



General

FA2026 • 2026-08-30

Introduction

SIGPwny Team

Overview

- What is SIGPwny?
- How to join SIGPwny?
- Who is SIGPwny?
- Women in CyberSecurity
- Ground Rules
- What does SIGPwny do?



What is SIGPwny?

Why were we yelling at you at Quad Day?



SIG • Pwn • y



**Special
Interest
Group**



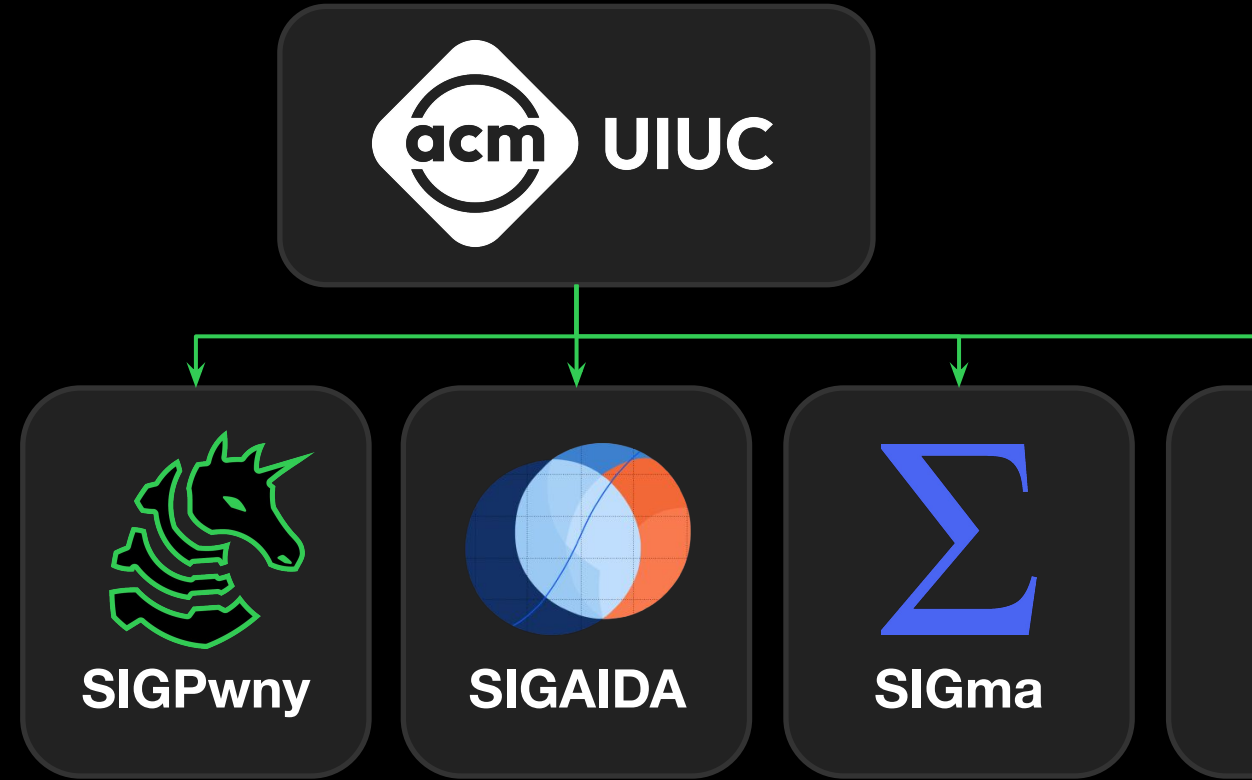
**Hack
or "own"
(slang)**



**For
cool
logo**

About Us

- We are the computer security/hacking club at UIUC
- SIGPwny is under the Association of Computing Machinery chapter at UIUC
 - We are(were?) the largest SIG in ACM!



SIGPwny is just one of many SIGs...
but it's the best one





How do I join SIGPwny?

You already have!

sigpwny.com/discord to join our Discord server

sigpwny.com/auth to receive the @UIUC role



Who is SIGPwny?

See sigpwny.com/about



Admin Team



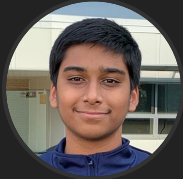
Tyler Mercado
R&D Intern @ Sandia



Cameron Asher
@bigkirbs
SWE Intern @ Cypris AI



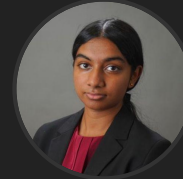
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Swetha Karthikeyan
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Ronan Boyarski
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Helper Team



Adarsh Krishnan

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Research Intern @ Sandia



Ray Liu

@RayZLiu
Student @ UIUC



Joseph Jiang

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Krish Kalra

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Marketplace



Marina Stoyanova

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Sophomore in CS



Juniper Peng

@32121
DV Intern @ Synaptics



Pranav Srinivasan

@rasamrice



Now, some ground rules.



Code of Conduct

1. Be respectful.
2. Be inclusive.
3. Nothing illegal.
4. Don't cheat.
5. No NSFW or suggestive content in Discord.
6. Don't spam in Discord.
7. Use common sense.

The full Code of Conduct is available at sigpwny.com/rules.

Report misconduct to sigpwny.com/report.



You Will:

- Learn how to think with an adversarial mindset
- Explore the subcategories of security
- Develop practical security skills
- Find a community of friends and colleagues



You Will Not:

- Learn how to hack your friend's Instagram account!
- Become a 1337 hax0r (praise anonymous!!1!!)
- Break into computers without explicit permission
- **Learn how to hack overnight**



The "Don't Get Arrested" Slide

Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA)

- Attacking "protected" computers is **ILLEGAL**
- Anywhere between a fine and **TWENTY** years in jail
- If you don't have **EXPLICIT** permission, **DON'T DO IT**
- **You will be shamed for bad OPSEC**
- **We will have a Champaign County Jail social if you do end up there**



What does SIGPwny do?



Learn

Compete

Build

Learn

Meetings

Pwny CTF

Compete

CTF Team

Purple Team

Embedded Team

Build

UIUCTF

Fall CTF

Meetings

Thursdays, 6-7 PM

Sidney Lu 2100

- 30 minutes talking
- 30 minutes collaboration

Sundays, 5-6 PM

Siebel CS 1404

- 30 minutes talking
- 30 minutes collaboration

OR

- 1 hour Socials, Seminars, and more

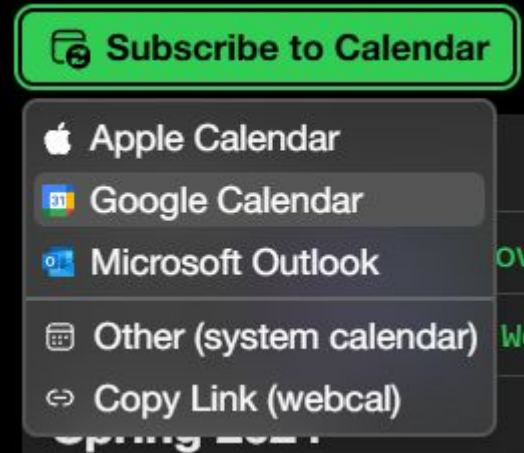
All our meetings are at:

<https://sigpwny.com/meetings/>



Meetings

- Subscribe to our calendar!
- Add from sigpwny.com/meetings or directly using these links:
 - Apple Calendar:
sigpwny.com/applecal
 - Google Calendar:
sigpwny.com/gcal
 - Microsoft Outlook:
sigpwny.com/outlook
 - Webcal:
sigpwny.com/cal



03:07

96

< Aug 29

Event Details

Introduction

Siebel Center for Computer Science
201 N Goodwin Ave, Urbana, IL 61801, United States

zoom

Zoom

Join



Thursday, Aug 29, 2024
from 18:00 to 19:00

17:00

18:00

19:00

20:00

Introduction Siebel Center for Computer Science...

Calendar

SIGPwny

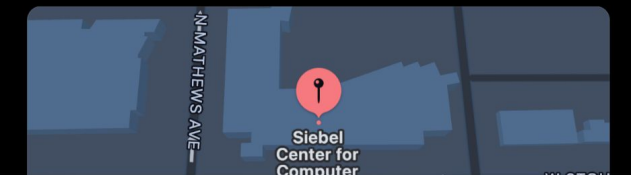
Alert

Time to Leave

Notes

<https://sigpwny.com/meetings/fa2024/2024-08-29/>

Location: Siebel CS 1404



Unsubscribe from This Calendar

Teaching Philosophy

Cybersecurity is needed for every aspect of computer science!

Websites



Web Security

Messages



Cryptography

Video Games



Binary Exploitation,
Reverse-Engineering



Teaching Philosophy

SIGPwny's goal is NOT to make you a master in any field...

Web
Hacking

Reverse
Engineering

Binary
Exploitation

Crypto
graphy

Infra
Security

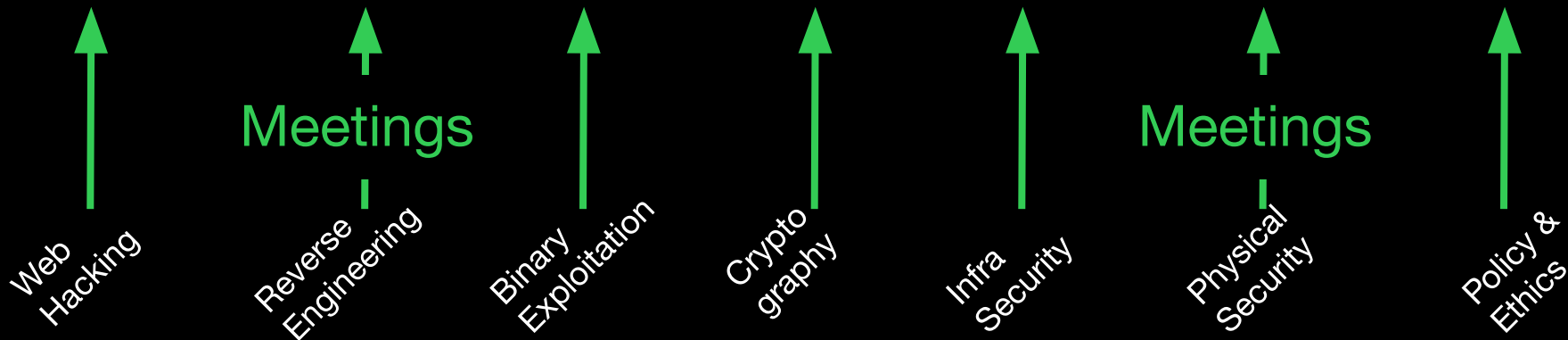
Physical
Security

Policy &
Ethics



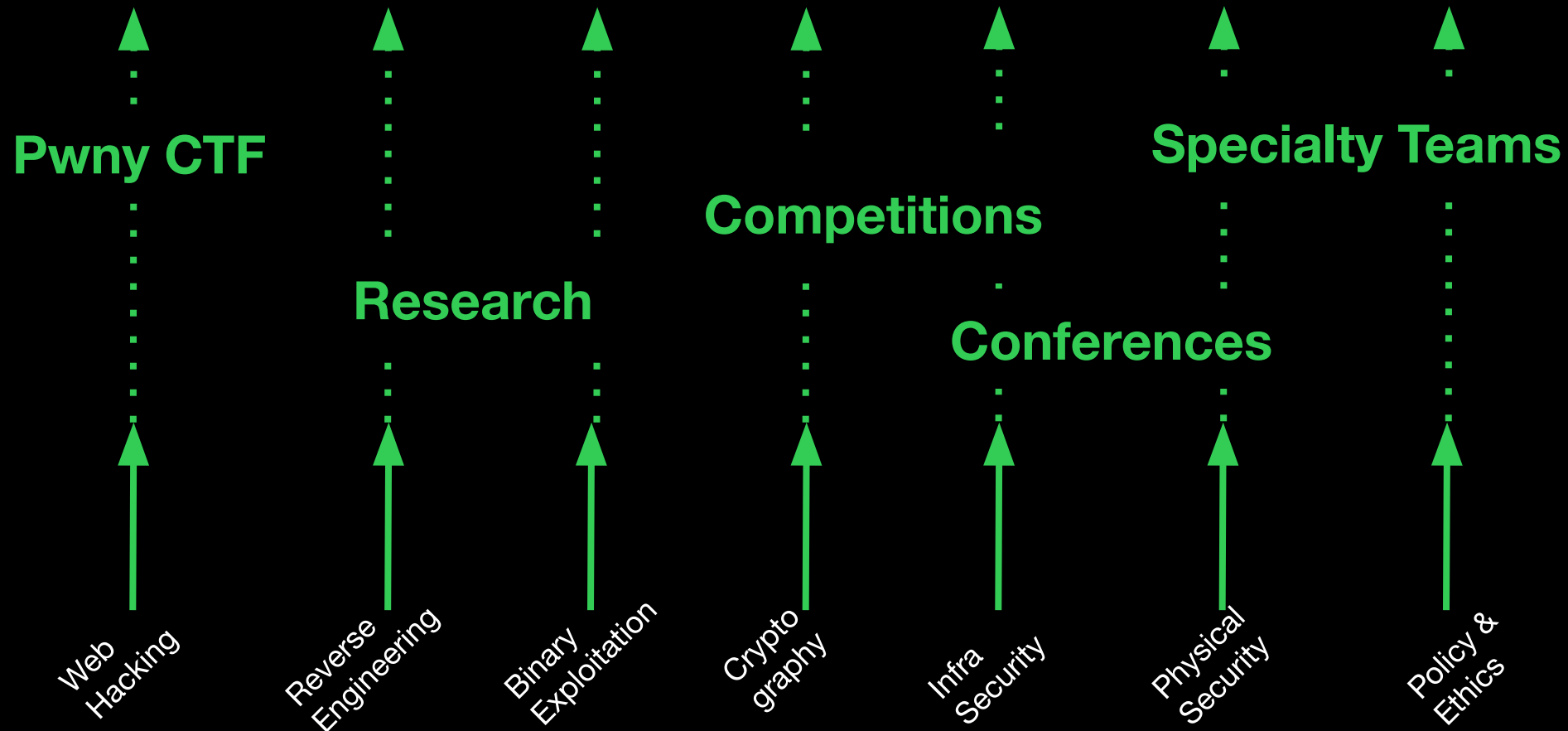
Teaching Philosophy

... but it is our goal to teach you the basics of every field...



Teaching Philosophy

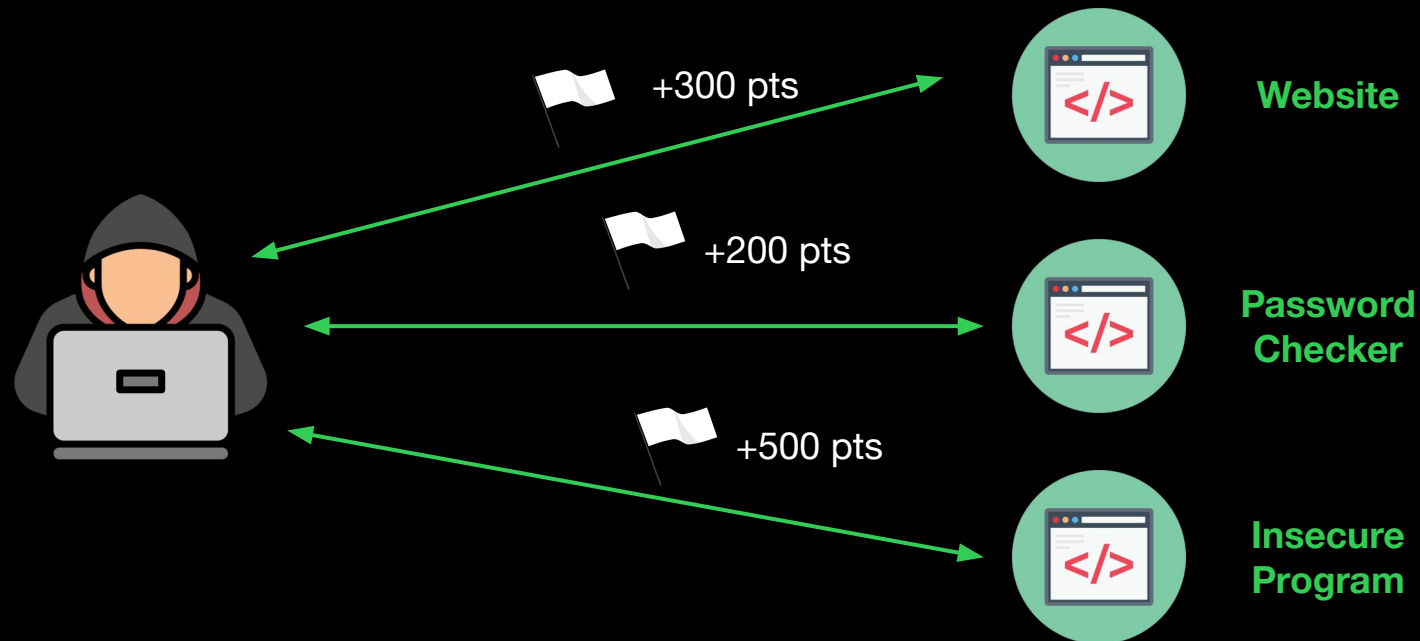
... and provide opportunities for **you** to master your interests!



What is Capture the Flag (CTF)?



- A CTF is a cybersecurity competition
- Compete against other teams
- "Jeopardy style" - hack the most (and hardest) things to win

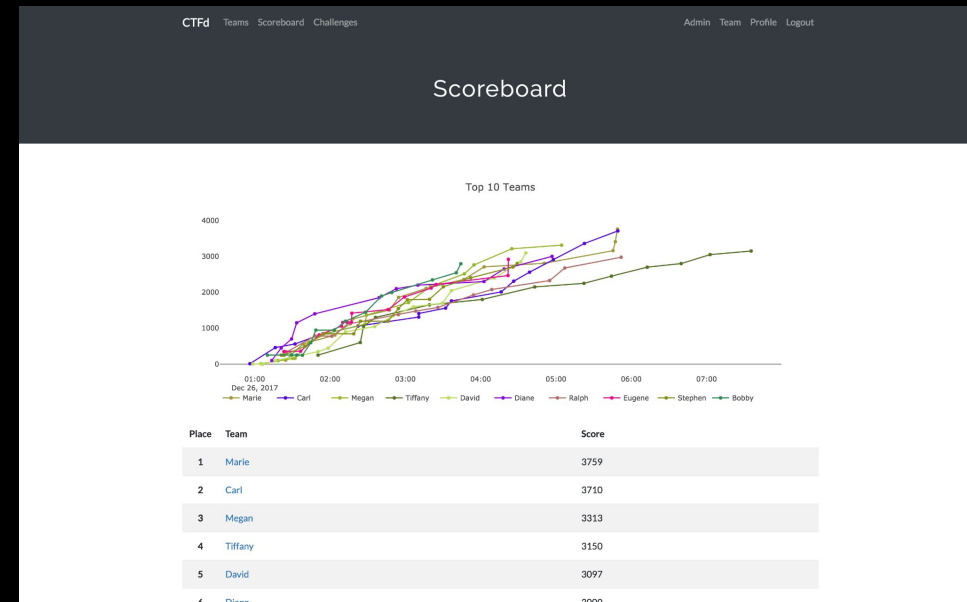


Pwny CTF

- The best way to practice your security knowledge!
- Pwny CTF is our internal, 24/7/365 CTF with a leaderboard to compete with friends!

ctf.sigpwny.com

Sign up now!



AI

- As you may know, AI is becoming increasingly powerful in recent years
- The frontier models (e.g. GPT, Claude, GLM, etc) can solve most challenges on pwnyctf and in most competitions
- From a learning perspective, we recommend that you **learn and do** the PwnyCTF challenges **yourself**.
- You will accumulate your own taste and understanding of CTF challenges this way, allowing you to then use AI more efficiently in competitions where speed matters.
- AI is not stealthy, and can't attack modern networks on its own.



Learn

Meetings

Pwny CTF

Compete

CTF Team

Purple Team

Embedded Team

Build

UIUCTF

Fall CTF

CTF Team

- We participate in various CTFs hosted by other teams
- CTFtime is a global leaderboard that tracks team placement in CTFs and provides ratings



Overall rating place: **300** with **77.673** pts in 2019

Country place: **31**

Overall rating place: **136** with **174.389** pts in 2020

Country place: **19**

Overall rating place: **80** with **243.217** pts in 2021

Country place: **12**

Overall rating place: **48** with **346.020** pts in 2022

Country place: **6**

Overall rating place: **107** with **282.130** pts in 2023

Country place: **11**

Overall rating place: **88** with **344.702** pts in 2024

Country place: **11**

overall rating place: **1** with **9999** pts in **2026**
country place: **1**



CTF Team

- Everyone is welcome to join CTF team!
- Our normal Thursday/Sunday meetings prepare you for CTFs!
- Most CTFs are usually a weekend long - we will have a dedicated room for people to collaborate and solve challenges. Plus, free food :D

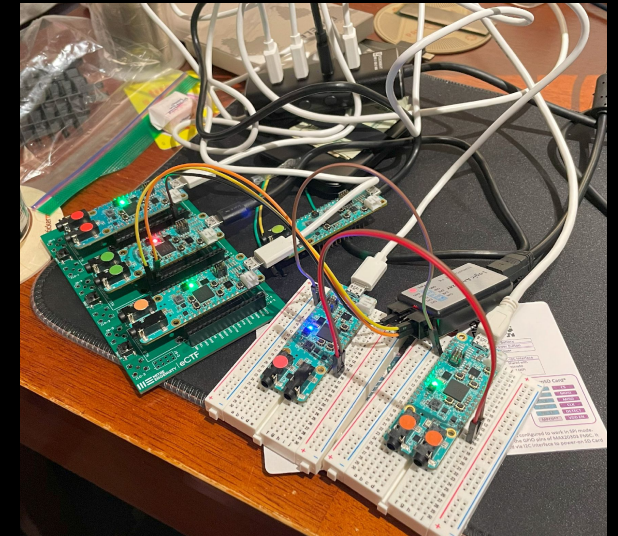
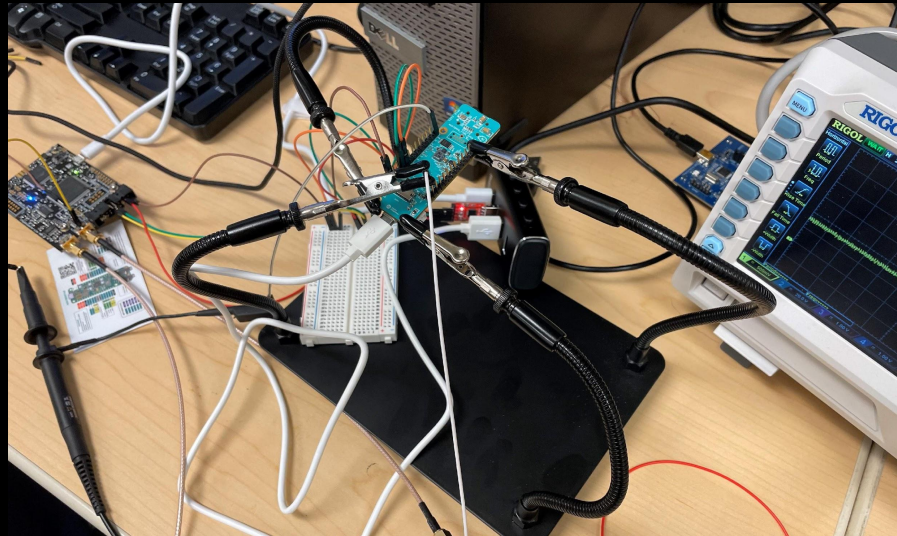
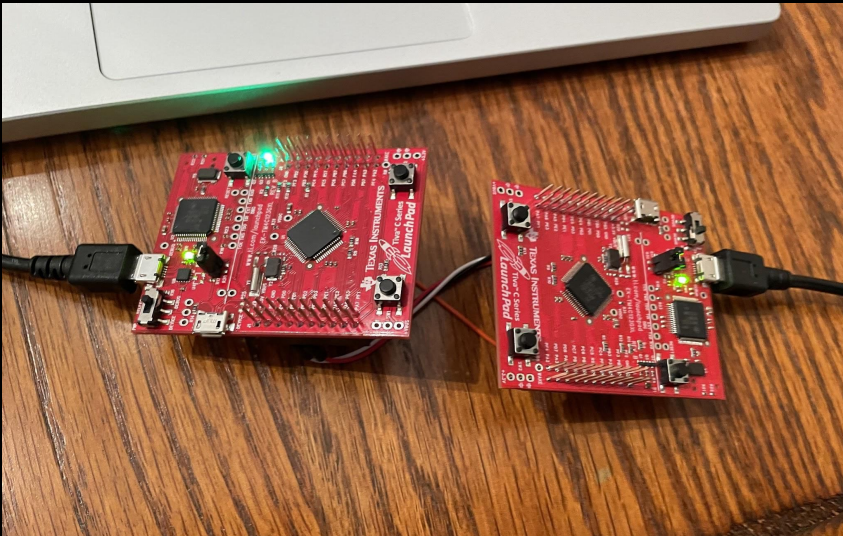
How to join CTF Team:

- Use the command `/ctfs optin` in our Discord. You need to have the `@UIUC` role first!



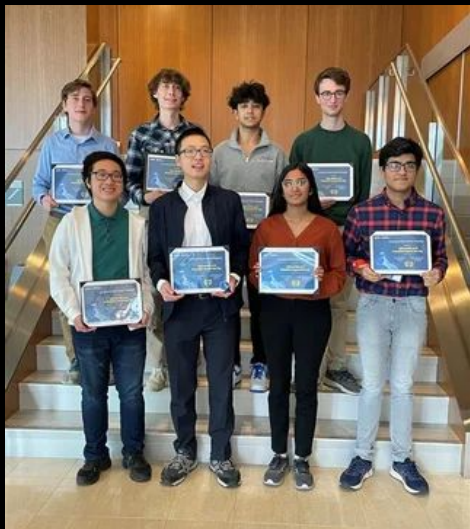
Embedded Team

- We teach you how to design secure embedded systems!
- We run attacks against embedded systems + IoT devices!
 - Microcontrollers, firmware bugs, side-channel analysis, fault injection!
- You will learn: ARM assembly, C, and Rust



Embedded Team

- Our main competition is MITRE eCTF in the spring semester
- This fall semester, we will be holding weekly meetings on Mondays to teach you embedded security!



eCTF 2023 - 3rd Place



eCTF 2024 – 2nd Place



eCTF 2026 – 4th Place, Best Poster



Purple Team

- **Red teaming** - break systems
 - Find problems before threat actors find them
- **Blue teaming** - protect systems
 - Fix problems before threat actors take advantage of them
- **Purple teaming** is the intersection of these two fields!



Purple Team

- **Red side:** Learn to hack networks, write malware, evade EDR
- **Blue side:** Defend networks, perform Digital Forensics & Incident Response
- Competitions: CyberForce, CCDC, TracerFIRE & more!
- 7PM Tuesday/Thursday @ ECEB 3015



UIUCTF (Spring/Summer 2027)

- Our global CTF event for the international security community!
- Design challenges for hundreds of people to solve
- Show off what you've learned and contribute to security education



Fall CTF 2026

- Save the date: September 20st!
- Fall CTF is a beginner CTF that SIGPwny runs exclusively for UIUC students and made for people new to cybersecurity!
- Free food, shirt, PCB badge, and prizes!



Learn

Meetings

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Next Meetings

2026-09-04 • This Thursday

- Setup Meeting + Intro to Terminal
- Bring your laptop!
- 6 PM @ Sidney Lu 2100

2026-09-06 • Next Sunday

- Web Hacking I
- 5 PM @ Siebel CS 1404

sigpwny.com/gcal



sigpwny.com/discord



Thank you! Any questions?

**Meeting content can be found at
sigpwny.com/meetings.**

