Our Reading List

Several of you asked us to list the books we read from when we lead discussions. These are the ones we’ve used in class, plus a few of our favorites. Tom chose some, and Matt chose the rest. In any case, we both recommend these.

- **Saul Alinsky, *Reveille for Radicals*, Vintage Books**
  The classic analysis of organization for social improvement. Many of the techniques Alinsky discusses can be adapted to attacking systems—or defending them.

- **Saul Alinsky, *Rules for Radicals*, Vintage Books**
  How the Have-Not’s can organize to change society. Like Alinsky’s other book, the rules are applicable to computer security.

  A book on the history of the NSA.

- **Alfred Bested, *The Demolished Man*, Vintage Books**
  The struggle between the killer Ben Reich, the 24th century’s richest man, and Lincoln Powell, the police prefect with ESP, is like a cat-and-mouse game between an attacker and computer security folks. This classic science fiction book won the first Hugo for Best Novel.

- **John Brunner, *The Shockwave Rider*, Ballantine Books**
  A science fiction novel about a future in which data about everyone is stored in a ubiquitous information network. Many of the terms used with malicious logic, such as virus, were first used here.

- **James Burton, *The Pentagon Wars*, United States Naval Institute**
  A study of how a group of reformers tried to test and improve some weaponry, and what happened. A wonderful and eye-opening description of bureaucratic in-fighting.

- **Dorothy Denning, *Information Warfare and Security*, Addison-Wesley Publishing Company**
  Good background on issues we discussed in class, nice presentation. Mentions some Matt Bishop guy.

- **Garfinkel, Spafford, *Practical UNIX and Internet Security*, O’Reilly and Associates**
  An excellent book on UNIX security.

- **Jean Guisnel, *Cyberwars: Espionage on the Internet*, Plenum Press**
  Written by a Frenchman, so an interesting non-US perspective.

  Excellent examples of DES and I think probably the most readable textbook I’ve found on the subject, without skimping too terribly much on details. I like their treatment of the subject matter a lot.

  Its study of rulers applies not only to princes, but also to organizations and environments in general.

- **Eric Frank Russell, *Wasp*, Tor Books**
  A science fiction novel in which a lone agent is dropped on an enemy planet. His job: cause chaos.

- **Neal Stephenson, *Cryptonomicon*, Avon Books**
  Good discussion of World War II cryptography, and real world/wartime issues involving security of communications, etc. Great mathematical perspective.

- **Neal Stephenson, *Snow Crash*, Spectra Books**
  Okay, this one’s more marginally computer security related, but it has a virtual reality interface figuring prominently into the plot, and deals with issues of networking through metaphor.

- **Sun Tzu, *The Art of War*, Delta**
  A classic text on warfare, many of its principles can be translated into cyberwarfare.

- **Vernor Vinge, *Fire Upon the Deep*, Tor Books**
  Superb science fiction book with computer security applications.

- **Vernor Vinge, *True Names*, Tor Books**
  First real cyberpunk book; Gibson got credit for this sort of work.