

TTM4135 Information Security

Guidelines for Technical Essay

Department of Telematics, NTNU, March 15, 2011

This exercise is a mandatory part of the course. The purpose of this exercise is to encourage information security thinking by independent examination of one specific topic.

Format The whole document must be limited to 3 A4 pages. Use 11pt (L^AT_EX) or 12pt (Word) font size, normal line separation, one-column layout, full justification and at least 25 mm margins. The heading must include the title, the author, the date, author's affiliation and email address. Due to the space limitation we recommend putting the heading on the top of the first page. Use page numbering. The reference list should be formatted according to common rules for citation. The submitted file format must be pdf. We encourage the use of L^AT_EX for writing your technical essay.

Structure The text should be structured with an introduction, a problem discussion and a conclusion. As a guide to structuring your work, look at the web pages at http://www.elec.gla.ac.uk/Student_info_page/EEE5/Index.htm.

Style The essay must be written in Norwegian or English. Check for spelling errors and unreadable language before you submit, there must be none of the sort in a three pager.

The text should be intelligible, logical, interesting and easy to read. Write to your fellow students, and assume that the reader has the same general theoretical background as yourself. Use definitions, facts and logical argumentation. Your essay will be automatically checked for plagiarism by It's learning, and the results will be reported to the evaluators.

Interpret and refine the title, discuss the problem and intended scope in your introduction. In the text, do not introduce facts that are not analysed later and that are not relevant to your problem. Bring your own analysis and thinking into the essay. If you can, bring in new ideas. When you include tables or figures, they should be referred to and explained in the text.

It is important to have a good and relevant reference list when writing a technical text. We recommend that you choose references to published articles and books. When you find information on the Web, be careful about its quality.

Submission The essay is to be submitted via It's learning within Sunday April 26, 2011.

Evaluation The essay will be graded and count as 20% of the total grade for the course. Feedback and comments to your technical essay will be given via It's learning. The evaluation criteria are:

- Format as required.
- Presence of figures or tables when appropriate.
- Structure (logical sectioning).
- Complementarity to the lectured material.
- Discussion of the title, the problem and the scope in the introduction.
- Clarity, consistency and completeness of the content in relation with the title and the scope.
- Accuracy of definitions, facts and statements.
- Logic in arguments and discussion.
- Essential: present your own analysis.
- Depth of your understanding of the discussed material.
- Quality of references.
- Potential for publication.