



Course Syllabus

Course Information

<i>Course Number/Section</i>	ITSS 4362.001 / CYBR 4362.001
<i>Course Title</i>	Cybersecurity Governance
<i>Term</i>	Fall 2025
<i>Location</i>	SCI 3.250
<i>Schedule</i>	Mondays 4:00pm – 6:45pm

Professor Contact Information

<i>Professor</i>	Brian Wrozek
<i>Office Phone</i>	214-797-2007
<i>Email Address</i>	brian.wrozek@utdallas.edu
<i>Office Location</i>	Virtual meetings or in person, on campus meetings at a mutually agreed upon, convenient location, as needed
<i>Office Hours</i>	Available upon request
<i>Teaching Assistant</i>	Vishwa Rakesh Kotecha (vishwarakesh.kotecha@utdallas.edu)

Note: Individual office hours will be available for any enrolled student seeking to discuss class material and/or general advice related to success in the academic program and/or career planning. Office hours will be coordinated to fit the schedule of both parties with reasonable efforts made to accommodate student preferences. Please initiate a request for office hours by emailing Teaching Assistant Kotecha or Professor Wrozek.

Instructional Mode / Classroom Etiquette

It is expected that you will always attend in-person if you are healthy and able to do so safely. The instructor will not record lectures. There are no asynchronous options.

Assessments, such as quizzes and exams, may be administered in-person via paper or electronically via eLearning, at the discretion of the instructor. When students have a scheduling conflict or illness, they should coordinate directly with the instructor to understand whether alternate arrangements are available. Please contact the instructor before missing a class if possible. Students will need to give the class several hours of attention each week to keep up with the material.

Attendance will be measured and factored into the overall semester grade. A doctor's note provided to the instructor will be considered as an excused absence. Please coordinate with the instructor to ensure that planned absences are explained in advance so classwork can be accomplished if classroom time is missed. Absences may or may not be excused, at the discretion of the instructor, and alternative in-class assignments will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Attendance in class may be measured using a variety of methods. These include, but are not limited to, paper sign-in sheets or completed in-class assignments.

Course Platform

The preferred collaboration methods will be those provided by UTD, including eLearning (Blackboard) and Microsoft 365 applications. Additional tools such as videos, podcasts, web links, and supplemental materials like PDF papers may also be used by the instructor.

Expectations

Students should understand the syllabus, overall course structure, and deliverables. Students should manage their time appropriately and take initiative to seek clarification when they do not understand the materials or instructions.

All materials provided in the class are intended only for the benefit of those registered to attend the course. Copying and distributing the materials, including videos, slides, assignments, examinations, without written permission from the instructor is a violation of intellectual property rights and may lead to disciplinary action.

To enhance the learning experience, guest speakers and in-class demonstrations of security assessment tools and techniques may be used to reinforce lecture topics. Students must limit their use of security tools to the specific instructions provided in class. Students may not cause disruptive conditions for users of the UTD network environment by running security tools.

Specific product names and vendors will be discussed while studying the information security profession. No specific endorsement of these products or vendors is intended, and inclusion of product names and vendors in discussion is for education purposes only.

COVID-19 Guidelines and Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University's COVID-19 resources for students and instructors of record. Please see <https://utdallas.edu/covid/>.

Class Participation

Regular class participation is expected regardless of course modality. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of your final grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class. Participation includes engaging in groups or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures (and/or labs). Online discussion boards may be used as a method of collaboration and demonstration of participation. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Class Recordings

The instructor may record select meetings of this course, but students should not rely on potential recordings to replace in-class attendance. Recordings may be made available to students registered for this class at the discretion of the instructor, for the purpose of supplementing the classroom experience. Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures and other course materials. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Class Materials

The instructor will provide class materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course. These materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class, or uploaded to other online environments, except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

ITSS 4360 / CYBR 4360

Course Description

Students will gain a better understanding of the importance of Cybersecurity Governance, Risk, and Compliance. This course will cover governance methodologies, audits relating to information security, internal and external information security policy, standards, and baselines, as well as compliance driven by laws, policy rules and regulations. The course will also focus on developing an understanding of the vital role that Information and Cyber Security play in achieving and supporting the overall objectives of an organization.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Students who complete this course will have a greater understanding of the roles and responsibilities of governance, risk, and compliance cybersecurity professionals. Students will have a greater appreciation of security controls, will learn common vocabulary to help them communicate effectively, will increase their professional marketability, and will develop skills necessary to be a successful cybersecurity professional.

We will strive to achieve the following learning outcomes for all students:

- Understand the importance of Governance, Risk, and Compliance duties in relation to an overall cybersecurity strategy and in enabling organizational goals.
- Apply industry frameworks and best practices to build, run, and articulate the benefits of an effective Cybersecurity GRC program.
- Leverage a variety of security controls like policies, playbooks, and awareness efforts to support the Cybersecurity program.
- Conduct various audits and assessments such as risk, compliance, and third-party vendor reviews using real world scenarios, tools, and processes.
- Understand qualitative and quantitative risk management concepts including mitigation strategies.
- Facilitate regulatory, contractual and policy compliance efforts and other activities to reduce business risk using proven GRC efforts.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Students will not be required to purchase a textbook. Instead, we will use a mix of presentations, videos, readings, web links, exercises, and homework assessments to cover a broad variety of topics in a short amount of time. Guest presenters may join the class at various times, based on their availability. Each student's commitment to participation, watching assigned videos, and reading assigned materials is critical to successful completion of the course.

Technical Requirements

In addition to a confident level of computer and Internet literacy, certain minimum technical requirements must be met to enable a successful learning experience. Please review the important technical requirements on the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage.

Course Access and Navigation

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the [eLearning](#) website.

Please see the course access and navigation section of the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The [eLearning Support Center](#) includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service, and an online chat service.

Communication

This course utilizes online tools for interaction and communication. External communication tools such as regular email and web conferencing tools will be used during the semester. For more details, please visit the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage for video demonstrations on eLearning tools.

Student emails and discussion board messages will be answered within two (2) working days under normal circumstances.

Distance Learning Student Resources

Online students have access to resources including the McDermott Library, Academic Advising, The Office of Student AccessAbility, and others. Please see the [eLearning Current Students](#) webpage for more information.

Service Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

The University is committed to providing a reliable learning management system to all users. In the event of any unexpected service outage or other technical difficulty that prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will provide appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the online [eLearning Help Desk](#). The instructor and the eLearning Help Desk will work with the students to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Media / Films

Media and films shared in the class are for educational purposes, in the interest of learning and the public good. The Copyright Act 17 U.S. §110(1) (face to face teaching exemption) allows for the performance or display of video or film in a classroom where instruction takes place with enrolled students and related to the curricular goals of the course.

Content may contain language or topics that viewers might find offensive – intended for adults only who are enrolled in the course. All content and claims are the responsibility of the filmmakers. No copy or distribution allowed.

Academic Calendar

CLASS DATES	CONTENT TOPICS	ASSINGMENTS ACTIVITIES
Week 01 08/25-08/31	• Syllabus • Foundations and principles • Zero Trust philosophy • Data classification and PII	• Read Zero Trust publication • Participate in E-learning Discussion Thread • In-class: creating a data classification scheme
Week 02 09/01-09/07	NO CLASS	HOLIDAY
Week 03 09/08-09/14	• Organizational structure • Roles and responsibilities • Technical and soft skills	• Quiz I over weeks 01,03: Due 09/14 • Read NICE publication • Homework Assignment I: Due 09/21
Week 04 09/15-09/21	• Policies and procedures • Playbooks and runbooks • Awareness and training	• Read UTDBP3096 InfoSec Policy publication • Homework Assignment I: Due 09/21 • In-class: drafting a playbook
Week 05 09/22-09/28	• Auditing • Types of controls • 3-lines of defense model	• Quiz II over weeks 04,05: due 09/28 • Read Auditing publication • Homework Assignment II: Due 10/05
Week 06 09/29-10/05	• Frameworks • Threat modeling • NIST CSF, Cyber Kill Chain	• Read NIST publication • Homework Assignment II: Due 10/05 • In-class: modeling a threat with the kill chain
Week 07 10/06-10/12	• Regulatory compliance • Contractual requirements • HIPAA, PCI	• Read Regulatory publication • In-class: reviewing contract language
Week 08 10/13-10/19	• Midterm Exam In-Class	• Midterm Exam over weeks 1-7: Due 10/13

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CLASS DATES	CONTENT TOPICS	ASSINGMENTS ACTIVITIES
Week 09 10/20-10/26	• Risk management concepts • Qualitative vs quantitative • Threats and vulnerabilities	• Read Vulnerability publication • Participate in E-learning Discussion Thread
Week 10 10/27-11/02	• Risk assessments • Risk equation • Likelihood vs impact	• Quiz III over weeks 09,10: Due 11/02 • Read Risk publication • Homework Assignment III: Due 11/09 • In-class: conducting a risk assessment
Week 11 11/03-11/09	• Third-party risk management • Supplier assessments • Vendor questionnaires	• Read Assessment publication • Homework Assignment III: Due 11/09 • In-class: walking through a questionnaire
Week 12 11/10-11/16	• Conducting other assessments • SOC-2 reports • Intelligence feeds	• Quiz IV over weeks 11,12: Due 11/16 • Read Intelligence publication • Homework Assignment IV: Due 11/23 • In-class: reviewing a security assessment
Week 13 11/17-11/23	• Mitigation strategies • Risk register • Cyber insurance	• Read Threat publication • Homework Assignment IV: Due 11/23 • In-class: creating a risk register
Week 14 11/24-11/30	NO CLASS	HOLIDAY
Week 15 12/01-12/07	• Privacy and physical security • Cloud and AI implications • GRC tools and platforms • Industry associations • Career advice	• Read Physical Security publication
Week 16 12/08-12/09	• Final Exam In-Class	• Final Exam over weeks 9-15: Due 12/08
After Finals		• Complete course feedback and evaluation • Celebrate

Grading Policy

Grading will be performed in a manner consistent with rules and policies in effect at UT Dallas. Letter grades will be determined according to the following percentages. In the event of fractions, grades ending between .1 and .4 will be rounded down, whereas between .5 and .9 will be rounded up.

Letter Grade	Percentile Grade
A+	97% to 100%
A	93% to 96%
A-	90% to 92%
B+	87% to 89%
B	83% to 86%
B-	80% to 82%
C+	77% to 79%
C	73% to 76%
C-	70% to 72%
D+	67% to 69%
D	63% to 66%
D-	60% to 62%
F	59% and below

A grading system will be used to promote commitment to learning the material, create accountability, and assist students with time management. Grades will be calculated according to the following weights.

Weight	Topic
40%	Exams (2)
30%	Homework Assignments (4)
20%	Quizzes (4)
10%	Attendance & Participation

Quizzes & Exams must be taken individually. Students must not collaborate on quizzes and/or exams and must not copy, photograph, or distribute quizzes and/or exam content. The scheduled period for the quiz or exam will be communicated in advance and once a quiz or exam is started, it will be constrained by limited time. Students are encouraged to prepare for quizzes and exams to allow all questions to be completed within the allotted time. The quizzes and exams will include multiple-choice, true/false, and short answer questions.

Students are informed that online tools such as eLearning capture identifying information, such as network IP addresses. The IP address associated with quizzes, exams, or other deliverables may be reviewed in the interest of identifying unauthorized collaboration and/or to maintain academic integrity. Any indications of dishonest or unethical collaboration on assignments designed to be taken individually will be considered a failure to comply with University requirements and a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Any indications of copying information and representing it as the original work of the student, including copying from books or Internet content, or using generative artificial intelligence tools such as Microsoft Copilot or ChatGPT, will be considered a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. When tools such as Microsoft Copilot or ChatGPT are to be used in class, this will be explicitly explained with the assignment and must be cited as a source. Always cite sources and indicate with whom you collaborated. There is no room for dishonesty, plagiarism, or/or cheating. Properly citing sources and collaborators will help students avoid these pitfalls.

Collaborative teams may be assigned to work on group homework and/or projects. Assignment of teams will be determined by the instructor, and grading of team assignments will be assigned equally to all members of the team.

Course Policies

Quizzes and Exams

Students who do not complete the assigned quizzes and exams within the scheduled timeframe will receive a zero (0) unless an alternative schedule is coordinated with, and approved by, the instructor ideally before the scheduled timeframe has elapsed. The privilege of allowing and scheduling an alternative time is at the discretion of the instructor. Students are allowed to use their notes and other course materials when taking a quiz. Students are prohibited from using notes, course materials and the Internet when taking an exam.

Homework Assignments

Homework assignments must be submitted on time to receive full credit. Specific details of each homework assignment will be provided by the instructor. Homework is to be submitted electronically using approved UTD systems and must be received by 11:59pm Central Time on the assigned due date. Late homework will be scored a zero (0) unless an alternative schedule is coordinated with, and approved by, the instructor ideally before the scheduled timeframe has elapsed. The privilege of allowing and scheduling an alternative time is at the discretion of the instructor. No makeup assignments will be granted.

Class Participation

All students are expected to engage in collaborative discussions and activities if reasonably feasible, including email threads, online discussion boards, team meetings, class activities, and live presentations. Each student's final semester grade may be impacted by their participation, or lack thereof.

Extra Credit

Opportunities for extra credit will not be considered out of fairness to all students.

Classroom Citizenship

The instructor, guests, and students come together to learn from each other. No one knows everything about a topic and there is always more to learn. Differences of views and experiences are expected and contribute to greater understanding and new perspectives. Be courteous and kind in all interactions. Successful students will learn to be resourceful decision makers. Students should leverage available resources and collaborate with other professionals to solve problems. Debate, questions, and consideration of all viewpoints are accepted and expected.

Accommodations

In some cases, students have been approved for additional support or accommodations in the interest of their successful participation in the course. Please contact the instructor to discuss such support or accommodations. In some cases, accommodations will be coordinated with the Office of Student AccessAbility. Every effort will be made to comply with the approved accommodations – students of all background, capabilities, personal identities, and interests should feel welcome in the class.

Employment

Professor Wrozek serves as the Information Security Manager for the Risk and Compliance team at UTD and employs a team of full-time GRC staff persons. The Information Security Office sometimes employs students on a part-time basis. However, Professor Wrozek does not directly make hiring decisions for student employees and participation in this class in no way correlates with opportunities to work in the Information Security Office. Students are encouraged to seek employment opportunities through the usual means and are discouraged from directly contacting Professor Wrozek to ask for employment in the Information Security Office.

Letters of Recommendation / Job References

Professor Wrozek is not equipped to provide letters of recommendation or job reference to students who attended the class, regardless of their performance in the class. Though Professor Wrozek strives to empower the success of all students, participation in the class alone does not constitute sufficient information needed for Professor Wrozek to craft letters of recommendation.

Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

“As a Comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do.”

Academic Support Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University’s academic support resources for all students. Please go to [Academic Support Resources](#) webpage for these policies.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please go to [UT Dallas Syllabus Policies](#) webpage for details.

The descriptions and timelines contained in this syllabus are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.