USC Viterbi
School of Engineering
Information Technology Program

TAC 445:
Apple Forensics & Security (macOS & iOS)

Units: 4
Fall 2025
Monday 5:00PM – 8:20PM

Class Location: OHE 542

Instructor: Pierson Clair
Office: TBD
Office Hours: TBD
Contact Info: pclair@usc.edu

Learning Assistant: TBD
Contact Info:

IT Help: Viterbi Information Technology
Hours of Service: Monday-Friday 8AM – 9PM
Contact Info: Phone: 213-740-0517; Email: engrhelp@usc.edu

USC DF Open Lab Hours:
Friday 11AM – 1PM – OHE 542 [Starting Week 2]

Program Mission: The goal of the Digital Forensics and Cyber Security program at USC is to develop the critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and technical writing skills that are necessary to effectively work in a junior level digital forensic or cyber security analyst role. This is accomplished through utilizing industry standard tools and techniques to investigate labs and cases based upon real-world investigations and intrusions. Students will study various areas of cyber investigations, including digital evidence gathering, reporting, examinations, and court presentations. Students will study cyber security tenants of risk analysis, remediation, as well as penetration testing and network security design.

Advice from Former Students:
Preethi says start sooner on everything… you'll thank her later! Always bring your take home drive to class that way you always have your evidence to work on. Get your at home environment setup early in the semester!

Course Description

- This course is designed as an advanced course in computer forensics focusing on Mac OS X, macOS, iOS, and other components of the Apple ecosystem. The course assumes that students have either satisfied the prerequisite of ITP/TAC 375 – Digital Forensics, or have received instructor approval. Students will engage in forensic acquisition and analysis of the above family of devices.
- The goal of the Digital Forensics program at USC is to develop the critical thinking, analytical reasoning, and technical writing skills that are necessary to effectively work in a junior level digital forensic or cyber security analyst role. This is accomplished through utilizing industry standard tools and techniques to investigate labs and cases based upon real-world investigations.
- ITP/TAC 445 & ITP/TAC 447 are built differently than ITP/TAC 375, ITP/TAC 475, and INF 528. You'll apply knowledge you've learned in these courses along with applying knowledge from ITP/TAC 125 and other ITP/TAC classes to logically solve puzzles. You are expected to manage your time properly taking into account that assignments are staggered but may be due at the same time. These classes contain ambiguity and are built to help you bridge from an academic setting to a business environment.

Learning Objectives

- Understand the fundamentals of computer forensics for Mac OS X, macOS, and iOS systems. Discussions will also include tvOS and watchOS.
- Understand the relationship between IT, IS, and Forensics
- Learn industry standard best practices utilizing industry standard tools for incident response, acquisition, investigation, and presentation of findings regarding Apple hardware, software, and mobile devices
- Be able to visually identify Apple hardware/mobile devices and recommend acquisition methodologies while understanding the different types of information available from different acquisition tools and methods

Prerequisite(s): ITP/TAC 375 (Introduction to Digital Forensics) [or INF 528]

Course Notes

Course is letter graded, with any and all materials available on Blackboard (blackboard.usc.edu). Labs will be conducted in the security lab (OHE 542) during assigned class time or on your own time outside the classroom.

Technological Proficiency and Hardware/Software Required

For any upper-division course (300-level and above), it is assumed that you have refined your technical abilities in the prerequisite classes, including basic Python scripting.

Required Readings and Supplementary Materials

Due to the fast paced changes in Mac and iOS forensics, AppleExaminer.com via archive.org, ForensicFocus.com and ForensicsWiki.org along with instructor handouts/posts will serve as digital textbooks for the majority of the semester.

Optional textbook: The Art of Memory Forensics: Detecting Malware and Threats in Windows, Linux, and Mac Memory – ISBN-10: 1118825098 – ISBN-13: 978-1118825099

A 1TB (or larger) USB 3.0 (or faster) bus powered hard drive or SSD is highly recommended to work on assignments outside of class.

Should you wish to work on assignments outside of class and open lab hours, the current version of Inspector requires 16GB of RAM minimum.

Description and Assessment of Assignments

The assignments will be a combination of in-class and out-of-class laboratory exercises. They will typically involve some form of procedural work, with some reflection on the work performed including researching processes and procedures performed. All laboratory exercises will be graded on a point-scale, typically between 5 and 10 points. This course will involve heavy work conducting case examinations and writing case reports. This class will also include a large research project to be completed during the second half of the semester.

Grading Breakdown (out of 100 points)

Lab Assignments 3 @ 5% each Wireshark, Log File Analysis, Basic OS Triage	15%
Case Practical 1 - IP Theft	10%
Case Practical 2 - Social Media	10%
Case Practical 3 - iPhone Fun	10%
Case Practical 4 - Grade Distortion	15%
Midterm Exam	10%
Final Project/White Paper	25%
Participation/Professionalism	5%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

Course final grades will be determined using the following scale

A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	59 and below

Grading Policies

The lab assistants, graders, and instructors will do their best to return assignments graded to students within two weeks of submission. Certain assignments that are longer in length, including exams, case reports, and final projects, may require more time.

The grading breakdown is posted. There is no curve, and grades are based on performance in the class. While we understand the importance of grades and maintaining a high GPA, we cannot hand out high marks without justified performance in the class. Do not rely upon an expectation of a guaranteed minimum final grade in this class regardless of its impact on your overall GPA, financial situation, familial situation, or the fate of the galaxy.

The instructor is the ultimate authority over any grade for any assignment, exam or class.

University policy states that no extra credit may be afforded to individual students without the same opportunity made available to everyone in the class. Should there be extra credit in the class, it will be made available to the entire class. Do not ask the instructor for additional extra credit.

Grades will be posted on Blackboard and it is your responsibility to ensure that the grades online are accurate and to follow your progress in the class.

Assignment Policies

The labs will be posted on Blackboard under the "Assignments" or "Labs" section. Each lab will include instructions, a due date, and a link for electronic submission. Labs must be submitted using this link. Do not email your assignments to the instructor, lab assistants, or graders. TurnItIn may be utilized for some assignments, and you must make sure that you have fully submitted the assignment (usually a two step process).

Unless otherwise noted, all lab assignments and case reports are due at the beginning of class on the date noted in the syllabus, unless otherwise modified by Blackboard announcement and/or email from the instructor. Do not expect a timely response from the lab assistants, graders, or instructors if emailed after normal business hours particularly on the date the assignment is due.

If you join the class after the semester has started, you will have two weeks from the date of enrollment to complete all assignments due before you joined the class unless a written extension is granted from the instructor, typically via email.

It is your responsibility to submit your assignments on or before the due date and verify it has been successfully submitted. Assignments turned in up to 24 hours late will have 25% of the total points deducted from the graded score. Assignments turned in between 24 and 48 hours late will have 50% of the total points deducted from the graded score. After two days, submissions will not be accepted and you will receive no credit for the assignment.

The lab assistants and graders are not authorized to grant an extension on any assignment. Any extensions must be requested of the instructor in writing and confirmed in writing. If you ask for an extension on the day the assignment is due, without expressing an emergency such as being kidnapped and taken to Mexico, it will probably not be granted.

Certain assignments will require a paper submission, and you may be asked to submit them to the main TAC office. There have been previous allegations of student rudeness to the TAC Staff. If the staff complains about you being rude, you will have 25% automatically deducted from your assignment. Don't be rude.

The instructor and lab assistants reserve the right to not answer certain questions about the lab/case assignments. This is normally due to the nature of the question being directly related to the learning objectives of the lab/case. You are encouraged to use online resources to further your understanding of the material to successfully answer questions related to the lab assignment (in other words, use your research skills).

All lab assignments have been tested by the instructor and/or lab assignments. Due to the nature of certain software packages and configurations in the lab, the assignments may or may not work as intended. You are encouraged to ask questions if something appears to not work correctly. However, there are certain instances where things are intended to not work correctly and the instructor and lab assistant will indicate as such. When in doubt, do a little research.

Unless otherwise announced, all assignments are due at the start of class on the day/week they are due. For cases, please turn in a copy on Blackboard and bring a hard copy to class with your investigative notes stapled to the report.

Exam Policies

Please review the schedule of classes for the Final Exam schedule. Should you have a scheduling conflict with the final exam, you must contact the instructor and coordinate an alternative time by the end of Week 3. Any requests made after Week 3 are not guaranteed to be accommodated.

Per USC policy, Final Exams must be scheduled during the assigned final examination schedule. It is your responsibility to arrange your travel after the scheduled date of the final exam.

All students are required to participate in the final exam and/or project. Failure to take the final exam and/or submit a final project will result in an automatic failure in the class.

No make-up exams (except for documented medical or family emergencies) will be offered nor will there be any changes made to the Final Exam schedule. Missing your alarm is not an emergency. A documented medical event (car accident with documentation), family emergency (death in the family), or alien abduction can be considered emergencies.

Contacting the Instructor, Lab Assistants or Graders

When emailing the lab assistants, graders or instructor, please be sure to include your full name, student ID, class name and number, and class section (day and time) in the email.

Emails sent to the lab assistants or graders will be responded to within two business days. The instructor will endeavor to respond to emails within two business days. Do not email anyone with the expectation of an immediate response within the hour. Please do not complain when we have not responded to your email ten minutes before the assignment deadline.

Questions regarding individual clarification or regrade must be made through email to both the grader and the instructor. When requesting a regrade, the instructor has the prerogative to alter a grade higher or lower based upon a review of the entire assignment. Be absolutely certain before requesting a regrade of any assignment or exam – if you are going to roll the dice, be certain of your gamble.

Questions about lab assignments should be submitted through the class discussion board (typically Piazza). This will have a faster response rate. Do not post code or answers on Piazza.

The instructor will post his/her regular office hours on blackboard. You may request a meeting with the instructor outside of normal office hours. Should you go to the instructor's office outside of normal office hours or outside of a scheduled meeting, do not expect the instructor to be able to meet with you. We do have other responsibilities outside of the class.

Attendance Policy

You are expected to be in class, on time, and distraction free. As this class meets once a week and as it is lecture and lab any student who misses more than two classes is in danger of failing the course. Please see the instructor immediately if you have missed two or more class meetings.

This is a lab-based class. Certain class sections will be lecture, lab, or a combination of lecture and lab. Attendance is vital to success in the class, and punctuality is vital to success in your professional careers. The lab assistants will be taking attendance for every class meeting. If you anticipate missing a class due to an event, please email the lab assistants and instructor prior to the start of class. If you are sick, we want you to get better and not infect your fellow classmates – please email the lab assistants and instructor. Should you miss a class with a lab assignment, contact the lab assistants to determine available times to come to the lab and finish your assignment.

If you are not in class, it is not the TA nor the instructor's responsibility to teach you the material that you missed. Attendance is mandatory for guest lectures. Guest lectures are tentatively noted in the syllabus and

will be announced in class. The Professionalism/Participation grade is a combination grade based upon class participation, overall quality of work, and other factors that are important in the forensic investigation line of work.

Writing Skills

A significant portion of the cyber security and digital forensics curriculum involves communicating what was discovered by writing professional quality reports. These reports are held to standards that are expected by professionals in industry who are writing reports for clients, attorneys, judges and juries. It is expected that the reports will be written with correct spelling, grammar and language nuances of the American English language. A component of each report grade will be based on writing style, grammar and word choice. These reports must be accessible to technical and non-technical readers alike. Please take care to properly communicate your lab and assignment findings.

If you are not a native English speaker and writer, it is recommended that you visit the USC American Language Institute (http://ali.usc.edu/) for resources to assist you in this course and your professional careers. Writing assistance is also available from the Dornsife Writing Center (https://dornsife.usc.edu/writingcenter/). You do not need to be a Dornsife student to take advantage of the services from the Writing Center. Additional writing assistance is also available from the Viterbi Writing Center in the form of Writing Consultations (http://viterbi.usc.edu/students/undergrad/varc/writing-consultations.htm). In accordance with University standards, plagiarism of any type will not be tolerated.

News Assignment

To promote class discussion, each student will be required to submit an article for class discussion starting week two. Articles shall be posted with a hyperlink to the article and a one-paragraph summary to the USC Forensics Blog at http://uscdigitalforensics.blogspot.com/. If you have not used this blog before, please submit your google user name (which is not your USC e-mail address) to the instructor.

News stories should directly pertain to material covered in this class and may relate to: Apple, Mac OSX, iOS, iPhone, iPad, Mac malware/spyware/viruses/security, unique software or hardware which could impede or aid a forensic acquisition or examination

- Post a link to the proper week on the blog at least one hour before class.
- Please submit a story that is no more than one week old.
- Please take care not to duplicate stories that have been submitted that week.
- If the story is behind a pay-wall or subscription-wall or requires a login, please submit a PDF copy along with the link.
- Be prepared to give a short two-minute summary of the article and any surrounding background details to start the discussion.
- Press releases including anything from prweb.com are not valid news content
- Make you you validate the veracity of your news story
    - Example: Content from TheHackerNews is frequently inaccurate
- Groups will be posted to Blackboard once enrollment has settled.
- Each proper posting contributes to your participation grade
- If you are in need of news sources, please visit http://feedly.com/pclair

Course Content Distribution and Synchronous Session Recordings Policies

USC has policies that prohibit the recording and distributing any synchronous and asynchronous course content outside of the learning environment.

Recording a university class without the express written permission of the instructor and announcement to the class, or unless conducted pursuant to an Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) accommodation. Recording can inhibit free discussion in the future and thus infringe on the academic freedom of other students and the instructor. (Living our Unifying Values: The USC Student Handbook, page 13).

Distribution or use of notes, recordings, exams, or other intellectual property, based on university classes or lectures without the express written permission of the instructor for purposes other than individual or group study. This includes but is not limited to providing materials for distribution by services publishing course materials. This restriction on unauthorized use also applies to all information that had been distributed to students or in any way had been displayed for use in relation to the class, whether obtained in class, via email, on the internet, or via any other media. (Living our Unifying Values: The USC Student Handbook, page 13).

Academic Integrity

The University of Southern California is foremost a learning community committed to fostering successful scholars and researchers dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and the transmission of ideas. Academic misconduct is in contrast to the university's mission to educate students through a broad array of first-rank academic, professional, and extracurricular programs and includes any act of dishonesty in the submission of academic work (either in draft or final form).

This course will follow the expectations for academic integrity as stated in the USC Student Handbook. All students are expected to submit assignments that are original work and prepared specifically for the course/section in this academic term. You may not submit work written by others or "recycle" work prepared for other courses without obtaining written permission from the instructor(s). Students suspected of engaging in academic misconduct will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Other violations of academic misconduct include but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication (e.g., falsifying data), knowingly assisting others in acts of academic dishonesty, and any act that gains or is intended to gain an unfair academic advantage.

The impact of academic dishonesty is far-reaching and is considered a serious offense against the university and could result in outcomes such as failure on the assignment, failure in the course, suspension, or even expulsion from the university.

For more information about academic integrity, see the student handbook or the Office of Academic Integrity's website, and university policies on Research and Scholarship Misconduct.

Policy on Generative AI

Since creating, analytical, and critical thinking skills are part of the learning outcomes of this course, all assignments should be prepared by the student working individually or as allowed by the instructor in groups. Students may not have another person or entity complete any substantive portion of the assignment. Developing strong competencies in these areas will prepare you for a competitive workplace. Therefore, using AI-generated tools is prohibited in this course, will be identified as plagiarism, and will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Additional University policies follow the course schedule.

TAC 445 - Course Schedule

Subject to Change Throughout the Semester

For some readings, you may need to copy and paste the link together, if it runs onto a second line

Week 1 (August 25) – Introduction

- Course Introduction & Pierson's Rules for Life
- Forensic Process Review & Metadata Analysis
- Network Packet Capture & Analysis with Wireshark

Reading

- Review intro slides
- https://lawfareblog.com/apple-blackhat-reopening-going-dark-debate

Assignment/Lab

- Forensic Fundamentals Review Slides
- Report Writing Guidelines & Watch Video Lecture (found in Forensic Dropbox/Report…)
- Assign: Wireshark Lab [Due Week 2]
- Send Pierson your gmail address for news assignment

Week 2 (September 1) – No Class – Labor Day

Week 3 (September 8) – Introduction to Apple Hardware, Operating Systems & Artifacts

- **Mac OS X & macOS History**
  - System 6, 7, 8, 9, Early Versions of OS X/Mac OS X 10.5 – macOS Mojave 10.14
  - Apple Desktop, Laptop, Server/SAN, and network hardware
- Differences between Apple's OSX and Microsoft Windows
- PowerPC, Intel, M series (ARM) Processor & Hardware Architecture - 32bit v 64bit
- Log Files & Apple Time
- File Systems & Disk Structures: GUID/MBR/Partitions, HFS+ & APFS
- Apple Password/User Authentication Security
- System Preferences: User Accounts, Built-in Firewall, Access & Network Controls, Sharing

Reading

- https://github.com/mac4n6/Presentations/blob/master/Analysis%20and%20Correlation%20of%20Mac%20Logs/Analysis_and_Correlation_of_Mac_Logs.pdf
- https://github.com/mac4n6/Presentations/blob/master/Analysis%20and%20Correlation%20of%20Mac%20Logs/Analysis_and_Correlation_of_Mac_Logs_2016.pdf
- https://github.com/mac4n6/Presentations/blob/master/Logs%20Unite!%20-%20Forensic%20Analysis%20of%20Apple%20Unified%20Logs/LogsUnite.pdf

Assignment/Lab

- Due: Wireshark Lab
- Watch Intro to Inspector (BlackLight) recording (found in Forensic Dropbox/Software/BlackLight)
- Assign: Log File Analysis Lab [Due Week 4]

Week 4 (September 15) – Forensic Tools Introduction & In Class Lab

- Lab Computer Setup
- Introduction to Cellebrite Inspector (formerly known as BlackLight)
- Thinking about Investigations: Forensic Analysis Methodologies & Initial Case Triage
- Basic OS Information Lab (Lab 3) In-Class Work Time

Reading

- Cellebrite Inspector User Guide: Inspector → Help → User's Guide

Assignment/Lab

- Assign: Basic OS Information Lab [Due Week 6]
- Due: Log File Analysis Lab

Week 5 (September 22) – Introduction of Forensic Acquisition of Macintosh Hardware

- Mac Hardware Triage & Acquisition
- Cellebrite Digital Collector (formerly known as MacQuisition) Hands On, EWMounter Demo
- Basic OS Information Lab (Lab 3) In-Class Work Time

Assignment/Lab

- Assign: Case Practical 1 [Due Week 8]
- Assign: Case Practical 4 [Due Day of Final Exam]

Week 6 (September 29) – Mac Live Incident Response & Malware

- Live Response at the Terminal
- SQLite Database Foundations & Analysis
- Detecting macOS malware and auto-runs
- How processes start on macOS

Reading

- n/a

Assignment/Lab

- Due: Basic OS Information Lab

Week 7 (October 6) – Midterm Review

- State of Mac Security & The Ultimate Case Investigation
- Acquisition of Fusion & Hybrid Drives – Core Storage
- Midterm Review/Case & Lab Work Time

Reading

- As assigned

Assignment/Lab

- Assign: Case Practical 2 [Due Week 11]

Week 8 (October 13) – Midterm & Guest Lecture

- Midterm
- Guest Lecture

Assignment/Lab

- Due: Case Practical 1
- Assign: White Paper Assignment [Due Day of Final Exam]
- Assign: Case Practical 3 [Due Week 13]

Week 9 (October 20) – Advanced Mac Artifacts

- Advanced Mac Artifacts including kernel extensions

Reading

- As assigned

Assignment/Lab

- n/a

Week 10 (October 27) – iOS Acquisition Approaches & Methodologies

- Blacklight, MPE+, Zdiarski, EnCase 7, Cellebrite, Elcomsoft
- Physical v Logical Acquisition
- Firmware Modes; Normal, Recovery, DFU
- Passcode Cracking

Reading

- TBA

Assignment/Lab

- n/a

Week 11 (November 3) – Introduction to iOS (iPhone/iPad) & iOS Third Party Apps

- Versions of iOS
- Apple Applications
- Contacts, SMS/MMS, Calendar
- Encryption & Security
- Jailbreaking
- Recovery of Deleted Content
- iOS Backup Files

Reading

- As assigned

Assignment/Lab

- Due: Case Practical 2

Week 12 (November 10) – Memory Analysis

- Mac Memory Analysis

Recommended Reading

- The Art of Memory Forensics chapters 1-4 & 28-31

Assignment/Lab

- n/a

Week 13 (November 17) – Case & Lab work

- White Paper & Case Work Time

Week 14 (November 24 Thanksgiving week – Case work)

- White Paper & Case Work Time

Assignment/Lab

- Due: Case Practical 3

Week 15 (December 1 – Case work)

- White Paper Work Time

Assignment/Lab

- Due: Case Practical 4

Final Exam Day - White Paper Presentations

The White Paper assignment will allow students to gain a deeper technical understanding into a specific part of either the macOS 12 Monterey or newer Operating Systems or a commonly installed Mac application from a forensic perspective. Alternatively, an iOS iOS 16 or newer Operating System component or application may be selected. Topic selections must be approved by the instructor. Students may work individually or in pairs. If students elect to work in pairs, the work will be expected to be double an individual's effort. The white paper will be presented in class with individuals having 8 minutes to present their research and groups having 16 minutes to present their research. If pursued individually, the paper should be 3 pages, 1.5 spaced with graphics, charts, or other media placed on appendix pages or 6 pages for groups. This project will be graded based primarily on the quality of the research and understanding of your topic.

Monday December 15 - Date & Time: According to the final exam schedule on the Schedule of Classes

Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Students and Disability Accommodations:
USC welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. The Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter disability-related barriers. Once a student has completed the OSAS process (registration, initial appointment, and submitted documentation) and accommodations are determined to be reasonable and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be available to generate for each course. The LOA must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. This should be done as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at osas.usc.edu. You may contact OSAS at (213) 740-0776 or via email at osasfrontdesk@usc.edu.

Support Systems:
Counseling and Mental Health - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call
Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline - 988 for both calls and text messages – 24/7 on call
The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the United States. The Lifeline is comprised of a national network of over 200 local crisis centers, combining custom local care and resources with national standards and best practices. The new, shorter phone number makes it easier for people to remember and access mental health crisis services (though the previous 1 (800) 273-8255 number will continue to function indefinitely) and represents a continued commitment to those in crisis.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-9355(WELL) – 24/7 on call
Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender- and power-based harm (including sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking).

Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX (EEO-TIX) - (213) 740-5086
Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants.

Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298
Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

The Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) - (213) 740-0776
OSAS ensures equal access for students with disabilities through providing academic accommodations and auxiliary aids in accordance with federal laws and university policy.

USC Campus Support and Intervention - (213) 740-0411
Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - (213) 740-2101
Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call
Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-1200 – 24/7 on call
Non-emergency assistance or information.

Office of the Ombuds - (213) 821-9556 (UPC) / (323-442-0382 (HSC)
A safe and confidential place to share your USC-related issues with a University Ombuds who will work with you to explore options or paths to manage your concern.

Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice - (323) 442-2850 or otfp@med.usc.edu ß
Confidential Lifestyle Redesign services for USC students to support health promoting habits and routines that enhance quality of life and academic performance.

Fall 2020 – Online Class Specific Policies [Leaving for Fall 2025 Benefit]

Technological Proficiency and Hardware/Software Required

This is a senior level course in advanced digital forensics. You do not need the most powerful computer to conduct the processing and investigation surrounding the labs and cases. You will need a computer that can run Cellebrite Inspector If your computer is slower, please allow ample time to process and complete the investigation. Your home lab will be your primary lab. The expectation is that your home lab will be fully setup and functional by the end of week two (or within one week of the USC Forensic Licensing Server being active). If you have any issues with your remote home lab setup, please communicate those to the Professor before week 3 of the semester. The Professor will make every effort to assist with and accommodate issues related to remote learning, however, failing to plan is planning to fail.

USC Technology Rental Program

We realize that attending classes online and completing coursework remotely requires access to technology that not all students possess. If you need resources to successfully participate in your classes, such as a laptop or internet hotspot, you may be eligible for the university's equipment rental program. To apply, please submit an application. The Student Basic Needs team will contact all applicants in early August and distribute equipment to eligible applicants prior to the start of the fall semester.

TAC Loaner Laptop Program

This program exists to loan a limited number of devices to students who do not have the appropriate hardware to work on TAC coursework. This semester, we'll be working with Viterbi IT (VIT) to facilitate the shipping and/or pick-up of loaner devices for our students. Eligible students will be able to borrow a MacBook or Dell XPS for TAC coursework once their request is approved and their contract is signed via DocuSign. Though the initial loan period is 7 days, they will still be able to renew their device and extend the loan period as in previous semesters. All they need to do is pop into one of our Zoom device check-in sessions before the end of each week. Please share this resource with your students! More information about the TAC Loaner Laptop Program and the request form can be found below: https://TAC.usc.edu/current-students/TAC-device-check-outs/

Participation/Zoom etiquette

This is a small seminar style class, the expectation, just as if this was in OHE 542, is that you will be ready to learn, on-time, and distraction free. The expectation is that you should have your webcam turned on.

Should you have questions or concerns about complying with a policy, for instance, if a student is unable to keep their camera on during the synchronous Zoom session, contact the Professor prior to the class session to discuss expectations and accommodations needed.

Synchronous Session Recording Notice

Synchronous sessions will be recorded and provided to all students asynchronously.

USC Technology Support Links

Zoom information for students
Software available to USC Campus