Law 497-001 | Emerging Law of Internet Seminar | Summer 2025 | 2 credits

Professor(s): Carl Szabo & Peter Roman

MON./ WED. 6:00-7:50p | Final Exam: Papers due

Contact Information:

Carl Szabo, carl.szabo@gmail.com

Peter V. Roman, proman@gmu.edu

Office Hours: By appointment.

Reading(s) & Supplemental Material: Provided as part of syllabus

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar explores the evolving landscape of internet privacy law, examining its impact on both civilian and criminal contexts at local, national, and international levels. Students will develop advocacy skills, engage in in-depth research on privacy and cybersecurity issues, and participate in mock exercises, including presentations to Congress and federal agencies.

Through rigorous analysis and debate, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of key legal and policy challenges shaping internet privacy today.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will understand the effects of the internet on privacy law in both the civilian and criminal settings at the local, national, and international levels

Students will develop skills to advocate on issues related to internet privacy and its interaction on the national and world stages.

Students will engage in deep research and analysis of topical issues related to privacy and internet security.

Students will engage in mock situations such as presentations to Congress or Federal agencies that demand students not only understand their own arguments but also the arguments of the opposition.

GRADING & PARTICIPATION

Class Structure

Seminar

Grading

15% Class Participation

10% Presentation of Directed Research Paper

75% Directed Research Paper

Attendance

Course attendance is required. In the unusual event that you cannot attend a particular session, please inform us by email before class. Excessive absences will affect your grade.

Participation

Participation and preparation for our course meetings will be a critical part of your performance in this course.

Exams

For this semester, and the majority of your final grade, we are engaging in a directed research project designed to place you in the position of an advocate.

Written Assignment(s)

As a seminar class, there will be directed research writing assignment.

COURSE SCHEDULE & ASSIGNED READINGS

Session No.	Date	Class Topic	Assignment
1	5/19	The First Amendment and Civil and Constitutional Concepts of Information Privacy	 Warren & Brandeis, The Right to Privacy, 4 Harv. L. Rev. 193 (1890), available at https://www.cs.cornell.edu/~shmat/courses/cs5436/warren-brandeis.pdf How the Internet Works (please read the introduction and all six parts): http://ibiblio.org/team/intro/what/index.html Review compare and contrast the following bills: Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Control Our Data Act, available at https://republicans-energycommerce.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/2021.11.02-Republican-CODA-Draftpdf Sen. Wicker Privacy Bill, United States
2	5/21	Government Access to Private Information: The Fourth Amendment and the Third Party Doctrine	 4th Amendment Katz v. United States, 389 U.S. 347 (1967) Smith v. Maryland, 442 U.S. 735 (1979) Florida v. Riley, 488 U.S. 445 (1989) Kyllo v. United States, 533 U.S. 21 (2001)

		<u>, </u>	
			o <i>United States v. Jones,</i> 565 U.S. 400 (2012)
			o <i>Riley v. California,</i> 573 U.S. 373 (2014)
			,
			, , ,
			o Carpenter v. United States, 138 S. Ct. 2206 (2018)
3	5/28	Government Access to Private Information: Statutory Limitations	 Third Party Doctrine O United States v. Miller, 425 U.S. 435 (1976) O Smith v. Maryland, 442 U.S. 735 (1979)
			 Orin S. Kerr, Applying the Fourth Amendment to the
			Internet: A General Approach, <u>62 Stanford Law</u>
			Review 1005 (2010), available at
			https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract id=1348322
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	1	I

	1		December 10 for Toll 10 for
			Department of Defense, Technology and Privacy Addison Consulting Conference Control Control
			Advisory Committee, Safeguarding Privacy in the
			Fight Against Terrorism (March 2004), available at
			http://www.cdt.org/security/usapatriot/20040300t
			<u>apac.pdf</u>
			California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA)/CPRA
			 Read the California Consumer Privacy Act,
			available at
			http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextCl
			ient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB375&search_ke
			<pre>ywords=consumer+privacy</pre>
			 CCPA regulations available at
			https://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/pr
			ivacy/ccpa-nopa.pdf
			 Eric Goldman, California Amends the Consumer
			Privacy Act (CCPA); Fixes About 0.01% of its
			Problems, Tech. Mktg. L. Blog (Oct. 4, 2018),
			available at
			https://blog.ericgoldman.org/archives/2018/10
			/california-amends-the-consumer-privacy-act-
			ccpa-fixes-about-0-01-of-its-problems.htm
			 Eric Goldman, The California Consumer Privacy
			Act Should be Condemned, not Celebrated,
4	6/2	State Privacy Laws	International Association of Privacy
			Professionals (Jul. 27, 2018), available at
			https://iapp.org/news/a/the-california-
			consumer-privacy-act-should-be-condemned-
			not-celebrated/
			 Californians for Consumer Privacy, About (Last
			visited May 14, 2023),
			https://www.caprivacy.org/about
			 Virginia's Consumer Data Protection Act (CDPA)
			 https://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-
			bin/legp604.exe?211+sum+SB1392
			 California "Eraser Button": Calif. Bus. & Prof. Code §§
			22580-22582
			Biometric Privacy
			 Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act (BIPA),
			740 III. Comp. Stat. 14/1 et seq. (2008)
			 Rosenbach v. Six Flags Entertainment Corp., 147
			N.E.3d 125 (2d App. III. 2017)
			o Patel v. Facebook Inc., 290 F. Supp. 3d 948 (N.D.
			Cal. 2018)
			18 U.S.C. § 1028 (Identity Theft)
		Protecting Your Privacy Through Cybercrime	 18 U.S.C. § 1028A (Aggravated Identity Theft)
			 U.S. v. Salazar-Montero, 520 F. Supp. 2d 1079
5	6/4	Laws	(N.D. Iowa 2007)
			o U.S. v. Contreras-Macedas, 437 F. Supp. 2d 69
			(D.D.C. 2006)

			 18 U.S.C. §§ 2510-2514 (Wiretap Act) 18 U.S.C. § 1029 (Access Device Fraud) 18 U.S.C. § 1030 (Hacking) United States v. Nosal, 676 F.3d 854 (9th Cir. 2012) WEC Carolina Energy Solutions LLC v. Miller, 687 F.3d 199 (4th Cir. 2012) United States v. Valle, 807 F.3d 508 (2nd Cir. 2015) United States v. John, 597 F.3d 263 (5th Cir. 2010) United States v. Rodriguez, 628 F.3d 1258 (11th Cir. 2010) United States v. Van Buren, 940 F.3d 1192 (11th Cir. 2019)
6	6/9	State and Federal Powers for Regulation of Content and Content Moderation	 18 U.S.C. § 2261A (Stalking) NetChoice v Paxton, https://netchoice.org/netchoice-and-ccia-v-paxton/ NetChoice v Moody, https://netchoice.org/netchoice-ccia-v-moody/ Miami Herald Publishing Company v. Tornillo, 418 US 241 (1974) PruneYard Shopping Center v. Robins, 447 US 74 (1980) Hurley v. Irish-American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Group of Boston, Inc., 515 US 557 (1995) Rumsfeld v. Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights, Inc. 547 US 47 (2006)
7	6/11	Data Breach Legislation	 California Data Breach Law, Cal. Civ. Code §§ 1798.29, 1798.80 et seq. Massachusetts Data Breach Law, Mass. Gen. Laws § 93H-1 et seq. FTC v. Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, LLC (3d Cir.), Supplemental Brief of FTC, 14-3514 (115.52 KB) LabMD, Inc. v. FTC, 891 F.3d 1286 (11th Cir. 2018) In re Microsoft Corp., FTC No. C-4049 (Dec. 20, 2002) In re Twitter, Inc., FTC No. C-4316 (Mar. 2, 2011) In re Snapchat, Inc., FTC No. C-4501 (Dec. 23, 2014) Cybersecurity: A Practical Guide to the Law of Cyber Risk (Edward R. McNicholas & Vivek K. Mohan eds., 2016)
8	6/16	Internet of Things, Health and Genetic Privacy	 Internet of Things FTC Staff Report, Internet of Things Privacy and Security in a Connected World (Jan. 2015), available at https://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/reports/federal-trade-commission-staff-report-november-2013-workshop-entitled-internet-things-privacy/150127iotrpt.pdf

		 Jat Singh & Julia Powles, The Internet of Things - The Next Big Challenge to Our Privacy, The Guardian (Jul. 28, 2014), available at http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2014/jul/28/internet-of-things-privacy Health and Genetic Privacy Hammonds v. Aetna Cas. & Sur. Co., 243 F. Supp. 793 (N.D. Ohio 1965). Moore v. Regents of the Univ. of California, 51 Cal.3d 120 (Cal. 1990).
		 Urbaniak v. Newton, 277 Cal. Rptr. 354 (Ct. App. 1991) Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-191 Texas Medical Privacy Act, Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann §§ 181.001 et seq.
		 Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA), Pub. L. No. 110-223
6/18	Federal Consumer Privacy	 Spokeo, Inc. v. Robins, 136 S. Ct. 1540 (2016) In re Google Inc. Cookie Placement Consumer Privacy Litig., 988 F. Supp. 2d 434 (D. Del. 2013), aff'd in part and vacated in part, 806 F.3d 125 (3d Cir. 2015), petition for cert filed, (U.S. Mar. 14, 2016) Dwyer v. Am. Express Co., 652 N.E.2d 1351 (III. App. Ct. 1995) Fraley v. Facebook, Inc., 830 F. Supp. 2d 785 (N.D. Cal. 2011) In re Google Inc., FTC No. C-4336 (Oct. 13, 2011) In re MySpace LLC, FTC No. C-4369 (Aug. 30, 2012) In re Snapchat, Inc., FTC No. C-450 (Dec. 23, 2014) 15 U.S.C. § 45
6/23	Children's Privacy	 Children's Online Privacy Protection Act Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998, 15 U.S.C. §§ 6501–6505 Children's Online Privacy Protection Rule: Final Rule Amendments 16 C.F.R. Part 312, available at http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-01-
		6/18 Privacy

			<u></u>
			s/cases/172 3083 youtube coppa consent order.pdf
			 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
			o 20 U.S.C. § 1232g
			o 34 CFR Part 99
			 Gonzaga Univ. v. Doe, 536 U.S. 273 (2002)
			 United States v. Miami Univ., 294 F.3d 797 (6th Cir.
			2002)
			Student Privacy Bills
			 NetChoice v. Bonta, https://netchoice.org/wp-
			content/uploads/2023/09/NETCHOICE-v-BONTA-
			PRELIMINARY-INJUNCTION-GRANTED.pdf &
			https://netchoice.org/wp-
			content/uploads/2024/02/Bonta-Opening-Brief.pdf
			NetChoice v. Griffin, https://netchoice.org/wp-
			content/uploads/2023/08/GRIFFIN-NETCHOICE-
			GRANTED.pdf
			 Eduard Godman, Privacy in the Classroom: What You Need To Know About Educational Software,
			IAPP (April 28, 2015), available at
			https://privacyassociation.org/news/a/privacy-in-
			the-classroom-what-you-need-to-know-about-
			educational-software/
			 California, Student Online Personal Information
			Protection Act of 2014 (SOPIPA) -
			https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClien
			t.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB2799
			 Future of Privacy Forum, Student Data Privacy
			Pledge, https://studentprivacypledge.org/privacy-
			pledge-2-0/
			 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948),
			https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-
			declaration-of-human-rights
			 Louis Joinet, Guidelines for the Regulation of
			Computerized Personal Files, United Nations (1988),
			available at
			https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/43365?ln=en
		European Regulation	- Funct Oliver Wilhelm A Brief History of Cufe Hauber
11	6/25	European Regulation and Right to Be	 Ernst-Oliver Wilhelm, A Brief History of Safe Harbor (2000-2016), International Association of Privacy
		Forgotten	Professionals (last visited May 14, 2023), available at
			https://iapp.org/media/pdf/resource_center/brief_hist
			ory of safe harbor 2000 to 2016.pdf
			• Copland v. United Kingdom, 62617/00 Eur. Ct. H.R.
			(2007), https://www.5rb.com/wp-
			content/uploads/2013/10/Copland-v-UK-ECHR-3-Apr-
			2007.pdf
			• Case C-362/14, Maximillian Schrems v. Data Prot.
			Comm'r, Case C-362/14 (2015 E.C.R. Sept. 23, 2015),

	1		
			available at
			https://curia.europa.eu/juris/document/document.jsf?
			docid=168421&mode=req&pageIndex=1&dir=&occ=firs
			t∂=1&text=&doclang=EN&cid=744403
			 General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (2018)
			https://gdpr.eu/what-is-gdpr/
			ePrivacy Directive (2009),
			https://edps.europa.eu/sites/default/files/publication/
			dir 2009 136 en.pdf
			Mark Began, What to Expect From the EU's Move to
			Regulate U.S. Tech Companies, Vox (May 5, 2015),
			available at
			https://www.vox.com/2015/5/5/11562350/what-to-
			expect-from-the-eus-move-to-regulate-u-s-tech-
			 companies Google Inc. v Agencia Española de Protección de Datos
			,
			(AEPD) (EU Court of Justice May 13, 2014), available at http://curia.europa.eu/juris/document/document.jsf?t
			ext=&docid=152065&pageIndex=0&doclang=EN&mode
			=req&dir=&occ=first∂=1&cid=305802
			European Commission, Factsheet on the "Right to be"
			Forgotten" ruling, available at
			http://ec.europa.eu/justice/data-
			protection/files/factsheets/factsheet data protection
			en.pdf
			Mark Scott, 'Right to Be Forgotten' Should Apply
			Worldwide, E.U. Panel Says, New York Times (Nov. 26,
			2014), available at
			http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/27/technology/righ
			t-to-be-forgotten-should-be-extended-beyond-europe-
			eu-panel-says.html? r=0
			Chris Green, Law Firms Exploiting EU 'Right to be
			Forgotten' Ruling to Help Individuals Remove Awkward
			Newspaper Articles from Google, The Independent
			(Apr. 17, 2015), available at
			http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/la
			w-firms-exploiting-eu-right-to-be-forgotten-ruling-to-
			help-individuals-remove-awkward-newspaper-articles-
			from-google-10185164.html
			Cambridge Analytica
			Carrole Cadwalladr and Emma Graham-Harrison,
			Revealed: 50 million Facebook profiles harvested for
		Cambridge Analytica	Cambridge Analytica in Major Data Breach (March
12	6/30	discussion and Social	17, 2018), available at
		Media Privacy	https://www.theguardian.com/news/2018/mar/17
			/cambridge-analytica-facebook-influence-us-
			election
			Ciccion

12	7/0	Directed Research	 Testimony of Mark Zuckerberg Before the United States House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce (June 29, 2018) https://docs.house.gov/meetings/IF/IF00/2018041 1/108090/HHRG-115-IF00-Wstate-ZuckerbergM-20180411.pdf In re Google Inc., FTC No. C-4336 (Oct. 13, 2011) In re Facebook, Inc., FTC No. C-4365 (July 27, 2012) In re MySpace LLC, FTC No. C-4369 (Aug. 30, 2012) United States v. Google Inc., No. CV 12-04177 SI, 2012 WL 5833994 (N.D. Cal. Nov. 16, 2012) In re Epic Marketplace, Inc., FTC No. C-4389 (Mar. 13, 2013) FTC v. T-Mobile USA, Inc., No. 2:14-cv-00967-JLR (W.D. Wash. Dec. 19, 2014) In re Snapchat, Inc., FTC No. C-450 (Dec. 23, 2014) Social Media Privacy Laws Ex: Montana HB 343, available at http://leg.mt.gov/bills/2015/billpdf/HB0343.pdf
13	7/2	analysis and work	Present directed research assignment
14	7/7	Directed Research analysis and work	Present directed research assignment

ACADEMIC STANDARDS & COURSE POLICIES

Academic Integrity:

Each student at Antonin Scalia Law School ("Scalia Law") is expected to behave honorably and with the highest personal integrity toward other law students, toward the law school and university, and toward other members of the legal profession." (Preamble to the Honor Code.)

The Honor Code prohibits a student from lying, cheating, or stealing, to include plagiarism and the use of any prohibited resource in an exam, coursework, or course paper. The full Honor Code can be accessed here:

https://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/academic_standards

Recording Class Sessions:

Recording of class sessions by any means is prohibited. See AR 4-2.2: "Unless expressly permitted in writing by an instructor, no portion of a class session or an examination may be preserved by means of a recording device (such as an audio recording device or a camera)."

Use of Technology:

Computers are allowed however students should aim to just take notes on pen and paper.

University Email:

Students must use their Mason email account to receive university or law school information, including communications related to this class.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI) in Academic Work:

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in the drafting or writing of papers or any other course work or assignments in this class is prohibited. According to AR 4 -3: "Generative artificial intelligence (GAI) is a type of artificial intelligence that uses algorithms to generate new content, such as text or images, based on the data it has been trained on. For purposes of this regulation, GAI is not intended to encompass legal research databases and word processing applications that, while incorporating AI - based elements or enhancements, do not generate novel text." Use of GAI in a course that prohibits the use of GAI, constitutes an academic integrity violation.

Use of Electronic Text Books During Exams:

Students are permitted one laptop computer for exam taking purposes. Additional laptop computers or any other electronic data storage devices are not allowed in an exam room, unless permitted by the course

instructor's written exam instructions. Electronic text books (e-books) may be used during exams that are designated as open book by the instructor and the instructor allows text books to be used during the exam and allows access to a student's computer files during the exam (open exam). E -books may not be used in exams where the instructor does not allow students to access their computer files during the exam (secure exam) even if the instructor permits access to text books. If the instructor has blocked access to the

internet or computer fi les, you must bring a hard copy of the allowed text book(s) you wish to consult.

Students will need to borrow or otherwise locate a hard copy of the e -book or print resources needed from the e-book to take into the exam room. The instructor determines the length of the examination and

whether or not it is secure or open and what, if any, study materials are permitted during the exam.

Students are responsible for adhering to the instructor's standards for all examinations, which are included in the examination materials.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Disability Services at George Mason University is committed to upholding the letter and spirit of the laws that ensure equal treatment of people with disabilities. Disability Services implements and coordinates reasonable accommodations and disability-related services that afford equal access to university programs and activities. For further information and to register for services, please refer to https://ds.gmu.edu/law - school/, or call (703) 993-2474.

Name and Pronoun Use:

Students are encouraged to share their name and gender pronouns with me and indicate how best to address them in class and via email. Further information can be obtained at GMU's Chosen Name and Pronoun Policy, https://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/chosen-name-pronouns-policy/

Covid Protocols:

Please refer to GMU's *Safe Return to Campus* web site for information regarding GMU's safety protocols. The site can be accessed at: https://shs.gmu.edu/services/covidservices/isolationguidance/.

Notice of Mandatory Reporting of Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, Interpersonal Violence, and Stalking:

As a faculty member, I am designated as a "Non-Confidential Employee," and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, sexual harassment, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason's Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If a student wishes to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason's confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703 -380-1434

or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703 -993-2380. Students may also seek assistance or support measures from Mason's Title IX Coordinator by calling 703 -993-8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.

University Resources:

Counseling and Psychological Services: https://caps.gmu.edu/ Student Health

Services: https://shs.gmu.edu/

Mason Square Campus Clinic: After-Hours Nurse Advice - 703-991-2831 Mason Square

Campus Clinic Location: Van Metre Hall, Room B102.

Student Support and Advocacy Center: https://ssac.gmu.edu/

Police: Emergency - Dial 911; 703-993-8070, Van Metre Hall, Room 110. Police escort

services: 703-993-8370.

Sexual Assault Services: 703-993-8186, Van Metre Hall, Room 222D. Mason

Square information: https://masonsquare.gmu.edu