INTRO TO ETHICAL HACKING

MIS 5211.701

Week 1

https://community.mis.temple.edu/mis5211sec701fall2021/

1

Introduction

- William Bailey
  - William.bailey@temple.edu
  - Office Hours via Zoom

2

Passing This Course

- 20% of the grade is based on participation. Make sure you post and comment in the blog.
- 30% of the grade is based on assignments. Do them and turn them in.
- If you have a conflict or issue with meeting a particular deadline, talk to me beforehand.

3

About the Course

- Our focus will be to provide you with an understanding of the process involved in penetration testing and the primary tools sets used
  - Organized around the workflow of a professional tester
  - Tips for avoiding common pitfalls

MIS 5211.001 4

4

Caution

- The tools and techniques discussed and used in this course should only be used on systems you personally own or have written permission to use.
- Some of the tools used have the potential to disrupt or break computer systems.

MIS 5211.001 5

5

Ethical Hacking

- What is hacking?
- What is Ethical about Hacking

MIS 5211.001 6

6

My Definition

- A hacker explores the difference between how something is supposed to work and how it really works.

7

Wikipedia's Definition

- In the computer security context, a hacker is someone who seeks and exploits weaknesses in a computer system or computer network.

8

Mindset

- Successful penetration testers look at the world through a different lens
  - They think outside the box
  - They do things differently
  - They don't look at the glass as half full or half empty, instead they look at the glass and think "If I hit the glass just right, I can crack it and drain out just what I want.

9

Mindset (Continued)

- Successful penetration tester also need to have the following work habits
  - Methodical
  - Thorough
  - Careful
  - Ethical
- habitual note taker and documentation fiend
  - If you can't duplicate a finding, you didn't find it!

10

Threat vs. Vulnerability vs. Risk

- Threat: Any circumstance or event with the potential to adversely impact organizational operations.
- Vulnerability: Weakness in an information system, system security procedures, internal controls, or implementation that could be exploited by a threat source.
- Risk: A measure of the extent to which an entity is threatened by a potential circumstance or event
- **A risk exist when a threat actor (or agent) targets a vulnerability**

Source: NIST SP 800-30 r1

11

Threat vs. Vulnerability vs. Risk Continued

- A penetration tester:
  - identifies vulnerabilities
  - Evaluates likely threats
  - Recommends Mitigation Activities
  - Recommends corrective actions
- In other words, you don't just say you found something bad. You also must explain why it is bad and suggest how to fix it.

12

General Types of Attacks Active vs Passive

- Attacks violate CIA (Confidentiality, Integrity, or Availability.
- Active Attack
  - Manipulates or changes systems or information
  - Examples – Malware, Spear Phishing, Man-in-the-Middle
- Passive Attack
  - No manipulation or Change
  - Monitoring only
  - Example – Sniffing wireless traffic

13

General Types of Attacks Internal vs External

- Internal
  - Launched from within an organization
  - Typically considered insider threat
  - Could also be a trespasser
- External
  - From the internet
  - From partners on leased lines
  - From exposed WiFi
  - Cloud vulnerabilities

14

Penetration Testing

- Focused on finding vulnerabilities
  - Uses many of the same tools and techniques as criminals
  - Penetration Testing is a subset of Ethical Hacking
  - Penetration Testing and Ethical Hacking are often used interchangeably
  - Penetration Testing usually means going a bit further than Ethical Hacking in order to prove a system can be breached and data obtained

15

Security Assessments

- Generally focused on identifying vulnerabilities without compromising systems
  - Vulnerability Scanning
  - Architectural Reviews
  - Configuration Reviews
  - Code Reviews
  - Audits

16

Benefits of Assessments

- Unlikely to crash systems
- Staff performing these evaluations often bring different and unique skill sets to the table
- Different perspectives on the organization

17

Authorization

- Penetration Test agreement
  - Legally binding contract or WRITTEN agreement (internal)
  - Authorization for the assessment
  - What can be done
  - What cannot be done
  - Scope of project – devices, networks
  - Points of Contact / Escalation
  - Actions would normally be criminal under 18 USC 1030.

18

(Mutual) Non-Disclosure

- Non-Disclosure Agreement – unilateral agreement, only one party agrees to protect other party's confidential information.
- Mutual Non-Disclosure Agreement – both parties protect each other's confidential information.

19

Why Do We Do This

- Find vulnerabilities before the "Bad" guys do
- Ensure management understands the risks in their systems
- Informs Security Operations as to what to look for in their monitoring systems
  - Security Operations is often not informed of work to test if appropriate monitoring is in place

20

What To Do With Findings

- Document the findings
- From the client perspective:
  - Document issues
  - Develop action plans
  - Mitigate

OR

  - Risk Acceptance

21

Types of Tests

- Infrastructure (Network)
- Web
- Dial-Up (War Dialing)
- Wireless (War Driving / Walking / Chalking (flying a drone))
- Social Engineering
- Physical
- Application
- Cloud

22

Phases

- Reconnaissance
  - What technology is in use in the target environment
- Scanning
  - What vulnerabilities exist within the target environment
- Exploitation
  - Can the vulnerabilities be used

23

Alternate View

- Lockheed Martin Cyber Kill Chain
- https://www.lockheedmartin.com/en-us/capabilities/cyber/cyber-kill-chain.html
- We will not use this in the class, but you may want to familiarize yourself with it (Might come in handy during a job interview)

24

Going too Far

- Malicious attackers go further
  - Maintaining access
  - Covert Channels
  - Exfiltrating Data
  - Covering Tracks

25

Iteration and Following Hunches

- Phases are not usually this clean
- Some jumping around is to be expected
- Skilled testers often get a feel for where vulnerabilities may exist based on their experience in similar systems

26

Limitations

- Penetration Testing can't find everything
  - Limited time
  - Limited scope
  - Some vulnerabilities are only exposed in specific conditions that may not exist at the time of testing
  - Testers have different strengths and weaknesses
  - Some techniques will be off-limits due to potential negative impacts on a target environment

27

Limitations Known Vulnerabilities

- Tool sets only find known vulnerabilities
- Few testers have the skill set to find unknown vulnerabilities and develop custom attacks
  - Even fewer organizations want to fund this level of investigation
  - May violate terms and conditions of software or hardware licensing

28

Public Methodologies

- A number of groups publish methodologies for testing systems for vulnerabilities
- Can be useful as guidelines for establishing how you pursue testing
- Examples:
  - Open Source Security Testing Methodology Manual (OSSTMM)
    - https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/computer-science/open-source-security-testing-methodology-manual
    - OWASP Testing Framework
    - https://www.owasp.org/index.php/The_OWASP_Testing_Framework
  - NIST SP800-115
    - http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/Legacy/SP/nistspecialpublication800-115.pdf
  - Penetration Testing Framework 0.59
    - http://www.vulnerabilityassessment.co.uk/Penetration%20Test.html

29

Infrastructure for Penetration Testing

- Software Tools
- Hardware
- Network Infrastructure

- We will cover some basics
  - Adjust to suite need
  - Dependent on type of targets and tests

30

Operating Systems

- Penetration Testers need to shift between multiple operating systems
- Some tools are only available on one platform
- Some tools may be available on multiple platforms, but work better (or worse) on specific platforms
- At a minimum, some Linux and Windows proficiency is needed

31

Software for Testing in this Course

- Kali 2021.2
  - BackTrack Reborn according to Offensive Security, the providers of Kali
  - Available at http://www.kali.org/downloads/
  - Kali is large (3 G +), so give yourself some time
  - Linux distribution
  - Many tools included

32

Software for Testing in this Course (2)

- Security Shepherd
  - OWASP tool for Web and Mobile training
  - Available at:
    - https://github.com/OWASP/SecurityShepherd/releases/tag/v3.1
  - Overview:
    - https://www.owasp.org/index.php/OWASP_Security_Shepherd

33

Virtualization for This Course

- VMWare Player
  - Free for personal use, scroll down
  - Available at:
    - http://www.vmware.com/products/player/
- VMWare Workstation (or Fusion) is available from Temple's software repository (Good for 1 year).
- Virtual Box
  - Free for personal use, scroll down
  - Available at:
    - https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads

34

Other Free Tools

- Many other tools are available
- A handful will be required for this class. I will cover them when we get there.
- If you go on to do penetration testing, you will likely collect a number of tools
  - Be careful
  - Research tool before downloading
  - Run them in a test environment first

35

Some Sources of Tools and Exploits

- Exploit Database
  - http://www.exploit-db.com/
- Packet Storm
  - http://packetstormsecurity.com/
- Pentest-Tools
  - https://pentest-tools.com/home
- Security Audit Systems
  - https://www.security-audit.com/blog/

I am not endorsing these sites, just making you aware of them.

36

Vulnerability Research

- US-CERT
  - https://www.us-cert.gov/
- National Vulnerability Database
  - http://nvd.nist.gov/home.cfm
- Mitre CVE
  - http://cve.mitre.org/
- Exploit Database
  - http://www.exploit-db.com/
- CVE Details
  - http://www.cvedetails.com/

MIS 5211.001 37

37

Commercial Tools

- Many commercial tools are available, for a price
- Tenable - Commercial version of Nessus
- Qualys – Vulnerability Scanner (alternative to Nessus)
- GSM Trial (f/k/a Greenbone & OpenVAS) – open source vulnerability scanner, pay for support, additional test(s)
- Rapid7 – Commercial Metasploit, Nexpose Vulnerability Scanner
- Core Security – Core Impact
- HP – Fortify Code Scanner

MIS 5211.001 38

38

In House Tools

- Talk to your developers
  - May have already built scripts and tools
  - May already own some commercial tools that can be leveraged

MIS 5211.001 39

39

Going Further With Labs

- Not needed for this course
- Consider building out a hardware lab
  - Free tools should be tested in a lab before using them in testing
  - Mimic what you expect to test
  - Mix up OSs
  - Does not need to be new equipment, recycle
  - Good environment to continue learning

40

Machines for Testing

- Dedicated machines for conducting tests
  - Not used for normal activity
  - Do not keep any sensitive information
  - May be tied up for long periods of time doing scanning
- If you expect to do a great deal of scanning, consider a separate server dedicated to scanning

41

Virtual Test Machines

- Host Machines
  - VMWare Player
  - VMWare Workstation
  - ESXi
  - VirtualBox
  - ZEN
  - MicroSoft Virtual PC
- Guest machines may be ideal for testing
  - Can be built for test
  - Can be reset if corrupted
  - Can be deleted after testing
  - Can be duplicated if additional guests are need
- We will go over setting up VMWare for testing in future weeks

42

ISPs

- Many ISPs monitor traffic for malicious activity
- Inform your ISP prior to starting Pen Testing
- May need to move to a business account
- May need to "negotiate" with the ISP

43

Cloud

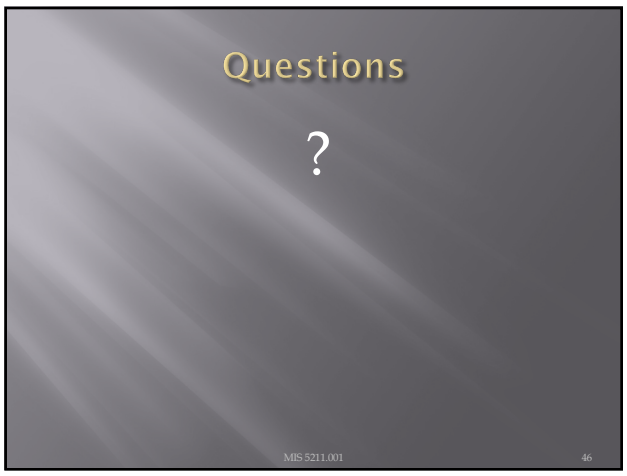
- Cloud can be very effective for replicating Distributed Denial of Service attacks
- Will require permission form cloud provider or your account may be closed
- Cloud providers are reluctant to host Penetration Testing activities
- May be possible after some negotiations
- We will have an overview of Cloud technologies toward the end of this course

44

Next Week

- TCP/IP and Network Architecture
- Google Hacking

45



46