

# Cyber Risk Management Course Syllabus

**SEMESTER COURSE OFFERED:** Spring 2025

**DEPARTMENT:** Finance

**COURSE NUMBER:** 4397

**NAME OF COURSE:** Cyber Risk Management

**NAME OF INSTRUCTOR:** Nick Kapatos

The information contained in this class syllabus is subject to change without notice. Students are expected to be aware of any additional course policies presented by the instructor during the course or required by the University of Houston.

## **General Information:**

In this course we explore cyber risk management and insurance. In today's digital age, cyber risks are a constant concern for organizations. This course provides a foundational understanding of cyber threats, vulnerabilities, and risk management & insurance approaches. You will acquire hands-on experience through practical exercises, case studies, and real-world scenarios. Our course covers threat assessments, risk mitigation, table-top exercises, incident response, and the role of insurance in cyber risk management and how it can safeguard organizations from financial losses due to cyberattacks.

**SINCE THIS CLASS IS BEING DELIVERED ONLINE IN A LIVE SYNCHRONOUS SETTING AND THERE WILL BE GROUP WORK DONE IN ONLINE BREAKOUT ROOMS, ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE A PC OR LAPTOP WITH A WEBCAM AND SOUND CARD TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS COURSE AND THE GROUP SESSIONS. I REQUEST THAT YOU TURN ON YOUR CAMERA WHEN YOU SPEAK IN CLASS. PLEASE TEST YOUR PC OR LAPTOP PRIOR TO THE FIRST CLASS TO BE SURE YOU DO NOT HAVE COMMUNICATION ISSUES.**

**A mobile phone or tablet will not be suitable for the class especially since the exams will require the use of the Respondus Lockdown Browser and the Respondus Monitor which uses a webcam.**

**ALL EXAMS WILL BE ONLINE**

## **Required Textbook:**

Solving Cyber Risk by Coburn, Leverett, and  
Woo Wiley  
ISBN 978 111 949 093 7  
Available at the University Bookstore

## **Suggested Reading:**

Business Insurance Magazine

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## Attendance:

**Attendance will be taken. Since there are only fourteen (14) sessions if you accumulate more than four (4) unexcused absences from class, five (5) points will be deducted from your final letter grade score. University's Excused Absence Policy will be used to determine whether an absence is excused or not.**

## Class Participation:

Active class participation will increase your learning experience and will benefit others. As shown below; **class participation, group assignments & presentations, and homework make up a significant percentage of your grade.** You are expected to come to class prepared to participate. This means that you have completed the assigned readings before class, are ready to contribute, and will share your ideas when appropriate. Do your best!

## Style Guide:

Please prepare all writing assignment in a word processing program. All documents must be double spaced, 12 point black font, and have one inch margins. All documents must comply with formatting in accordance with either MLA or APA guidelines presented in the respective style guide. It is good practice to stick to one guide throughout the semester.

<b>Grading:</b>	93.00-100.00 = A	80.00-82.99 = B-	67.00-69.99 = D+
	90.00-92.99 = A-	77.00-79.99 = C+	63.00-66.99 = D
	87.00-89.99 = B+	73.00-76.99 = C	60.00-62.99 = D-
	83.00-86.99 = B	70.00-72.99 = C-	

## Exams & Assignments:

1. Mid-term exam – 33% of final grade
2. Final exam – 23% of final grade
3. Top Hat quizzes – 10%
4. Group work – 34%

Assignments must be completed and submitted using Canvas Learn prior to the stated due date. Assignments will be accepted as **“late”** if they are turned in **within one day** of the original due date and time. However, **20%** of the possible points will be automatically deducted from assignments that are turned in late. **Assignments turned in more than one day beyond the original due date and time will be given a grade of “0.”**

Critical thinking and writing are an important part of any college program. Businesses want individuals who can think and write well. Your homework assignments will be written assignments related to our classes. Credit will be given only if the submission is:

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- Clearly written (spelling, grammar, and logical organization);
- Links the class topic to one or more of the following: guest lecturer, case study, readings from the text or other sources, or the class discussion; and
- Reflective and explains what you learned or found most beneficial from the class.

## **Incompletes:**

Requests to enter the designation for “Incomplete” after the drop course without grade deadline must be in writing and will only be honored in the presence of very unusual circumstances accompanied by a written recommendation from your curriculum advisor.

## **Make-up exams or homework:**

To be entitled to make up examinations or homework, a written request must be submitted to the instructor prior to the test date. The request will state the reason for the absence and provide the name and contact information of at least one individual who can verify the circumstances.

For absence due to medical reasons, a note from the attending physician is recommended. Permission to make up an examination will be granted only if the circumstances involved constitute an “excused absence” based on University of Houston policy. Excused absences involve serious illness, family emergencies, legal requirements and other circumstances clearly beyond the control of the student. Skipping class for reasons of personal convenience or to study for another exam are examples of circumstances that are not deemed to be “excused absences.”

## **Canvas:**

The University of Houston’s Canvas system will be an important communication link for students in this class. Announcements are posted and reflect schedule changes, articles and other resources needed to fully understand the topics discussed.

Students should use the Discussion Board to post any class material questions. This process allows the entire class community to benefit from these information exchanges, and will limit repetitive questioning from individual sources. I will also post articles on occasion and start discussions about them. Participation in these discussions is a part of your participation grade discussed above.

Canvas will be used in this class as a course management tool to post announcements, the course syllabus and journal entries. All assignments for the course will be submitted through Assignments.

## **Academic Honesty:**

The University of Houston Academic Honesty Policy is strictly enforced by the C. T. Bauer College of Business. No violations of this policy, such as plagiarism or cheating, will be tolerated in this course. A discussion of the policy is included in the University of Houston

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Student Handbook.

Students are expected to be familiar with this policy. Students are expected to produce original work in the course.

**Previous course-work from other classes cannot be submitted for credit in this course for any class assignment or project. At the instructor's discretion, work will be submitted to "Turn It In."**

## UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYLLABUS LANGUAGE: 2024-2025

### Required Language for All Courses

#### Mental Health and Wellness Resources

The University of Houston has a number of resources to support students' mental health and overall wellness, including [CoogsCARE](#) and the [UH Go App](#). UH [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) offers 24/7 mental health support for all students, addressing various concerns like stress, college adjustment and sadness. CAPS provides individual and couples counseling, group therapy, workshops and connections to other support services on and off-campus. For assistance visit [uh.edu/caps](http://uh.edu/caps), call 713-743-5454, or visit a [Let's Talk](#) location in-person or virtually. [Let's Talk](#) are daily, informal confidential consultations with CAPS therapists where no appointment or paperwork is needed.

#### **Need Support Now?**

**If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available. Call CAPS crisis support 24/7 at 713-743-5454, or the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: call or text [988](https://988lifeline.org), or chat [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org).**

#### Title IX/Sexual Misconduct

Per the UHS Sexual Misconduct Policy, your instructor is a "responsible employee" for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and state law and must report incidents of sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual intimidation, intimate partner violence, or stalking) about which they become aware to the Title IX office. Please know there are places on campus where you can make a report in confidence. You can find more information about resources on the Title IX website at <https://uh.edu/equal-opportunity/title-ix-sexual-misconduct/resources/>.

#### Reasonable Academic Adjustments/Auxiliary Aids

The University of Houston is committed to providing an academic environment and educational programs that are accessible for its students. Any student with a disability who is experiencing barriers to learning, assessment or participation is encouraged to contact the Justin Dart, Jr. Student Accessibility Center (Dart Center) to learn more about academic accommodations and support that may be available to them. Students seeking academic accommodations will need to register with the Dart Center as soon as possible to ensure timely implementation of approved accommodations. Please contact the Dart Center by visiting the website: <https://uh.edu/accessibility/> calling (713) 743-5400, or emailing [jdcenter@Central.UH.EDU](mailto:jdcenter@Central.UH.EDU).

The [Student Health Center](#) offers a Psychiatry Clinic for enrolled UH students. Call 713-743-5149 during clinic hours, Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. to schedule an

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appointment.

The [A.D. Bruce Religion Center](#) offers spiritual support and a variety of programs centered on well-being.

The [Center for Student Advocacy and Community \(CSAC\)](#) is where you can go if you need help but don't know where to start. CSAC is a "home away from home" and serves as a [resource hub](#) to help you get the resources needed to support academic and personal success. Through our [Cougar Cupboard](#), all students can get up to 30 lbs of FREE groceries a week. Additionally, we provide 1:1 appointments to get you connected to on- and off-campus resources related to essential needs, safety and advocacy, and more. The [Cougar Closet](#) is a registered student organization advised by our office and offers free clothes to students so that all Coogs can feel good in their fit. We also host a series of cultural and community-based events that fosters social connection and helps the cougar community come closer together. Visit the CSAC homepage or follow us on Instagram: @uh\_CSAC and @uhcupbrd. YOU belong here.

## Women and Gender Resource Center

The mission of the [WGRC](#) is to advance the University of Houston and promote the success of all students, faculty, and staff through educating, empowering, and supporting the UH community. The WGRC suite is open to you. Stop by the office for a study space, to take a break, grab a snack, or check out one of the WGRC programs or resources. Stop by Student Center South room B12 (Basement floor near Starbucks and down the hall from Creation Station) from 9 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday.

## Academic Honesty Policy

High ethical standards are critical to the integrity of any institution, and bear directly on the ultimate value of conferred degrees. All UH community members are expected to contribute to an atmosphere of the highest possible ethical standards. Maintaining such an atmosphere requires that any instances of academic dishonesty be recognized and addressed. The [UH Academic Honesty Policy](#) is designed to handle those instances with fairness to all parties involved: the students, the instructors, and the University itself. All students and faculty of the University of Houston are responsible for being familiar with this policy.

## Excused Absence Policy

Regular class attendance, participation, and engagement in coursework are important contributors to student success. Absences may be excused as provided in the University of Houston [Undergraduate Excused Absence Policy](#) and [Graduate Excused Absence Policy](#) for reasons including: medical illness of student or close relative, death of a close family member, legal or government proceeding that a student is obligated to attend, recognized professional and educational activities where the student is presenting, and University-sponsored activity or athletic competition. Under these policies, students with excused absences will be provided with an opportunity to make up any quiz, exam or other work that contributes to the course grade or a satisfactory alternative. Please read the full policy for details regarding reasons for excused absences, the approval process, and extended absences. Additional policies address absences related to [military service](#), [religious holy days](#), [pregnancy and related conditions](#), and [disability](#).

## Recording of Class

Students may not record all or part of class, livestream all or part of class, or make/distribute screen captures, without advanced written consent of the instructor. If you have or think you may have a disability such that you need to record class-related activities, please contact the [Justin Dart, Jr. Student Accessibility Center](#). If you have an accommodation to record class-related activities, those recordings may not be shared with any other student, whether in this

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course or not, or with any other person or on any other platform.

Classes may be recorded by the instructor. Students may use instructor's recordings for their own studying and notetaking. Instructor's recordings are not authorized to be shared with anyone without the prior written approval of the instructor. Failure to comply with requirements regarding recordings will result in a disciplinary referral to the Dean of Students Office and may result in disciplinary action.

### Recommended Language and Guidance (use as appropriate for class content and format)

#### Resources for Online Learning

The University of Houston is committed to student success, and provides information to optimize the online learning experience through our [Power-On](#) website. Please visit this website for a comprehensive set of resources, tools, and tips including: obtaining access to the internet, AccessUH, Blackboard, and Canvas; using your smartphone as a webcam; and downloading Microsoft Office 365 at no cost. For questions or assistance contact [UHOnline@uh.edu](mailto:UHOnline@uh.edu).

#### UH Email

Please check and use your CougarNet email for communications related to this course. Faculty use the CougarNet email to respond to course-related inquiries such as grade queries or progress reports for reasons of FERPA. To access your CougarNet email, [login](#) to your Microsoft 365 account with your CougarNet credentials. Visit [University Information Technology \(UIT\)](#) for instructions on how to connect your CougarNet e-mail on a mobile device.

#### Webcams

Access to a webcam is required for students participating remotely in this course. Webcams must be turned on (*state when webcams are required to be on and the academic basis for requiring them to be on*). (Example: Webcams must be turned on during exams to ensure the academic integrity of exam administration.)

#### Security Escorts and Cougar Ride

UHPD continually works with the University community to make the campus a safe place to learn, work, and live. The security escort service is designed for the community members who have safety concerns and would like to have a Security Officer walk with them, for their safety, as they make their way across campus. Based on availability either a UHPD Security Officer or Police Officer will escort students, faculty, and staff to locations beginning and ending on campus. If you feel that you need a Security Officer to walk with you for your safety, please call [713-743-3333](tel:713-743-3333). Arrangements may be made for special needs.

Parking and Transportation Services also offers a late-night, on-demand shuttle service called "Cougar Ride" that provides rides to and from all on-campus shuttle stops, as well as the MD Anderson Library, Cougar Village/Moody Towers and the UH Technology Bridge. Rides can be requested through the UH Go app. Days and hours of operation can be found at <https://uh.edu/af-university-services/parking/cougar-ride/>.

#### Syllabus Changes

Please note that the instructor may need to make modifications to the course syllabus. Notice of such changes will be announced as quickly as possible through posting on Canvas and notification by the Professor.

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## Artificial Intelligence

Instructors are recommended to develop language that will guide students in their use or prohibition of use of AI related tools. If an instructor allows the use of AI tools, they should clearly indicate in what ways they can be used, how they should be cited/reported, and for which assignments they are allowed. Note that Turnitin currently has a filter for ChatGPT, although there is approximately 2% rate of false positives. The following is a collection of classroom policies from a variety of universities for AI generative tools: [Classroom Policies for AI Generative Tools \(google.com\)](#).

## Online Exams & Proctoring

If you are going to use online proctoring applications that require an environmental scan, you should make sure students are made aware in advance that an environmental scan may be conducted as a part of an online exam and also made aware that:

(1) students are permitted to take their online tests or quizzes in a computer lab or other available space; (2) students need to be aware if you are using online proctoring software, and the student should consequently choose an environment with as little background noise and additional movement as possible to avoid the software flagging their exam for potential academic dishonesty; and (3) there is no requirement that a student use their own personal computer or that they complete exams and quizzes in any specific location (e.g., their home).