## Student Support:

### DSU Knowledge Base:

The DSU Knowledge Base contains links and resources to help students by providing information about the following topics: User Accounts & Passwords, Academic Tools & Resources, Software & Apps Support, WiFi & Network Access, Campus Emergency Alert System, Campus Printing, IT Security & Safe Computing, and the Support Desk (which is there to help both on and off-campus students). The Knowledge Base can be accessed through the link below:

- [DSU Knowledge Base](#)

### D2L Support for Students:

The D2L Support for Students site is designed to provide DSU students a D2L support resource center that contains user guides, tutorials, and tips for using the D2L learning environment. The D2L Support for Students site can be accessed through the link below:

- [DSU D2L Support Resources for Students](#)

## Course Delivery and Instructional Methods:

Online lectures posted weekly

Hands on labs

Group projects

## Classroom Policies:

### Attendance and Make-up Policy:

Attendance is mandatory. Attendance is considered watching videos and participating in online activities, along with attending class for on-campus students.

- Late Work (Missed Assignments):
  - **No late work will be accepted. No late work will be accepted. No late work will be accepted.**

- All work must be turned in by the due date.
  - If, due to circumstances beyond your control, you are unable to complete the labs you will have the option of completing a “make-up” paper for points. Paper will be a minimum of 3 pages (not counting reference page), single spaced, with no less than 3 academic references. Paper topic will be chosen by the instructor. Paper will be graded for quality and completeness.
  - Make-up papers must be arranged within one week of missed assignment
- There will be no make-up tests unless PREVIOUSLY arranged with the instructor.

### **ADA Statement:**

If you have a documented disability and/or anticipate needing accommodations (e.g., non-standard note taking, extended time on exams or a quiet space for taking exams) in this course, please contact the instructor. Also, please contact Dakota State University’s Disabilities Office by calling 605-256-5121 or emailing [Success.Center@dsu.edu](mailto:Success.Center@dsu.edu) as soon as possible. The DSU website contains additional information and the form to request accommodations found at <https://portal.sdbor.edu/dsu-student/student-resources/disability-services/Pages/default.aspx/>. (Students must log into the DSU portal to access this page.) You will need to provide documentation of your disability. The Disabilities Office must confirm the need for accommodations before officially authorizing them.

### **Academic Honesty Statement:**

Cheating and other forms of academic dishonesty run contrary to the purpose of higher education and will not be tolerated in this course. Please be advised that, when the instructor suspects plagiarism, the Internet and other standard means of plagiarism detection will be used to resolve the instructor’s concerns. The South Dakota Board of Regents Student Academic Misconduct Policy can be found here: [SDBOR Policy 2.33](#).

All forms of academic dishonesty will result in reporting

All forms of academic dishonesty will result in an F for the course, notification of the Dean of Student Affairs and the University Disciplinary Board. Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to) plagiarism, copying answers or work done by others and use of notes or other aids during quizzes and exams.

- Further, using other peoples work, in any way, and not citing it is a violation
- It is never acceptable to copy and paste other peoples’ work, even if you cite it
- Your work, MUST be YOUR work
- Attempting to hire other people to do your work is academic dishonesty
- If you do not want to do the work, do not take the course
- Every assignment, lab, DB, exam, quiz, ect will be analyzed for originality
- Cheating and not getting caught, is not a reason to cheat again
  - Every instance of cheating is cheating, regardless if you were “caught”

### **Communication and Feedback:**

#### **Preferred Email Contact Method:**

Only use [ashley.podhradsky@dsu.edu](mailto:ashley.podhradsky@dsu.edu). Do NOT use D2L mail- I do not check it

#### **Email Response Time:**

Expect a response within 24 hours, longer over weekends and holidays

## Feedback on Assignments:

You can expect summative feedback within 3 days of turning in a lab

## Requirements for Course Interaction:

You will participate in weekly discussion boards with your classmates and professor. This gives the students an opportunity to learn from each other. Ensure you are active (3+ posts) and respectful to your fellow students. While most of the class is asynchronous communication (videos) we will have a synchronous session at week 5 and 10. This will give you the chance to talk with the professor about any questions before your midterm and final.

## Student Learning Outcomes:

- Understand Operating System (NTFS) Forensics
- Learn RAM (Memory) Acquisition
- Understand RAM (Memory) Analysis
- Learn about Mobile Device Forensics
- Understand Email Investigations through Header Analysis
- Understand Windows Registry Forensics
- Learn Report Writing and Oral Testimony

## Evaluation Procedures:

### Assessments:

Weekly discussion boards

Labs

Midterm (proctored)

Final Project

Final exam (proctored)

### Final Examination:

Lab or essay based exam the last week of the course

## Performance Standards and Grading Policy:

- 90% - 100% . . . . . "A"
- 80 - 89.9% . . . . . "B"
- 70 - 79.9% . . . . . "C"
- 60 - 69.9% . . . . . "D"
- Less than 60% . . . . . "F"

## Student Verification Statement and Proctoring Policy:

Federal law requires that universities verify the identity of students when course materials and/or course assessment activities are conducted either partially or entirely online. A student's Desire2Learn (D2L) login and password are intended to provide the student with secure access to course materials and are also intended to help the university meet this federal mandate. Some DSU Faculty also require the use of a proctor for exams in distance-delivered (Internet) courses and this requirement provides a second level of student identity verification. Students

are responsible for any proctoring fees, if applicable. Finally, an instructor who uses web conferencing technology may require students to use a webcam during exams, as another means of student identity verification through voice and visual recognition.

### Tips for Success:

As your professor, I want to see you succeed in this course, your program and in life. Here are a few tips I have based on 10+ years in academia

1. Show up
2. When you “forget” to submit a lab, and want an exception, have the work completed before you ask for me to accept it
3. There are times that I am absent for university travel, but the course continues, do not skip the class
4. I give you 2 weeks to complete a lab. In most situations, the lab can be completed in a day or two, don’t procrastinate
5. Technology is great, but sometimes it fails us. Don’t rely on the IA lab being available every Sunday evening
6. All labs are due Friday at noon. Noon, not midnight, CST. There will not be an exception to this
7. Extra credit isn’t granted in my courses. Instead, focus on working hard from the start to ensure you do not need the extra credit
8. Finals week is never the right time to talk about your grade from week one
9. Be kind, we are all in this together and need to respect each other
10. If you need help, ask for it

### Tentative Course Outline and Schedule:

Week	Topics, Assignments, Quizzes, Tests, Deadlines
1	Welcome and Chapter 1
2	Chapter 3, Imaging Lab
3	Chapter 5, Chapter 6, Registry Forensics, FTK Lab One
4	Chapter 9, Mantooth Lab
5	Mantooth
6	Mantooth Lab

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topics, Assignments, Quizzes, Tests, Deadlines</b>
7	Midterm-Proctored
8	Chapter 11, Email forensics lab
9	Ch 12- Mobile Lab
10	Chapter 15 and 16- Expert Testimony and Ethics
11	Current events topic
12	Final Project Introduction
13	Final Project
14	Final Project/Final Presentations
15	Final Presentations (Ashley gone 29 <sup>th</sup> )
Final	Final Exam

## My travel

I have several trips that take me away from campus to conduct university business. When I am gone, there will be either a lab to work on, a recorded lecture and/or my assistant will be available. I will also be available on email.

## Important Dates

<https://catalog.dsu.edu/content.php?catoid=29&navoid=1399#spring-2020-calendar>

### Academic Calendar

Jan. 11 (Sat)	8:00 a.m. Residence halls open for all students
Jan. 13 (Mon)	8:00 a.m. Classes begin
Jan. 20 (Mon)	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - no classes
Jan. 22 (Wed)	CENSUS DAY Last day to register for any spring class to determine financial aid eligibility Last day to add a full semester class; Last day to drop a full semester class and receive 100% refund
Jan. 23 (Thurs)	Tuition and fees - deadline for payment or payment plan to avoid cancellation of registration and late fee assessment
Jan. 31 (Fri)	Last day to apply for Spring 2020 and Summer 2020 graduation
Feb. 17 (Mon)	President's Day - no classes
Mar. 6 (Fri)	Last day of first half semester classes
Mar. 7-15 (Sat-Sun)	Spring Break; Residence Halls close at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 6 and reopen 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 15
Mar. 18 (Wed)	Mid-term deficient grades due
Mar. 23-April 9 (Mon-Thur)	Tentative - Continuing student pre-registration for Fall and Summer 2020 and Spring 2021
Mar. 25 (Wed)	Last day a student can withdraw from the university (all courses) and be eligible for a partial refund of university charges based on federal regulations and Board of Regents policy
April 6 (Mon)	Last day to withdraw from a full semester class or withdraw from the University entirely with no refund of University charges.
April 10-12 (Fri-Sun)	Easter Holiday - Please note Easter holiday begins 5:00 p.m. on April 9
April 13 (Mon)	Classes resume
May 4-8 (Mon-Fri)	Final examination period
May 8 (Fri)	Semester ends; Residence Halls closes - 3:00 p.m.
May 9 (Sat)	Masters Hooding Ceremony 9:00 a.m.; Commencement Ceremony 10:30 a.m.
May 13 (Wed)	Final grades due

I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus as needed.