

Name: _____

USC ID: _____

INF 529 Midterm Exam

Spring 2018

Instructions:

Show all work. This exam is open book and open note. You may use electronic devices to consult materials stored on the devices, but you may not use them to access material through the net, or for communication in any manner. Electronic devices must be placed in “airplane mode” with wifi and other communications capabilities disabled. You have **100 minutes** to complete the exam.

Please prepare your answers on separate sheets of paper. You may write your answers on the sheet of paper with the question (front and back). If you need more space, please attach a separate sheet of paper to the page with the particular question. **Do NOT extend your answer on the back of the sheet for a different question, and do NOT use the same extra sheet of paper to answer more than one question.** The exam will be split apart for grading by different people, and if part of your answer for one question appears on a page given to a different grade because the sheet contains parts of the answer to more than one question, then you will NOT receive credit for that part of the answer not seen by the grader. In particular, **each numbered questions must appear on separate pieces of paper so that the exam can be split for grading.**

Be sure to include your **name on each page.**

There are **100 points** in all and **3 questions.**

	Q1	Q2	Q3		Total Score
Score					

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Privacy and Security for Social Media -

One definition of privacy is the “the state or condition of being free from being observed or disturbed by other people” or “the state of being free from public attention.” It is concerned with freedom from public scrutiny in the way we live our lives. For many, our lives are lived on social media.

We use social media, and associated services run by the same companies, for communication replacing e-mail, text message, and even voice calls. We record even the most insignificant details of our lives in social media.

1) Expectation of privacy (40 points)

Discuss your position on what our expectation of privacy should be for information contained within or collected by social media apps and sites? Are our expectations different for different kinds of data and/or communications, and why? Discuss and use examples from class, from current events, from laws and regulations, and from court decisions to argue **BOTH SIDES** of the issue. i.e. for each of the particular kinds of data stored or communicated within social media, provide arguments **FOR AND AGAINST** a finding that we should expect specific kinds of data to remain private. The examples which you draw upon may include descriptions of how such data is being used, as well as articles discussing why or why not we should have an expectation of privacy to such data.

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2) Security in Social Media (40 points)

During our 3rd and 4th lectures we discussed computer security: the kinds of attacks that are mounted on computer systems, the kinds of protections we seek for our systems and data, and some of the technologies that help us achieve these assurances. In this question you will apply what you learned into those two lectures toward securing our data on social media.

- a) Describe techniques that a criminal might use to gain access to otherwise private data available in your social media accounts or from your social media apps?

- b) What are some of the steps that you as a user of social media should take to prevent or mitigate the kinds of attacks described in (a).

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- c) What are some of the design principles and security technologies that you should deploy as the developer or operator of social media systems to prevent or mitigate the kinds of attacks described in (a).

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3) Misuse of social media (20 points)

Discuss some of the ways that social media is being mis-used by industry, or by its users. What scares you regarding the capabilities of social media to invade our privacy? What are some of the unexpected ways that social media apps and systems have been used, and what are the social implications for that misuse.