Assignment

Groups will develop and present a tightly focused research project on a course related security or risk topic.

For this milestone, the group leader, or designate, will upload a document to Canvas with responses to each of these items:

1) Group Number and (optional) Name
2) Member names with PSU email Access IDs
3) General topic area
4) Specific research question. The research question is narrowly focused to better meet presentation time constraints, fits within the general topic area, and is written using a question mark. For example, if citations are iPhone and Android related, question should include “iPhone and Android,” instead of the broader “Smartphone” description.
5) Briefly explain (i.e., quantify) topic's importance
6) Briefly state why you think peers should relate to this topic?
7) Top three to five references under consideration for the presentation using APA citation style bibliography
Example

**General Topic:** US Cyberczar Position

**Specific Research Question (with question mark):** Why does the US need a Cyberczar?

**End-of-Text APA Citation Examples**:  


**NOTE**

- Hanging indent (i.e., first line of citation is left-justified, and subsequent lines are indented) is a paragraph format feature in Word documents
- Single-space within each reference in bibliography, but double-space between each
- Sort references alphabetically. They are not numbered in APA style.
- At least ONE citation must come from PSU library electronic database (e.g., ABI Inform, ProQuest). Library database resources often provide APA formatted citations

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1 Refer to “Citing Works Using APA” section at bottom of this document
Examples of topic ideas to jumpstart planning

- Many topics shared and discussed in our Class Discussion Board
- Cyber Warfare (i.e. who does it, what is it, what can it do, do we need to worry?)
- Organized Cyber Crime (what do criminals do, how is the internet used for profit)
- Spam
- Phishing
- Emerging viruses/worms
- Bot armies
- Software Cracking
- Malware generating programs
- Legal jurisdictions of online (i.e. how do we police online, how much jurisdiction does one country have over a website if the server is located in another country? Whose job is it to keep Internet content legal? You can do a lot with this)
- How do terrorists use the Internet?
- The legal and illegal use of Trojans
- Key logs
- Security issues with black berries and I phones,
- Blended threats such as MyDoom, Netsky, Sasser, and Sobig (the government defines this as malware that combines the characteristics of viruses, Trojans, worms etc.) What are they? What is so dangerous about them?
- The Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing (CAN-SPAM) Act of 2003
- Social engineering in cyber security (what are the non electronic methods of gaining access i.e. dumpster diving, impersonating as someone over the phone)
- Cyber Czar (what is it, what would they do?)
- Sabotage/theft and other attacks by disgruntled employees and insiders
- Loss of personal info by companies what is the effect of it, why do we need to worry, are there consumer laws to protect us
- How easily are iPod, Android, and Window apps hacked?
- Botnets (Facebook, Zeus, etc.)
Milestone III Questions & Tips

- Social media vulnerabilities
- Security issues with the Cloud
- Cryptography exploits
Milestone III Questions & Tips

Information Sources

PSU Library electronic databases - http://www.libraries.psu.edu/psul.html

- Click “Try These First” under “Find Articles and Databases” in the middle-right of the screen. Search for books (The Cat), or electronic databases (ProQuest).


- Great place to generate ideas, but not a good source by itself. References at bottom of a topic page, however, may be a good source


- Great website newest cyber threats posts. Also allows searches on threats


- The Department of Homeland Security is a good place to find government papers and search general information about any kind of security issue/threat


PSU Office of Information Security Recommendations

- Stormcenter (SANS)
- SearchSecurity FIRST
- SecurityFocus
- REN-ISAC
Citing Works Using APA

KnightCite - http://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/index.php

APA Formatting and Style Guide – http://owlenglish.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/

PPT Application

Facts, figures, and quotes need to be cited in PPT where used. Brief “in-text” APA citation is usually author last name and year in parentheses, separated by a comma, before the sentence-period.

The last PPT slide(s) is the longer “end-of-text” APA bibliography reference sorted by author last name, and using the hanging indent and spacing described earlier in this document. References are not numbered, and sorted alphabetically by author last name.

Why Cite Works?

Reviewer should easily be able to find and review sources by using information that you provide. Also, sources should add credibility to your research by being reputable, and not dated.