DEPARTMENT: Computer Support Technology  COURSE NO: CST 1300
COURSE TITLE: Computer Forensics  CREDITS: 3

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

This is an introductory course in computer forensics, which is the study of a computer that has been compromised and the recovery of evidence or information. In this course the student will concentrate on how to recover information from a computer or network after an attack. The student will look at both disaster recovery after a hacker or virus attack and also how to get information from a system that has been used for illicit activities. The student will use a systematic approach to gather information without destroying evidence.

AUDIENCE
This course is for students and professionals that are responsible for the security of information in their organization, including computer technicians, Information Systems managers and support staff.

FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S): Does not apply

PREREQUISITES OR NECESSARY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE: It is required that the student successfully completes the following courses:
CST 1200- Introduction to Information Security
CST 1125 Operating Systems

LENGTH OF COURSE: 2 lecture hours and 2 lab hours per week for 16 weeks or the equivalent if delivered via distance learning.

THIS COURSE IS USUALLY OFFERED:
Every other year  □  Fall  □  Spring  X  Summer  □  Undetermined  □

Four goals are emphasized in courses at Minnesota West Community and Technical College:
1. ACADEMIC CONTENT: The student will achieve the knowledge and skill needed in the area of Information Security Administration.
2. THINKING SKILLS: The student will have an understanding of the rational, theory and components of Information Security.
3. COMMUNICATION SKILLS: The student will begin to demonstrate appropriate communication techniques in working with the internet and fellow students to complete assignments.
4. HUMAN DIVERSITY – The student will gain self-awareness regarding their feelings towards people of different cultures, value systems and economic status.

Topics to be covered:
1. Computer Forensics components
2. The investigation process
3. Recovery of information
4. Recovery of the network

LIST OF EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOMES:
1. List the components of computer forensics
2. Identify computer investigation processes
3. Create a plan for investigation of computers
4. Describe the boot process of a Windows computer
5. Describe the boot process of a Linux computer
6. Describe the boot process of a Macintosh computer
7. Identify computer forensic tools
8. Locate computer forensic tools on the Internet
9. Describe digital evidence controls
10. Describe crime scene processing
11. Describe the legal issues regarding data acquisition
12. Outline the information gathered from a computer investigation
13. Describe the process of email investigation
14. Recover a graphics and text images
15. Prepare reports of the computer forensic investigation
16. Backup information on a computer
17. Restore information to a computer from the backup material

LEARNING/TEACHING TECHNIQUES used in the course are:

X Collaborative Learning   X Student presentations
X Creative Projects   X Lecture
X Problem Solving   X Interactive Lectures
X Individual Coaching   X Films/Videos/Slides
X Demonstration   X Labs

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR THIS CLASS INCLUDE:

X Reading   X Tests   X Individual Projects
X Oral Presentations   X Worksheets   X Collaborative Projects
X Textbook Problems   X Papers   □ Portfolios
X Group Problems   □ Term Papers   X Performance Exams
X Other

Veteran Services: Minnesota West is dedicated to assisting veterans and eligible family members in achieving their educational goals efficiently. Active duty and reserve/guard military members should advise their instructor of all regularly scheduled military appointments and duties that conflict with scheduled course requirements. Instructors will make every effort to work with the student to identify adjusted timelines. If you are a veteran, please contact the Minnesota West Veterans Service Office.

To receive reasonable accommodations for a documented disability, please contact the campus Student Services Advisor or campus Disability Coordinator as arrangements must be made in advance. In addition, students are also encouraged to notify their instructor.

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting the Student Services Advisor or by calling 800-658-2330 or Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 or by using your preferred relay service.

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