

I. Background Information

1. Course assessed:
Course Discipline Code and Number: CSS180
Course Title: Computer Security I (formerly PC Security)
Division/Department Codes: Computer Information Science
2. Semester assessment was conducted (check one):
☒ Winter 2009
☐ Winter 20__
☐ Fall 20__
3. Assessment tool(s) used: check all that apply.
☐ Portfolio
☒ Standardized test
☐ Other external certification/licensure exam (specify):
☐ Survey
☐ Prompt
☐ Departmental exam
☐ Capstone experience (specify):
☐ Other (specify):
4. Have these tools been used before?
☐ Yes
☒ No

If yes, have the tools been altered since its last administration? If so, briefly describe changes made.
N/A

5. Indicate the number of students assessed/total number of students enrolled in the course.
23 students were registered in two sections. All students were assessed.
6. Describe how students were selected for the assessment.
N/A

II. Results

1. Briefly describe the changes that were implemented in the course as a result of the previous assessment.
No previous assessment
2. State each outcome (verbatim) from the master syllabus for the course that was assessed.
 - a) Students will be capable of understanding how data packets are transmitted over a network.
 - b) Students will be able to use and configure simple hubs, switches and routers.
 - c) Students will understand basic vulnerabilities of computers and networks.
 - d) Students will be able to perform a basic security assessment of a workstation and simple network.
 - e) Students will be able to apply rudimentary security countermeasures and hardening techniques to guard against common computer attacks and exploits.

3. Briefly describe assessment results based on data collected during the course assessment, demonstrating the extent to which students are achieving each of the learning outcomes listed above:

A significant portion of the courses is embodied in outcomes a) through c). By design, the subject matter resulting in outcomes d) and e) comprise a smaller portion of the course, since it is intended as an introduction to the subject matter.

A total of 23 students, representing 100% of all students completing the courses, were assessed. As reported in the next item below, the success rates are 75.7%, 75.7%, 82.8%, 80.7%, and 80.7% for items a), b), c), d) and e) respectively.

As explained in later sections, outcomes a) and b) are assessed together. For similar reasons, items d) and e) are also assessed together.

4. For each outcome assessed, indicate the standard of success used, and the percentage of students who achieved that level of success.

The standard of success is "at least 80% of students must score 75% or better". Note: the success rates shown below are based on 100% of students.

a) Students will be capable of understanding how data packets are transmitted over a network.	75.7%
b) Students will be able to use and configure simple hubs, switches and routers.	75.7%
c) Students will understand basic vulnerabilities of computers and networks.	82.8%
d) Students will be able to perform a basic security assessment of a workstation and simple network.	80.7%
e) Students will be able to apply rudimentary security countermeasures and hardening techniques to guard against common computer attacks and exploits.	80.7%

The detailed data collected is included as a separate file to this report

5. Describe the areas of strength and weakness in students' achievement of the learning outcomes shown in assessment results.

Strengths: Students' success in understanding and identifying security vulnerabilities—outcome c)—is notably strong. Equally strong is the success for security assessment and applying mitigating techniques—outcomes d) and e). This success rate may be explained that only rudimentary concepts and skills are taught in the course.

Weaknesses: While exceeding the objectives, indicated in 4 above, the success for outcomes a) and b) need improvement. The concepts and skills taught are a foundation for the remaining courses in the program. Hence, improving success rates for these outcomes should improve success rates in more advanced courses in the program.

III. Changes influenced by assessment results

1. If weaknesses were found (see above) or students did not meet expectations, describe the action that will be taken to address these weaknesses.

The content and skills activities relating to outcomes a) and b) need to be reviewed and changes made accordingly.

2. Identify intended changes that will be instituted based on results of this assessment activity (check all that apply). Please describe changes and give rationale for change.
- a. ☐ Outcomes/Assessments on the Master Syllabus
Change/rationale:
 - b. ☐ Objectives/Evaluation on the Master Syllabus
Change/rationale:
 - c. ☐ Course pre-requisites on the Master Syllabus
Change/rationale:
 - d. ☐ 1st Day Handouts
Change/rationale:
 - e. ☐ Course assignments
Change/rationale:
 - f. ☐ Course materials (check all that apply)
 - ☐ Textbook
 - ☐ Handouts
 - ☐ Other:
 - g. ☐ Instructional methods
Change/rationale:
 - h. ☐ Individual lessons & activities
Change/rationale:
3. What is the timeline for implementing these actions? N/A

IV. Future plans

1. Describe the extent to which the assessment tools used were effective in measuring student achievement of learning outcomes for this course.

The assessment tool was effective in measuring the core course contents. However, a review of the tools used in the assessment is necessary to possibly identify better methods for the capture success rates for discrete outcomes.

2. If the assessment tools were not effective, describe the changes that will be made for future assessments.
N/A

3. Which outcomes from the master syllabus have been addressed in this report?

All X Selected _____

If "All", provide the report date for the next full review: _____ Winter 2011 _____.

If "Selected", provide the report date for remaining outcomes: _____.

COURSE ASSESSMENT REPORT**WASHTENAW COMMUNITY COLLEGE****Submitted by:**Name: Michael Galea
Print/SignatureDate: 9-30-2009Department Chair: Clarence Hasselbach
Print/SignatureDate: 10-5-2009Dean: Rosemary Wilson
Print/SignatureDate: 10/6/09*logged 10/9/09 sjv***Please return completed form to the Office of Curriculum & Assessment, SC 247.**
Approved by the Assessment Committee 10/10/06