

Last updated: September 1, 2021 (preliminary version, subject to change)

COMP 5900H (FALL 2021, CSI 5140 IF00) TRUSTED COMPUTING AND EMERGING ATTACKS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Class time: 14:30-17:30, Tuesdays (Sep.8 to Dec.10, 2021)

Instructor: [Lianying Zhao](mailto:Lianying.Zhao@scs.carleton.ca) (firstname.lastname@scs.carleton.ca)

Location: Refer to the public class schedule

Office hours: By appointment (TBD), via Brightspace

Course Website: Please use [Brightspace](#) as the primary source of information, where important instructions can be found that must be followed.

Prerequisites: Familiarity with computer architecture and operating system. Computer security, especially basic understanding of cryptography, is a plus but not mandatory. Otherwise, instructor permission is required.

Brightspace for U of Ottawa students: for access, fill out and submit this [form](#).

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course introduces the paradigm of trusted computing and its evolution over the past decade. Common trusted computing technologies are characterized and categorized. Their application in several academic proposals and industrial solutions is also explained. Alongside the discussion, the positioning of trusted computing is shown in a bigger picture and compared with other types of defenses/attacks. Recent (new) attack vectors concerning trustworthy program execution are also reviewed.

GRADING SCHEME

15%: in-class test, **October 19th**

15%: assignment, due **November 1st**

25%: paper discussion lead (sign up for two papers with an "*" by September 24th)

You can also propose papers to discuss with the instructor's approval.

Note: 10% is dedicated to the student's own original opinions about the discussed papers, including but not limited to criticisms, suggested improvements, limitations, and strengths.

30%: course project

15%: in-class participation

(5% for the student's own opinions expressed during the class)

Assignments and project reports submissions are handled electronically (i.e., through Brightspace) and there is no "grace period" with respect to a deadline - an assignment submitted even one minute after the deadline is late and subject to mark deductions.

DETAILED TOPICS (TENTATIVE)

Important dates and deadlines can be found [here](#), including class suspension for the fall break.

Papers might be discussed in a different order and not all listed will be discussed. Max: **two** papers per class.

There will be lectures in the first few weeks.

Week 1: Introduction to the course and trusted computing

- [The ten-page introduction to Trusted Computing](#)
- [Hardware-Based Trusted Computing Architectures for Isolation and Attestation](#)
- [Trusted Execution Environment: What It is, and What It is Not](#)

Week 2: Trust

- [Bootstrapping Trust in Commodity Computers](#)
- [Reflections on Trusting Trust](#) (Turing Award lecture, 1984)
- [SafeKeeper: Protecting Web Passwords using Trusted Execution Environments](#)

Week 3: Application of TC technologies

- [Isolating Operating System Components with Intel SGX \(*\)](#)
- [SCONE: Secure Linux Containers with Intel SGX \(*\)](#)
- [SGX-Tor: A Secure and Practical Tor Anonymity Network with SGX Enclaves \(*\)](#)
- [EnclaveDB: A Secure Database using SGX \(*\)](#)
- [SGX-Log: Securing System Logs with SGX \(*\)](#)
- [PROTC: PROTeCting Drone's Peripherals through ARM TrustZone](#)
- [Using ARM TrustZone to Build a Trusted Language Runtime for Mobile Applications \(*\)](#)

Week 4: Making TC technologies more adoptable/usable

- [Flicker: An Execution Infrastructure for TCB Minimization \(*\)](#)
- [Glamdring: Automatic Application Partitioning for Intel SGX \(*\)](#)
- [TrustShadow: Secure Execution of Unmodified Applications with ARM TrustZone \(*\)](#)
- [Occlum: Secure and Efficient Multitasking Inside a Single Enclave of Intel SGX](#)
- [Civet: An Efficient Java Partitioning Framework for Hardware Enclaves \(*\)](#)

- [vTZ: Virtualizing ARM TrustZone](#) (*)

Week 5: Side-channel attacks

- [Systematic Classification of Side-Channel Attacks: A Case Study for Mobile Devices](#)
- [Foreshadow: Extracting the Keys to the Intel SGX Kingdom with Transient Out-of-Order Execution](#) (*)
- [Meltdown: Reading Kernel Memory from User Space](#) (*)
- [Spectre Attacks: Exploiting Speculative Execution](#) (*)

Week 6: Internal misbehavior: memory attacks

- [SoK: Eternal War in Memory](#) (*)
- [Memory Errors: The Past, the Present, and the Future](#)
- [GRIFFIN: Guarding Control Flows Using Intel Processor Trace](#) (*)
- [C-FLAT: Control-Flow Attestation for Embedded Systems Software](#) (*)
- [PTAuth: Temporal Memory Safety via Robust Points-to Authentication](#) (*)
- **In-class test**

Week 7: No classes (Fall Break)

Week 8: Human authenticating machine

- [Turtles All The Way Down: Research Challenges in User-Based Attestation](#)
- [Stark: Tamperproof Authentication to Resist Keylogging](#) (*)
- [Evil maid goes after PGP whole disk encryption](#)
- [PRISM/ Human-Verifiable Code Execution](#) (*)

Week 9: State continuity

- [Memoir: Practical state continuity for protected modules](#) (*)
- [ROTE: Rollback Protection for Trusted Execution](#) (*)
- [Ariadne: A Minimal Approach to State Continuity](#) (*)

Week 10: Secure input/output

- [SeCloak: ARM TrustZone-based Mobile Peripheral Control](#)
- [Building trusted path on untrusted device drivers for mobile devices](#) (*)
- [TruZ-Droid: Integrating TrustZone with Mobile Operating System](#) (*)
- [Establishing Trusted I/O Paths for SGX Client Systems with Aurora](#) (*)

Week 11: Proposed hardware improvements

- Isolation: [Iso-X: A Flexible Architecture for Hardware-Managed Isolated Execution](#) (*)
- Memory safety: [HAFIX: Hardware-Assisted Flow Integrity Extension](#) (*)
- Integrity monitoring: [Co-processor-based Behavior Monitoring: Application to the Detection of Attacks Against the System Management Mode](#) (*)
- Integrity monitoring: [CPU Transparent Protection of OS Kernel and Hypervisor Integrity with Programmable DRAM](#) (*)

Week 12: Proposals based on existing hardware support

- [PixelVault: Using GPUs for Securing Cryptographic Operations \(*\)](#)
- [Graviton: Trusted Execution Environments on GPUs \(*\)](#)
- [SICE: A Hardware-Level Strongly Isolated Computing Environment for x86 Multi-core Platforms \(*\)](#)

Week 13: Project presentations

INFORMATION ON ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Student Academic Integrity Policy. Every student should be familiar with the Carleton University student academic integrity policy. A student found in violation of academic integrity standards may be awarded penalties which range from a reprimand to receiving a grade of *F* in the course or even being expelled from the program or University. Examples of punishable offences include: plagiarism and unauthorized co-operation or collaboration. Information on this policy may be found [here](#).

Plagiarism. As defined by Senate, "plagiarism is presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own". Such reported offences will be reviewed by the office of the Dean of Science. Standard penalty guidelines can be found [here](#).

Direct *copy-and-paste* of any content will be treated as plagiarism, regardless of whether the source of the content has been cited.

Unauthorized Co-operation or Collaboration. Senate policy states that "to ensure fairness and equity in assessment of term work, students shall not co-operate or collaborate in the completion of an academic assignment, in whole or in part, when the instructor has indicated that the assignment is to be completed on an individual basis". Please refer to the instructions of a specific assignment and/or the instructor concerning this issue.

Religious & Pregnancy obligation. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, visit the [Equity Services](#) website:

<http://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf>

For religious obligation, visit: <https://carleton.ca/equity/focus/discrimination-harassment/religious-spiritual-observances/>

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities. If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. For more details, visit the [Paul Menton Centre website](#).

Survivors of Sexual Violence. As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

Medical Certificate. The official medical certificate accepted by Carleton University for the deferral of final examinations or assignments can be found at <https://carleton.ca/registrar/cu-files/medical-certificate-form/>. The request must be fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documentation. Additional information: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/wp-content/uploads/Additional-Deferral-Information.pdf>

Accommodation for Student Activities. Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, see the policy: <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

SCS COMPUTER LABORATORY

SCS students can access one of the designated labs for your course. The lab schedule can be found at: <https://carleton.ca/scs/tech-support/computer-laboratories/>. All SCS computer lab and technical support information can be found at: <https://carleton.ca/scs/technical-support/>. Technical support is available in room HP5161 Monday to Friday from 9:00 until 17:00 or by emailing SCS.Tech.Support@cunet.carleton.ca.