Usable Privacy and Security
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Why do people fall prey to phishing attacks and identity theft? Why do we have to rely on passwords? Why are people concerned about privacy yet share lots of personal information on social media or with companies by using their services and devices?

We conduct research studies to understand individuals’ decisions and behavior with respect to privacy and security. We further design and build usable privacy and security mechanisms that help individuals make better privacy and security decisions without getting in the way of their primary activities.

We’re looking for highly motivated students to work with us on projects in the following areas:
- Studying privacy and security needs of different populations and communities
- Studying privacy concerns about the Internet of Things
- Studying privacy behavior and concerns in physical spaces
- Designing usable privacy controls and consent mechanisms for the Web and mobile
- Designing and developing creative privacy interfaces and controls for the Internet of Things
- Usability evaluation of existing privacy and security mechanisms

We conduct mixed methods research and combine user experience design with the design of privacy-friendly and secure systems. Interested candidates should either have experience in HCI with an interest in privacy/security, or experience in privacy/security with an interest in HCI.