Course Plan

CSCI 435 – Spring 2025

*Please be sure that you complete all pages of this worksheet. Some sections may begin on new pages, so you may need to scroll past any blank space.*

# Your Background and Threat Model

*These questions are designed to get you to think about your own personal threat model for data privacy. There are no “right” or “wrong” answers, as each person’s threat model will be different. The questions are in the approximate order of topics that we’ll be covering during the Discovery Phase of this course. As you work through the questions, fill in the answers to the following questions inside the provided boxes (1x1 tables). You do* ***not*** *need to write complete sentences for questions that ask for a short answer. Paragraph or bullet form is acceptable for questions that require an explanation or description.*

1. How comfortable do you feel using computers, phones, and similar technology?

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2. Are you comfortable with the idea of uploading sensitive personal information (like a diary, private thoughts, intimate photographs, etc.) to cloud storage (e.g. Google Drive, OneDrive, iCloud, etc.) or sharing it through social media (like Snapchat or another service)?

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3. If you’re comfortable uploading sharing sensitive personal information, how would you feel if the service you use had a data breach and your information became public?

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4. If your information were disclosed in a data breach, how comfortable would you be if your parents, friends, significant others, ex-significant others, professors, coworkers, or employers could access that information?

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5. If you knew that absolutely anyone could access your stored data at any time, would you be more careful with the kinds of files, photos, and other digital records that you create?

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6. Do you routinely clear your history and cookies? Do you use incognito/private browsing mode?

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7. Have you ever experienced a situation in which your phone or computer showed you an ad for something that you were talking about with someone else in real life (e.g. like the system was listening to you)?

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8. Do you believe that the United States government is watching you? How about a foreign government?

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9. Which Web browser(s) do you normally use? Think about both your computer and your phone.

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10. When you search for things on the Internet, do you use Google or a different search engine?

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11. Do you routinely use a VPN service or Tor? (It’s OK if you don’t know what these are – we’ll cover them later in the semester.)

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12. Do you use any health-related technology, such as a fitness tracker, sleep tracker, period tracker, etc.? This kind of technology can be a physical device (like a Fitbit) or a phone app.

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13. If you use health-related technology, have you fully read the terms of service and privacy policy from the company that made the device or app? Do you have any idea how they’re using your data?

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14. Do you use a Mac or PC? Do you run Linux, macOS, Windows, or something else as your desktop operating system?

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15. Do you have an Android phone, an iPhone, or something else?

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16. Are you routinely logged into social media (Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, etc.) from your phone?

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17. Is your phone automatically uploading your photos to cloud storage (like Google Drive or iCloud)? It’s fine if you don’t know.

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18. Are your phone’s location services always enabled? It’s fine if you don’t know.

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# Syllabus Questions

*The answers to these questions can be found on the course syllabus. As you work through the questions, fill in the answers to the following questions inside the provided boxes (1x1 tables). You do* ***not*** *need to write complete sentences for questions that ask for a short answer. Paragraph or bullet form is acceptable for questions that require an explanation or description.*

19. What is the professor’s email address?

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20. Do you need a book for this course? If so, which one?

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21. Will you receive a grade on each activity in this course?

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22. What are the names of the 3 phases of this course?

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23. In which phase of this course will you be learning technical material?

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24. In which phase of this course will you list your accomplishments and propose a final end-of-semester course grade?

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25. Is it OK to hire or ask someone else to take this course for you?

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26. Is it OK to copy answers from a classmate in this course?

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27. For what purposes in this class is it OK to use generative artificial intelligence (like ChatGPT)?

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28. When is it **NOT** OK to use generative artificial intelligence (like ChatGPT) in this course? What are some of the risks of using an AI tool?

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29. Suppose you email the professor at 10:00 PM on a Friday evening. The following Monday is a holiday, and classes resume on Tuesday. By what day should you expect a reply?

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30. Suppose you’re going out of town Friday afternoon and expect to return on Sunday morning. Should you take your laptop with you? Why or why not?

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31. Are you requesting disability accommodations in this course? (If you answer yes, please note that I need your official documentation from Accessibility and Disability Services. I cannot grant accommodations without this documentation, per University policy.)

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32. Under what circumstances can you submit a worksheet after the phase for that worksheet has ended?

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33. What University computing system must you use in order to submit your work in this course?

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34. Can you get credit if you submit your work via email?

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# Workflow Questions

*The purpose of this set of questions is to have you think about how you will approach this course and handle the work without falling behind. As you work through the questions, fill in the answers to the following questions inside the provided boxes (1x1 tables). You do* ***not*** *need to write complete sentences for questions that ask for a short answer. Paragraph or bullet form is acceptable for questions that require an explanation or description.*

35. Much of the semester will pass between the first Milestone becoming available and the final cutoff date for Milestone submissions. How do you plan to avoid procrastinating and falling behind in this course?

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36. Since this course is paced around weekly worksheet submissions, have you thought about setting aside fixed times during the week to work on course material?

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37. How many other courses are you taking this semester?

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38. In addition to your coursework, are you also working this semester? If so, are you working full-time (40 hours/week) or part-time? How do you plan to balance work, college, and other life demands?

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39. Are you in the military? If so, are you active duty or reserve?

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*Please continue to the next page.*

# Screenshot

*Replace the following image with a screenshot taken using your computer’s built-in screenshot tool. Please take a screenshot that shows a Web browser open to the course Moodle page. The screenshot can show the browser window or your entire desktop with the browser window present. See the Course Plan instructions page for tips on taking the screenshot and replacing the image.*



# Submission

*When you have completed this worksheet, export it to PDF format. Upload the PDF file as your Moodle submission for the Course Plan. See the instructions page for tips on creating a PDF file from this document.*