GRADING RUBRIC FOR CSCI 1800

I. Argumentation (35%)

An exemplary paper:	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	NC	An unsatisfactory paper:
Presents, in a clear manner, strong and well-developed arguments in support of its central claims. Takes a clear stance that is supported by ensuing evidence. Arguments are consistently relevant and within the scope of the thesis.											Fails to adequately defend its central claims or lacks central claim. The presented information is trite, trivial, and/or unoriginal. Provides possibly relevant and/ or important information but is presented more as a literature review, than an argumentation.

II. Mastery of the Pertinent Material (35%)

An exemplary paper:	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	NC	An unsatisfactory paper:
Demonstrates a strong understanding of pertinent cybersecurity terms, concepts, and arguments. Includes analysis on both technical and policy concepts. Gives an accurate exposition and interpretation of the pertinent cybersecurity texts and views, providing textual support where appropriate. Fully explains relevant key terms, concepts, and distinctions.											Fails to demonstrate mastery of the pertinent cybersecurity views, concepts, and arguments. Provides an incomplete and/or inaccurate exposition and interpretation of the pertinent cybersecurity texts and views. Fails to provide adequate explanations for key cybersecurity terms, concepts, or distinctions or focuses paper on explanations without satisfactory analysis or argumentation. Uses some cybersecurity terms when not necessarily appropriate.

III. Introduction and Conclusion (10%)

An exemplary paper:	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	NC	An unsatisfactory paper:
Has an introduction that motivates the presentation and defines a sharp focus by clearly stating its central aim(s) The thesis is clear, easy to find, and provides guidance to the reader.											Has an inadequate introduction, one that fails to motivate the project or establish a clear focus by not stating a thesis or controlling idea that relates to the assigned topic.
Has a conclusion that summarizes results clearly, explores implications/limitations of those results, and leaves readers with a sense of the paper's importance in a broader context.											Has an inadequate conclusion, one that fails either to summarize results or to explain their implications, limitations, and importance.

IV. Organization (10%)

An exemplary paper:	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	NC	An unsatisfactory paper:
Has a clear and logical organizational plan, wherein the ordering of ideas, sentences, and paragraphs builds naturally toward the achievement of its central aim(s). Provides a user-friendly guide to the organizational plan by using transitional words/phrases/sentences to show how the various ideas, sentences, and paragraphs relate to the paper's central aim(s) and to each other. Paragraphs are of appropriate length.											Has an illogical or indiscernible organizational plan - the paper is a hodgepodge of ideas. Fails to provide a clear guide to the organizational plan, e.g., by failing to use adequate transitions or jumping from one idea or point to another without establishing any connection between them.

V. Writing (10%)

An exemplary paper:	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	NC	An unsatisfactory paper:
Exhibits a writing style that is clear, concise, and lucid. There is no possibility for misinterpretation, and the paper contains almost no unnecessary words, imprecision, or irrelevant content. Employs good diction that is appropriate to the subject matter. Contains virtually no errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation, and documents sources properly. Is free of typos. Meets paper length requirement.											Has a writing style that significantly detracts from the argument, involving repetitive and simplistic sentence structures, unnecessarily inflated language, imprecise wording, and/or language that is unclear, wordy, repetitious, or contains irrelevant content. Often employs poor diction. Is riddled with grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors and/or fails to acknowledge sources properly. Is riddled with typos. May not meet paper length requirement.