CS 443 Spring 2015

Essay 1

Goal: For this essay, you will read the article "No Tech Hacking", by Johnny Long (posted on the course web page). The goal of this essay is to show understanding of this much-overlooked component of security, as well as to demonstrate critical analysis of the material covered. Please place yourself in the mindset of a security expert or consultant for a firm, so keep the tone professional and courteous, although this will not be a formal research paper.

Assignment: Please write an essay expression your opinion on the issue of no tech hacking: is it easier or more important than more "technical" approaches to hacking? Which do you think is the more difficult or essential challenge if you are a computer security expert assignment to keep systems safe? In your future professional career, which component do you expect to prove more essential? Be sure to state a clear thesis/opinion (preferably at the beginning of your essay), and then back up your claims with relevant examples or discussion, which can be based on the reading, other sources you have read, or your own experiences.

Details: Please keep your essay around 250-500 words, or about 1-2 pages double spaced. Feel free to use additional resources and references (properly cited in a bibliography), but they are not required for this essay. However, I do expect you to include enough detail or summary of the material in the assigned article to demonstrate that you read and understood the material.