

Homework 2

Due Date: April 12, 2011 at 11:00am

Points: 20

The Internet began in the late 1960s, with the creation of the ARPAnet. Since then, it has grown beyond everyone's expectations. With its growth, security problems also abounded. This assignment asks you to look at security in that realm.

"Distance learning," in which you take a class at your computer, is becoming very popular. The idea is that students can be at any computer on the Internet. They will download class materials, work on their own, and submit the results over the Internet. During specific times, TAs and the instructor will be on line and available via an interactive conferencing system. But there's one problem: giving tests. Instructors would like to give interactive tests, with questions being posed and the student answering in real time. The student will be at the remote system, of course.

The tests may be open-book or closed-book.

One concern is for the integrity of the course. In this context, "integrity" means that students will not cheat; that is, the student to whom the grade is awarded is the one registered for the class, and that each student's work is his or her own.

1. Please describe some of the problems of integrity that arise from the class being over the Internet. That is, when you describe the problem, say how the student being remote contributes to it.
2. Now focus on the tests. What type of behavior that could be readily identified (and banned) when a test is given in a class is more difficult to identify when the test is being given over the Internet? How might you handle it—or could you not prevent it?