

ISOL 633 Residency Project: Portfolio Assignment (400 pts.)

Introduction & Overview

This is the ISOL 633 Residency Project: Portfolio Assignment, which is a label that merely reflects that one of the overarching M.S. Information Systems Security degree program's Learner Outcomes (a/k/a, "PLOs"; see syllabus and below) will be tested in your work. This is a relatively light research and writing project to be done in a group unless your Instructor advises you to conduct it individually. Although it is relatively light, for example as compared to a master's thesis or a dissertation, it is an academic research paper that requires rigor, commitment, and care.

In ISOL 633 all your work is focused on obtaining the five Course Objectives (also on the syllabus) and this MSISS PLO:

- ✓ Program Outcome 3.1- Students determine which laws apply to different types of business environments.

A successful Portfolio will unequivocally prove that your group has attained the PLO, which is partially why this is not due until the end of the term (see your course dates for details). Also, a successful Portfolio will evince graduate-level written English, and conformity to APA Style guidelines. See the Residency Project: Portfolio Assignment's rubric for a detailed view about how to learn the most in this process, and how to earn the most in terms of a grade on the work.

Requirements

Writing Style and Constructive Requirements

Through experience it is clear that, for some reason, page length is top-of-mind amongst students' curiosities. You are required to write at least five substantive pages (excluding Title, Abstract, References, and Appendices) and no more than 10 without approval from your Instructor.

If you are familiar with APA Style, which is another requirement, you know that the parenthetical above points to the main components of this Portfolio Assignment: Title Page, Abstract Page, Body, References, and Appendices if needed. As graduate students studying in STEM sciences you must follow APA. There are ample resources in UC's Library to learn how to conform.

Besides the Library, you can get all the help desired from UC's The Learning Commons and its Writing Center. You have no excuse to fail at these basic style and construction requirements. This is the so-called low-hanging fruit. Experience shows us that far too few of you will heed this seemingly simple direction. Please take advantage of these resources lest your excellent research and analyses never actually gets communicated. Sometimes the mode is as important as the message. See the course materials for links and tons of help in this vein.

The Research Challenges

Your group's task is to conduct reliable, valid, scholarly research about one of the following bodies of law, and then discuss your findings and critical thoughts about it. As a separate assignment, your group will also present the research and its findings in a way that engages and informs an audience. There have been and will be many areas of information security and privacy laws, so select one of the options that engages you, or perhaps relates to work you're doing.

1. Laws Influencing Information Security and Privacy in the Financial Sector

Select one American financial institution that frames your research. Describe the organization, its business(es), its scope, and any additional descriptive information that will inform your reader about your subject matter.

Describe and define at least one the laws focused on compliance within the financial sector that came up during our course. Research the law itself, any legal cases that were based on that law, and the critique of the law that you found through your research. Of course, if your selected financial institution was involved in such litigation, or has published their critique, include that information too.

In addition to compliance laws that directly target financial institutions, countless other laws apply to them. Use the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's website to discover whether your selected institution has been awarded intellectual property rights for their trademarks, patents, or IP. Describe whether and how it protects its trade secrets. Describe for your reader some of the most prominent criminal or tort risks that your entity faces; or perhaps has been involved in.

In addition to risks in the realms of criminal or tort law, every organization faces the potential risk of enduring a cyber-attack or other incident that must be followed by a forensics investigation. Keeping the focus on your organization and the financial sector, research and discuss an incident or case in which such an institution was compelled to go through the forensic investigation process. There are no sectors exempt from those incidents or cases, regrettably, so be diligent and you will find one to discuss.

Conclude the Portfolio with your overall assessment of whether the legal system—from compliance mandates, to IT, criminal, and tort laws, to forensic investigations—benefits, hurts, or otherwise affects the organization. Assume the role of information security and privacy risk consultant in this section.

2. Laws Influencing Information Security and Privacy in the Education Sector

Select one American academic institution that frames your research. Describe the school, its place in academia, its student body and curricular expanse, and any additional descriptive information that will inform your reader about your subject matter.

Describe and define at least one the laws focused on compliance within the education sector that came up during our course. Research the law itself, any legal cases that were based on that law, and the critique of the law that you found through your research. Of course, if your selected

institution was involved in such litigation, or has published their critique, include that information too.

In addition to compliance laws that directly target educational institutions, countless other laws apply to them. Use the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's website to discover whether your selected institution has been awarded intellectual property rights for their trademarks, patents, or IP. Describe whether and how it protects its trade secrets. Describe for your reader some of the most prominent criminal or tort risks that your entity faces; or perhaps has been involved in.

In addition to risks in the realms of criminal or tort law, every organization faces the potential risk of enduring a cyber-attack or other incident that must be followed by a forensics investigation. Keeping the focus on your organization and the educational sector, research and discuss an incident or case in which such an institution was compelled to go through the forensic investigation process. There are no sectors exempt from those incidents or cases, regrettably, so be diligent and you will find one to discuss.

Conclude the Portfolio with your overall assessment of whether the legal system—from compliance mandates, to IT, criminal, and tort laws, to forensic investigations—benefits, hurts, or otherwise affects the institution. Assume the role of information security and privacy risk consultant in this section.

3. Laws Influencing Information Security and Privacy in the Healthcare Sector

Select one American healthcare organization ("covered entity" in HIPAA parlance) that frames your research. Describe the organization, its components assuming it's a healthcare "system," its business in general, and any additional descriptive information that will inform your reader about your subject matter.

Describe and define at least one the laws focused on compliance within the healthcare sector that came up during our course. Research the law itself, any legal cases that were based on that law, and the critique of the law that you found through your research. Of course, if your selected covered entity was involved in such litigation, or has published their critique, include that information too.

In addition to compliance laws that directly target healthcare institutions, countless other laws apply to them. Use the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's website to discover whether your selected institution has been awarded intellectual property rights for their trademarks, patents, or IP. Describe whether and how it protects its trade secrets. Describe for your reader some of the most prominent criminal or tort risks that your entity faces; or perhaps has been involved in.

In addition to risks in the realms of criminal or tort law, every organization faces the potential risk of enduring a cyber-attack or other incident that must be followed by a forensics investigation. Keeping the focus on your organization and the healthcare sector, research and discuss an incident or case in which such an institution was compelled to go through the forensic investigation process. There are no sectors exempt from those incidents or cases, regrettably, so be diligent and you will find one to discuss.

Conclude the Portfolio with your overall assessment of whether the legal system—from compliance mandates, to IT, criminal, and tort laws, to forensic investigations—benefits, hurts, or otherwise affects the institution. Assume the role of information security and privacy risk consultant in this section.

4. Laws Influencing Information Security and Privacy in the Federal Government

Select one U.S. federal government agency, bureau, directorate, or another organizational entity in the Administrative Branch that frames your research. Describe the organization, its place in the structure of the federal government, its scope of control or legal influence, what types of organizations or individuals are subject to its regulations, and any additional descriptive information that will inform your reader about your subject matter.

Describe and define at least one the laws focused on compliance within the federal government system that came up during our course. Research the law itself, any legal cases that were based on that law, and the critique of the law that you found through your research. Of course, your selected agency was likely involved in such litigation, or has published their critique of the laws, so include that information foremost.

In addition to compliance laws that directly target the federal government's security and privacy, countless other laws apply to them. Use the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's website to discover whether your selected agency has been awarded intellectual property rights (yes, the federal government both owns and awards IP protection through USPTO) for their trademarks, patents, or IP. Describe whether and how it maintains or protects its trade secrets. Describe for your reader some of the most prominent criminal or tort risks that your entity faces; or perhaps has been involved in. Again, even the government is subject to the laws that it creates in this regard.

In addition to risks in the realms of criminal or tort law, every organization faces the potential risk of enduring a cyber-attack or other incident that must be followed by a forensics investigation. Keeping the focus on your agency, and likely also looking to NIST materials, research and discuss an incident or case in which such the agency or another within its greater organization was compelled to go through the forensic investigation process. There are no sectors exempt from those incidents or cases, regrettably, so be diligent and you will find one to discuss.

Conclude the Portfolio with your overall assessment of whether the legal system—from compliance mandates, to IT, criminal, and tort laws, to forensic investigations—benefits, hurts, or otherwise affects the agency. Assume the role of information security and privacy risk consultant in this section.

Additional Requirements as Mandated by Your Instructor

This Portfolio Assignment is subject to changes introduced by your instructor, whose requirements supersede these when the two directions appear at odds. As always, work with your Instructor, ask questions when you're unclear, and do so as soon as practical.

Enjoy the research, improve your writing, and take away lessons that help you and your organization, and maybe even society at large.