**Computer Forensics Class Syllabus - Fall 2009**

**Course No.: Comp 340-001 / Comp 488-004**

**INSTRUCTOR:** **Scott Jones**

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**OFFICIAL TEXT:** “Computer Evidence Collection and Preservation Second Edition”

by Christopher L.T. Brown, ISBN-10: 1-58450-699-7

The schedule of class readings is officially as follows:

Week Date Book Chapter To Read

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1. 8/26 N/A – Class Intro
2. 9/2 Chapters 1 & 2
3. 9/9 Chapters 3 & 4
4. 9/16 Chapters 5 & 6
5. 9/23 Chapters 7 & 8
6. 9/30 Chapters 9 & 10
7. 10/7 Chapters 11 & 12
8. 10/14 Chapters 13 & 14
9. 10/21 Chapters 15, 16, & 17
10. 10/28 In-class projects
11. 11/4 In-class projects
12. 11/11 In-class projects
13. 11/18 In-class projects
14. 11/25 In-class projects\*
15. 12/2 In-class projects
16. 12/9 In-class projects\*
17. 12/16 In-class projects\*

Class readings and assignments may change as needed. 12/9/09 is generally designated a rest/study day in the academic calendar, so class may not be meeting. 12/16/09 is the final Wednesday within this semester and the tentative date for the final exam. This may be changed with short notice by the school as needed. To the extent that a given date for class is cancelled by the school for any reason, that week’s reading will be bumped back accordingly.

As newsworthy events become available, we may supplement our classroom discussions accordingly. I encourage all students to pay attention to news stories on television or the Internet related to computer forensics and computer technology in general.

**IN-CLASS PROJECTS:** Starting in week four, this class will begin to conduct in-class work using real-world computer forensics hardware and/or software. In order to accomplish this, I highly recommend that each student bring two or more USB thumb drives to class. I recommend that the smaller of the two be around 512 MB in size and the larger one be at least 2 GB in size.

**QUIZZES & TESTS:** All quizzes and tests will be administered via Blackboard. Without prior arrangements I will not accept make up quizzes or tests. Emergencies require that I receive an email in a timely fashion (24 hour period) telling me your name, the date you missed class, and explaining to me why I should allow you to take the quiz or test late. By default my answer will be no. If I allow you to retake the quiz or test, I reserve the right to deduct points accordingly for your lateness. I reserve the right to give pop quizzes at any time.

**GROUPWORK:** Each student will be sharing a laptop computer with at least one other student each week. I may also require students to work in larger groups for specific tasks/projects. I reserve the right to ask specific students to swap groups if/when I find that students are not intermingling adequately. In the real world, you do not always get to choose with whom you work, and this class strives to provide real world examples and experience.

**GOALS:** There are a few specific goals for which this class will strive.

GOAL 1 – by mid-term, every student will have created at least one or more forensic images

GOAL 2 – every student understands how to create basic forensic images

GOAL 3 – every student understands the fundamental theories underlying computer forensics

GOAL 4 – every student will gain basic skills desired presently by employers for IT staff

**GRADE SCALE:** Every student EARNS their own grade. The grading scale is as follows:

92+ A

91 A-

90 B+

89 – 84 B

83 B-

82 C+

81-75 C

74 C-

73 D+

72-67 D

66 D-

65 or less F

**Instructor Comments:** There are no dumb questions, only unasked ones. If you do not understand something it is your responsibility to let me know. Please ask questions in class, during breaks, after class, and even via email if you like. I will assume you understand and move on if you do not inform me otherwise.

I welcome feedback from my students. Please feel free to send an email to the above LUC email address. No class-related emails at any other address will be accepted.