**INFORMATION SECURITY GROUP**

**Course Specification 2017-18**

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**Title:** Legal and Regulatory Aspects of Information Security  
**Availability:** Spring term

**Prerequisites:** None  
**Recommended:** None

**Co-ordinator:** Robert Carolina

**Course Staff:** Robert Carolina

**Aims:** This course focuses almost entirely on non-criminal law, with a strong emphasis on obligations and liabilities, and will consider:
- fundamental legal concepts and rules which apply to information security activities, use of security products and services, and related e-commerce activities
- legal risk management techniques for information security managers
- the most significant of regulatory aspects which apply to secure electronic commerce.

**Learning Outcomes:** On successful completion of this course students will have acquired:
- the ability to formulate a risk management approach to legal compliance in the field of information security
- introduction to key categories of legal and regulatory risk in the field of information security, and how to identify and mitigate these risks

**Course Content:**
- Understanding law, regulation, and liability, sources of law. Using a risk management approach to legal and regulatory compliance.
- Voluntary obligations: nature of contracts and application to secure commerce.
- Legal problems of form, including electronic documents & signatures.
- Involuntary obligations: negligence, duty of care, the requirement to act reasonably, the causation problem, comparative fault, emergent problems of product liability, how standards can change quickly without warning.
- Understanding and managing multi-jurisdiction risk, international law, domestic laws and regulations as applied to cross-border / online activity.
- Digital signature and electronic signature laws, liability models, multi-jurisdiction problems, application to banking and payment systems.
- Basics of Intellectual property: catalogue of IP rights, first ownership, assignment, and special topics as relevant (such as anti-circumvention)
- Data protection and privacy regulations, including regulation of cross-border data flow

**Teaching & Learning Methods**
- Lectures, which will involve critical analysis and discussion, and are delivered by a leading legal expert
- Discussion of topics and feedback using Moodle bulletin boards
- Exam Revision session

**Key Bibliography:** Strongly recommended: a current student general text on “information technology law”. Examples:
- Murray, Andrew, Information Technology law: The Law and Society (2d ed, 2013)
- Lloyd, Ian, Information Technology Law (7th ed, 2014)

Recommended: any inexpensive English Law text introducing business law for non-lawyers which includes discussions of contract and tort law.

Further reading: Special subject texts as desired. Examples:
- C. Reed, Making Laws for Cyberspace (2012)

**Formative Assessment and Feedback:** Revision tutorials are given at the end of the year. The tutorials are used to discuss solutions to past exam questions.

**Summative Assessment:**
- **Exam** 100(%) This course is assessed solely by written examination consisting of a two-hour exam. (3 out 5 questions)
- **Coursework** 0(%) Coursework does not contribute to the final assessment for this course.

**Deadlines:** The written examination will be held in the Summer term

The information contained in this course outline is correct at the time of publication, but may be subject to change as part of the Department’s policy of continuous improvement and development. Every effort will be made to notify you of any such changes.