

IS 628: Computer-based Information Systems
Reading Preparation Assignment
Chapter 14
Information Security

Read Chapter 14 of the text, pp. 561 – 573.

Be prepared for class discussion based on the following questions:

1. What is the role of a chief security officer, and why is this organizational role a relatively new one?
2. If you were offered the position of a CSO for a large organization, what reporting relationship would you want? Under what circumstances do you think a reporting relationship to the CIO is the best choice?
3. What are the overall goals of information risk management?
4. What resources can organizations use to calculate an expected annual financial loss for a given information asset?
5. Why does the Sarbanes-Oxley Act impact the work of IT personnel?
6. Why is it important for an organization to have an information security policy?
7. What is the specific purpose of an acceptable use policy?
8. Reflect on when you last received authority to have a computer account with an organization (e.g., your university), and comment on your own experience when you were asked to sign (or otherwise signify acceptance of) an organizational policy similar to the acceptable use policy described in this chapter. Would you recommend any changes to the organization for what to include in the policy and how to present this policy to a new account holder?
9. What information security issues does electronic records management address?
10. The importance of having vigilant IT professionals who are capable of detecting and minimizing the damage from a security breach has become increasingly important. What is the specific job classification of workers in this field and what are their basic duties?
11. HIPAA concerns will be growing over the next years as more physician practices in the United States adopt electronic health records (to take advantage of a federal government incentive plan under the HITECH Act). What are the concerns regarding the security of health information of patients.
12. How easy is it to find out about an information security policy (e.g., an acceptable use policy) at your university? At an organization where you are an employee?
13. What were some of the lessons learned about business continuity planning that can be derived from organizational experiences following the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center in New York or Hurricane Katrina in 2005?
14. Use the Internet to research some of the IT-related issues that had to be addressed by organizations (or individuals) in a recent natural disaster in your own country.
15. What have been some of the impacts of the eDiscovery amendments on U.S. organizations?