Usable Security and Privacy Course Overview

COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

COMP438

Dr. Abdallah Karakra

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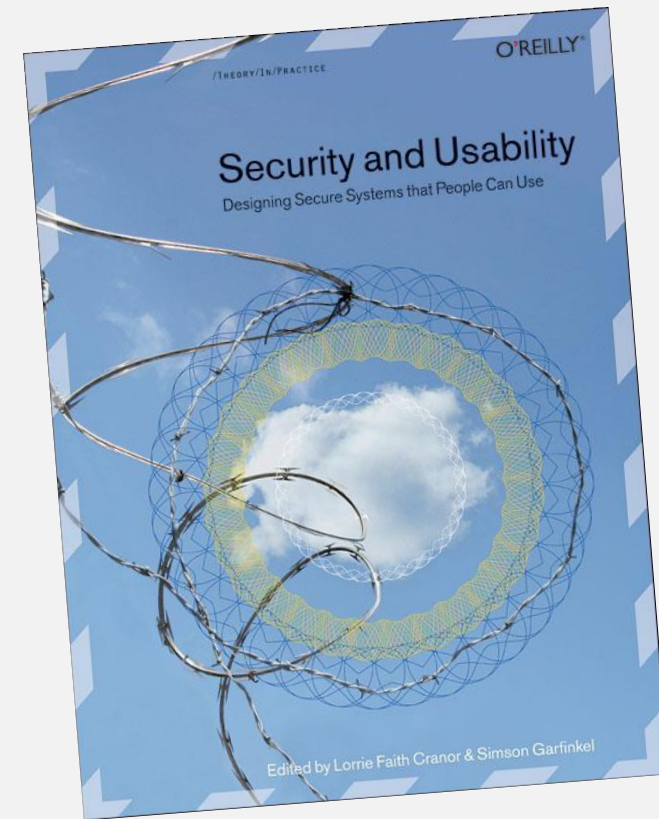BIRZEIT UNIVERSITY

Course Outline

Course Materials:

- Textbook: Security and Usability: Designing Secure Systems that People Can Use by Lorrie Faith Cranor and Simson Garfinkel, O'Reilly, 2005

Methods of Instruction:

- Lectures, case studies, and reading papers.

Student Evaluation:

Quizzes	10%
Midterm exam	30%
Assignments	10%
Project	15%
Final exam	35%

Secure, usable?

**This is not the objective
of this course.**

Concerns may not be aligned

- **Security experts** are concerned about the bad guys getting in.

- **Users** may be more concerned about locking themselves out.

  Example: A user might forget their password and, after several unsuccessful login attempts, be locked out of their account. They are then concerned about regaining access to their account without assistance.
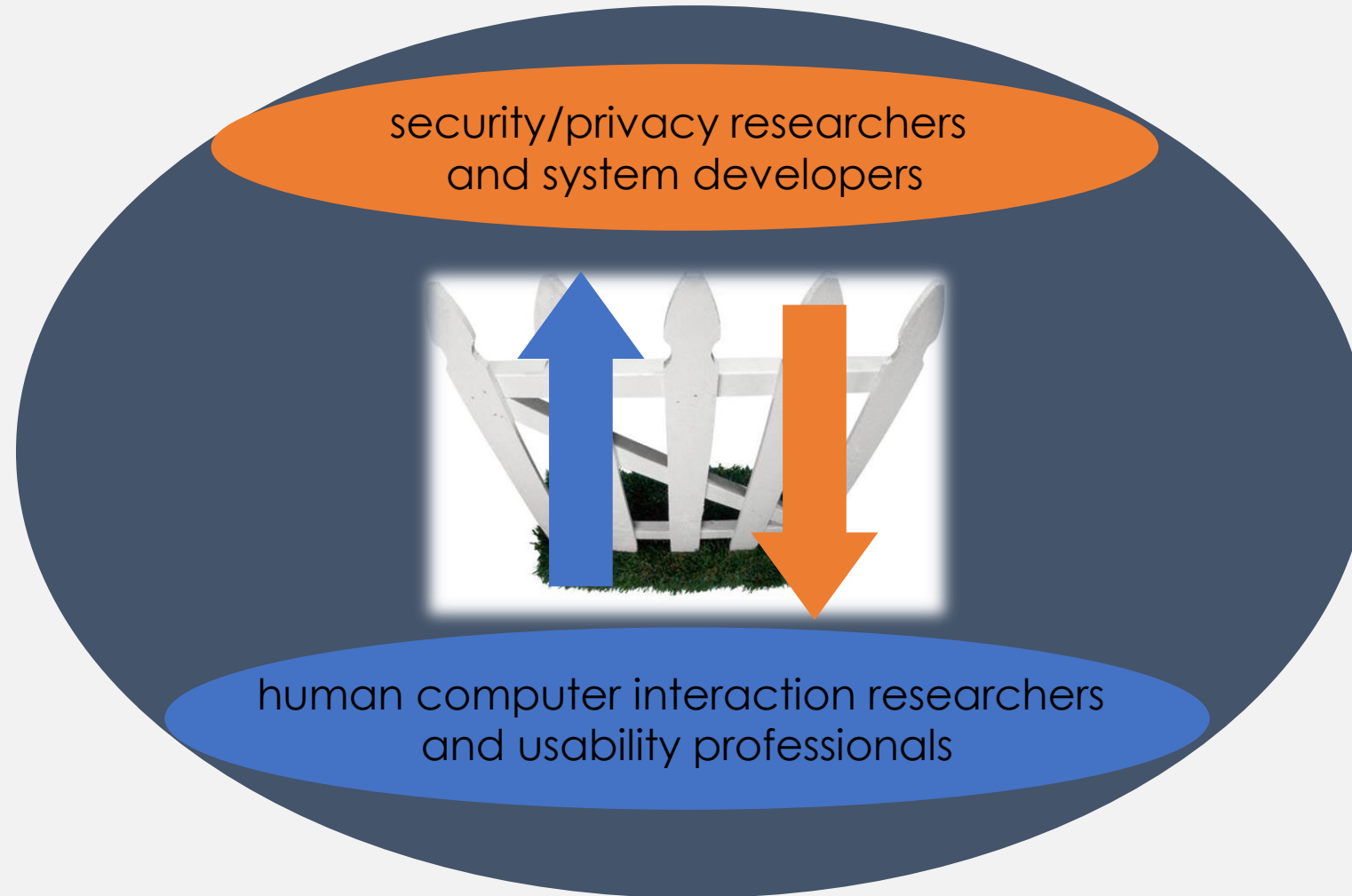
Unusable security & privacy

- Unpatched Windows machines compromised in minutes

- Phishing web sites increasing by 28% each month

- Most PCs infected with spyware

- Users have more passwords than they can remember and practice poor password security

- Enterprises store confidential information on laptops and mobile devices that are frequently lost or stolen

Grand Challenge

"Give end-users security controls they can understand and privacy they can control for the dynamic, pervasive computing environments of the future."

- Computing Research Association 2003

Security & privacy+ HCI

security/privacy researchers and system developers

human computer interaction researchers and usability professionals

How do you stay safe online?

Experts recommend…