HOW TO CHECK IF THE LINK IS LEGITIMATE
STEP 1. HOVER

HOVER, DON’T CLICK YET

DOES THE LINK SHOW GWU.EDU?

IF YES, PROCEED TO STEP 2
STEP 2A. IS IT A REAL GWU DOMAIN?

DOES THE LINK END IN GWU.EDU?

OK HTTP://GWID.GWU.EDU
OK HTTP://MY.GWU.EDU
?

HTTP://GWU.JIMDO.COM

IF YES, PROCEED TO STEP 3
STEP 2B. IS IT A REAL GWU DOMAIN?

LOCATE THE FIRST SINGLE SLASH /

HTTPS://MY.GWU.EDU/MOD(LOGIN/?
HTTP://GWU.EDU.SERVER|2.US/IT/
HTTPS://BANWEB.GWU.EDU/PRODCARTRE...
HTTP://GWU.JIMDO.COM/SECURE/IT/
HTTPS://BLACKBOARD.GWU.EDU/WEBAPP/

IS THERE GWU.EDU RIGHT BEFORE THE FIRST SLASH?/
STEP 2B. IS IT A REAL GWU DOMAIN?

LOCATE THE FIRST SINGLE SLASH /

HTTPS://MY.GWU.EDU/MOD/LOGIN/?
HTTP://GWU.EDU.SERVER/2.US/IT/
HTTPS://BANWEB.GWU.EDU/PRODCARTRI...
HTTP://GWU.JIMDO.COM/SECURE/IT/
HTTPS://BLACKBOARD.GWU.EDU/WEBAPPS

IS THERE GWU.EDU RIGHT BEFORE THE FIRST SLASH? /
IF YES, PROCEED TO STEP 3
STEP 3. CHECK THE CERTIFICATE

ANY WEBPAGE WITH A LOGIN PROMPT MUST BE HTTPS:// NOT HTTP://

CLICK ON THE LOCK
STEP 3. CHECK THE CERTIFICATE

ANY WEBPAGE WITH A LOGIN PROMPT MUST BE HTTPS:// NOT HTTP://

The identity of this website has been verified by InCommon Server CA.

Certificate information
STEP 3. CHECK THE CERTIFICATE

Certificate Information

This certificate is intended for the following purpose(s):

- Ensures the identity of a remote computer
- Proves your identity to a remote computer
- 1.3.6.1.4.1.5923.1.4.3.1.1
- 2.23.140.1.2.2

* Refer to the certification authority’s statement for details.

Issued to: *gwu.edu

Issued by: InCommon Server CA
RECAP:
IS GWU.EDU PRESENT IN THE LINK?

YES 😊

IS GWU.EDU IN THE END OF THE LINK?

YES 😊
IS THERE GWU.EDU RIGHT BEFORE THE FIRST SINGLE SLASH/?

AND...

YES 😊
DOES IT HAVE A VALID CERTIFICATE ISSUED TO GWU.EDU?

NO 😞
IF YOU ARE NOT SURE

ASK ABUSE@GWU.EDU