

## Systems Security (Fall 2023)

Instructor: **Onarlioglu, Kaan**

Subject: **CY**

Catalog & Section: **3740 01**

Course ID: **13522**

Objectives:

Enrollment: **22**

Responses Incl Declines: **16**

Declines: **0**

### Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience

Question	Number of Responses	Response Rate	Course Mean	Dept. Mean	Univ. Mean	Course Median	Dept. Median	Univ. Median
Online course materials were organized to help me navigate through the course week by week.	16	72%	4.9	4.5	4.4	5.0	5.0	5.0
Online interactions with my instructor created a sense of connection in the virtual classroom.	16	72%	4.8	4.4	4.2	5.0	5.0	5.0
Online course interactions created a sense of community and connection to my classmates.	16	72%	4.9	4.2	4.1	5.0	4.0	4.0
I had the necessary computer skills and technology to successfully complete the course.	16	72%	4.9	4.5	4.6	5.0	5.0	5.0

Note: 5:Strongly Agree; 4:Agree; 3:Neutral; 2:Disagree; 1:Strongly Disagree; -1:N/A;

### Course Related Questions

Question	Number of Responses	Response Rate	Course Mean	Dept. Mean	Univ. Mean	Course Median	Dept. Median	Univ. Median
The syllabus was accurate and helpful in delineating expectations and course outcomes.	16	72%	4.9	4.5	4.5	5.0	5.0	5.0
Required and additional course materials were helpful in achieving course outcomes.	16	72%	4.9	4.5	4.3	5.0	5.0	5.0

Note: 5:Strongly Agree; 4:Agree; 3:Neutral; 2:Disagree; 1:Strongly Disagree;

### Learning Related Questions

Question	Number of Responses	Response Rate	Course Mean	Dept. Mean	Univ. Mean	Course Median	Dept. Median	Univ. Median
In-class sessions were helpful for learning.	16	72%	4.9	4.4	4.3	5.0	5.0	5.0
Out-of-class assignments and/or fieldwork were helpful for learning.	16	72%	5.0	4.5	4.3	5.0	5.0	5.0
This course was intellectually challenging.	16	72%	4.9	4.2	4.3	5.0	4.0	5.0
I learned a lot in this course.	16	72%	5.0	4.5	4.4	5.0	5.0	5.0

Note: 5:Strongly Agree; 4:Agree; 3:Neutral; 2:Disagree; 1:Strongly Disagree;

### Instructor Related Questions: Kaan Onarlioglu

Question	Number of Responses	Response Rate	Course Mean	Dept. Mean	Univ. Mean	Course Median	Dept. Median	Univ. Median
The instructor came to class prepared to teach.	16	72%	4.9	4.7	4.6	5.0	5.0	5.0
The instructor used class time effectively.	16	72%	5.0	4.5	4.4	5.0	5.0	5.0
The instructor clearly communicated ideas and information.	16	72%	4.9	4.5	4.4	5.0	5.0	5.0
The instructor provided sufficient feedback.	16	72%	4.9	4.4	4.3	5.0	5.0	5.0
The instructor fairly evaluated my performance.	16	72%	4.9	4.6	4.4	5.0	5.0	5.0
The instructor was available to assist students outside of class.	16	72%	4.9	4.6	4.4	5.0	5.0	5.0
The instructor facilitated a respectful and inclusive learning environment.	16	72%	4.9	4.7	4.6	5.0	5.0	5.0
The instructor displayed enthusiasm for the course.	16	72%	5.0	4.7	4.6	5.0	5.0	5.0

Note: 5:Strongly Agree; 4:Agree; 3:Neutral; 2:Disagree; 1:Strongly Disagree;

### Instructor Effectiveness: Kaan Onarlioglu

Question	Number of Responses	Response Rate	Course Mean	Dept. Mean	Univ. Mean	Course Median	Dept. Median	Univ. Median
What is your overall rating of this instructor's teaching effectiveness?	16	72%	5.0	4.6	4.5	5.0	5.0	5.0

Note: 5:Almost Always Effective; 4:Usually Effective; 3:Sometimes Effective; 2:Rarely Effective; 1:Never Effective;

### Instructor Related Questions: Kaan Onarlioglu (33 comments)

#### Q: What were the strengths of this course and/or this instructor?

- 1 Kaan is a great instructor. Lectures were some of the most interesting and engaging that I have attended at Northeastern.
- 2 Prof.Kaan is the most creative professor I ever met. He has the ability to deliver all the challenges in the course in a humorous yet meaningful way. Even the assignments are unforgettable, too. He also responded to posts on Piazza and emails pretty fast, even at midnight.
- 3 Teaching a lot of important knowledge, instructor is knowledgeable
- 4 Kaan explained topics slowly and always asked if we had questions, which really helped me understand the course. Also he emphasized taking breaks again helping me understand material
- 5 Super helpful and always available for questions about the course or projects.
- 6 Great presentation style, perfect balance between educational and casual. The self-lab style homeworks were great as well, even if I didnt complete all of the bonus extreme bonuses.
- 7 Kaan seems to really know what he's talking about. The course is challenging and rewarding and has a good mix of theory and practical content. Very entertaining lectures, well designed assignments, reasonable exams and quizzes (not easy). You learn a lot in lecture and in assignments, and Kaan responds on Piazza super quickly.
- 8 The course was a very streamlined experience, with the lectures and challenges presenting the content in a fun and engaging way.
- 9 Engaging lectures, clear expert of the material
- 10 Kaan is hands down the most passionate, interesting instructor in all of Northeastern. He lectures with enthusiasm. When explaining core topics to students, he approaches the explanation based on the students' current understanding. He is sets extremely clear guidelines and instructions. Overall, he is the most responsive, empathic professor that I've had the chance to take a course with.
- 11 This course covers an expansive range of security vulnerabilities: fundamental attacks on our technology, how we respond with defenses, and modern attacks we are facing now in response to those defenses. Kaan displays great passion for the material with informative lectures and helpful office hour sessions after class for challenges
- 12 Kaan was very enthusiastic about the class - and he really cared about helping students understand the material
- 13 Kaan is so great. He is so knowledgeable and is extremely helpful and kind. This is the best class I have taken at Northeastern.
- 14 Kaan explains the conceptual details very well, presenting just enough information without being overwhelming. He makes it clear what is important for the homework and the exams. He provides ample help during office hours. The course computer system is marvelous, providing instant feedback and the opportunity to execute your own attacks!(The exams are also graded very quickly.)

#### Q: What could the instructor do to make this course better?

- 1 N/A
- 2 Cant think of anything
- 3 The first three courses were extremely fast for students who hadn't taken cs3700 before. There was too much material to remember.
- 4 More office hour
- 5 I felt that there was a lot of outside work being done, so more inperson live "hacking" would help me learn better
- 6 Nothing, course was very engaging and informative.

**Q: What could the instructor do to make this course better?**

- 7 N/a
- 8 office hours with the instructor outside of class time would be ideal
- 9 Communication about office hours was not very clear at first (the syllabus was not updated), but after I understood how OH worked, I found it very helpful. I'm glad they added a second slot later in the semester too!

**Q: Please expand on the instructor's strengths and/or areas for improvement in facilitating inclusive learning.**

- 1 In addition to lectures being interesting and engaging, the course assignments were perfect for reinforcing the material covered in the course and providing a glimpse of the practical applications of the material.
- 2 Kaan facilitates a desire to learn very well.
- 3 It's a pleasure to take his course even if I'm not getting a good grade. The whole experience is meaningful and I'm pretty sure that I couldn't get the same experience from another professor.
- 4 a professional at this field
- 5 The majority of the students aren't Cybersec majors so the topics we learned were fairly new. It was great to have slides not be complex and have great outside resources. In addition, Kaan would respond on piazza to many questions always in a timely manner.
- 6 Super approachable and very helpful
- 7 The professor does an extremely proficient job at facilitating inclusive learning. The course assignments challenged me to think of unique approaches to solve the problem, rather than take a traditional approach. The hands-on aspect of every assignment enabled me to focus for longer durations than I would typically in other classes. The instructor has been successful in creating a classroom environment that I look forward to attending, and assignments I enjoy working on.
- 8 great vibes in the class, it was a fun and inclusive learning environment.
- 9 Kaan is a great lecturer and helper. He is so responsive online too when you post a question to Piazza.
- 10 The class has a high technical bar for entry. Kaan makes it very clear at the start whether the class would be a good fit for your technical ability, or if it would be better to come back later. He is otherwise eager to help with challenges just enough to get you unstuck.

**Questions to Assess Students' Online Experience (7 comments)**

**Q: Please comment on your experience of the online course environment in the open-ended text box.**

- 1 Online course materials were very well organized. Providing a course server is a great way to provide materials and facilitate the course assignments.
- 2 I allowed me to participate especially that one week I had the flu.
- 3 Kaan uses his own environment called warhead, it worked pretty well.
- 4 pretty cool course website and warhead designed by prof. kaan!
- 5 N/A
- 6 Kaan has gone above and beyond to create a robust, highly available system to administer and facilitate the course assignments. Super unique and the best I've seen out of all the courses I've taken at Northeastern. He made sure to be inclusive for students who may not have been able to make it class.
- 7 Online materials are very well-organized. There is an up-to-date schedule thread on Piazza. All materials are on the class's private computer environment, which was a huge learning curve at first but quickly became routine. You'll become well-acquainted with the Linux terminal very quickly.

**Student Self-Assessment of their Effort to Achieve Course Outcomes (10 comments)**

**Q: What I could have done to make this course better for myself.**

- 1 I could have dedicated more time to completing the optional challenges provided in the course.
- 2 Been a little more explorative and tried more stuff out, especially on the earlier hw.
- 3 I should've probably not let the challenges backlog.
- 4 Managed my time on the last few challenges a bit better. Study a bit more for the exams.
- 5 Wishing I could go to office hours more often.
- 6 More office hour
- 7 Do better research for topics on my own time
- 8 I feel that I've gotten quite a bit out of the class so I do not have any regrets to how I approached the class.
- 9 I should have started looking at assignments earlier.
- 10 I could have planned my time better to complete more of the brag points. This class is especially challenging because it's difficult to gauge how long it will take to figure out a challenge. Attending OH really helps! But toward the end of the semester I became too busy with other work and struggled to make progress at a good pace.