**Writing assignment: understand and explain a network**

**security topic (10% of your grade)**

For this assignment you are to select a network security topic from our textbook’s chapter 8. In your writing you must explain this topic using material assimilated from chapter 8 and, optionally this semester, from two additional resources. Thus your bibliography will have one, three, or more entries. **Make sure you thoroughly understand the topic and you explain it very well (your audience is your classmates)!**

Your paper can be ~2 pages long (about 1,000 words in total). Make sure you use examples, figures, diagrams, images, etc. Have your own title, abstract, a few sections, and a conclusion.

Format your paper using the LaTeX template posted at our website.

Make document double-space. Try the following:

\usepackage{setspace}

\doublespacing

Change the font to size 12pts (the default is 10pts and looks very small). One way of doing this is to replace in the bare\_conf.tex file this line

\documentclass[conference]{IEEEtran}

with this line

\documentclass[12pt,conference]{IEEEtran}

You may choose one of the following topics: basic cryptography; how to secure e-mail; how to secure a TCP connection; how to secure a LAN; how to protect organizational networks from attacks (firewalls).

**Timeline:**

**Delivery 1)** (2%) Submit pdf having (1) title, (2) one paragraph summary of the chapter 8 topic you have selected, (3) the References section including the sources/articles you plan on using. Must be formatted using the IEEE LaTeX template provided by instructor.

**Delivery 2)** (3%) At the beginning of class: **bring print out of your paper**;

**Delivery 3)** (5%) (1) Upload your final paper in Moodle (link provided at the class website); (2) Bring back (slide under my office door) the graded paper from Delivery 2) above.

**Note: if time permits, we will have an in-class peer-review where each student will give feedback to two other students.**

**Graded on the following criteria:**

(C1) Context of and purpose for writing: understand the purpose of this assignment (understand and explain well a security topic); understand the audience (your classmates must understand your content; if they don’t, your writing does not fulfill the purpose of the assignment)

(C2) Content development: use appropriate content to illustrate mastery of the subject (ex. use simple example to illustrate a complicated algorithm, or concept; explain the concepts better than the book)

(C3) Genre and disciplinary conventions: use appropriate organization (have appropriate sections; the entire paper flows in a logical manner; paragraphs are clear and discuss one idea only, etc.), content (good and clear ideas), presentation and formatting (ex. use correctly the LaTeX template)

(C4) Source and evidence: use relevant sources that help you simplify complicated concepts (make sure you cite other’s ideas)

(C5) Control of syntax and mechanics: use graceful language that skillfully communicates meaning to readers with clarity and fluency (no grammatical errors; no run-ons; elegant sentences; good flow within a paragraph; use connecting words)

(C6) Timely and correct submissions (if no staples 🡪 1% off)