

Professional Development and Engagement (PD&E) 1 of 4

Students are expected to engage in information security, assurance, and cybersecurity-related professional development activities throughout the duration of this course. A cyber college course taken for credit is important but of equal importance in the tech space is that students have a comprehensive understanding of what this space looks like in the real world and how the course concepts are connected to the real world. Students must complete at least two professional development and engagement activities per module. Students can complete a professional development and engagement category up to two times. The deliverable for most activities consists of a video presentation for the benefit of the class posted to the discussion board. Note that some activities will be worth more than others, and some activities can be done as a group. Students can discuss past activities for credit, but please ensure the information is current. Certain activities will require an instructor review of the material prior to delivering it to any members of the general public. Some leads will be provided on the professional development & engagement assignment page, but students are expected to research and explore opportunities on their own. Post to the discussion board for the benefit of the class. Submit the assignment in this window. For more than one activity, submit the assignment more than once. Please give yourself plenty of time to complete the activities and, most importantly, have fun!

Join a Professional Association

For this professional engagement activity, please join a professional association or organization of your choice related to information security, assurance, cybersecurity, tech, or some other professional development organization. For the presentation, be sure to show proof of membership and discuss your motivation for joining the group, background of the group/association, leaders, details from the last meeting, and what you hope to gain by joining the professional association or organization. Some examples include:

- Local or campus Women in Technology group
- Local or campus Minorities in Technology group
- Women Who Code/Girls Who Code Local or National Chapters
- Women in Cybersecurity Local or National Chapters
- Student or Professional Member ISACA
- Student or Professional Member ISC2
- A local meetup group
- A local or campus Toastmasters group

Book Review

Discuss the review of a book/novel. Please ensure that the review is informative, interesting, and thoughtful. Some examples include the following:

- Cybersecurity for Dummies
- Dark Territory the Secret History of Cyber Wars
- The Art of Invisibility: The World's Most Famous Hacker Teaches You How to Be Safe in the Age of Big Brother and Big Data
- Ghost in the Wires: My Adventures as the World's Most Wanted Hacker
- The Art of War
- The Art of Deception: Controlling the Human Element of Security
- Countdown to Zero Day: Stuxnet and the Launch of the World's First Digital Weapon

TV Show Review (Max 1)

Discuss the review of an episode of a television show that had a major cybersecurity aspect as part of its series. Discuss what aspects are realistic and what is not for fictional shows. Please ensure that the review is informative, interesting, and thoughtful. Some examples of TV series include the following:

- Catfish
- American Greed
- Scorpion
- Mr. Robot
- Black Mirror
- CSI: Cyber

Movie/Documentary Review (Max 1)

Discuss the review of a movie or documentary with a significant cybersecurity aspect as part of its storyline. Please ensure that the review is informative, interesting, and thoughtful. Some examples include the following:

- Roadtrip Nation: Life Hackers
- The Ethics of Cybersecurity (PBS)
- Terms and Conditions May Apply
- Zero Days
- United States of Secret Part 1
- United States of Secret Part 2

Informational Interview with an Aspirational Professional

For this deliverable, show a pre-recorded video presentation to the class of an interview with an aspirational professional (someone working in a role you would like to work in within the next 2,5 or 10 years). Be sure to discuss their background, education, professional journey, and any tips they have for you. Please ensure the questions are thoughtful and engaging.

Review a Certification and Devise a Step-by-Step Study Plan

For this deliverable, review a certification (not a badge or certificate) that you are interested in obtaining or that you have obtained. Discuss the reason that you would like this certification, why you are interested in this certification over similar others, anticipated costs, and what a detailed study plan would look like for you, including the length of study time, names of companies (for the reference books, websites, practice tests, or other sources of study material) as well as details of online or in-person study communities (if applicable). Certifications include but are not limited to the following:

- Network+
- Security+
- CySA+
- CASP+
- GIAC(Any)
- ISC2 (Any)
- ISACA (Any)
- CEH
- OSCP
- Microsoft Azure or AWS (not certificates or badges but certifications such as Certified Solutions Architect)

Present a Complete Job Market Analysis for a Specific Occupational Role

For this deliverable, discuss a role that you are interested in working in. Discuss the educational path required, the expected salary ranges, the expected number of openings, the geographic dispersion of the role, and the expected career trajectory. Please include other interesting facts about this role that will enable someone to decide whether or not it is worth pursuing.

Attend a Conference, Seminar, Workshop, or Guest Speaker Event

There are dozens of information security, assurance, and cybersecurity conferences. Many conferences still have a virtual option. For an extensive list, check out <https://infosec-conferences.com/country/united-states/> [Links to an external site.](#). Many conferences have free or discounted student admissions. You can also be on the lookout for the department, College of Business, and university-wide guest speaking events, seminars, or workshops. For this deliverable, students are to attend the conference, seminar, workshop, or guest speaker event and discuss it with the class.

Complete Self-Study Courses and Badges *(prior review required)*

Complete a self-study or badge course and discuss it. Many options are available for completing self-study courses, badges, and certificates. Please run your choice by me before working on the badge. Some examples include:

- Udemy
- IBM
- AWS
- Salesforce
- Cybrary
- Google
- Coursera

K-12 Security/Online Safety Presentation *(prior review required/optional group)*

For this deliverable, students are to develop and present an internet security/safety course to a group of at least 3 children in any K-12 grade(s). If you are considering this, some places to start are with your child's school or the children in your family (with their parent's permission!). You are responsible for obtaining any needed clearances. Please ensure that the presentation is adjusted for the age group and topics are relevant and appropriate to that age group. For younger children, the presentation would probably be directed towards the parents of the children, or you can even create some take-home activity. Please use your creativity! Prior approval is required for this deliverable, and the deliverable can be completed in a group of up to 3 students. This activity counts as (2) professional development and engagement activities. For the in-class presentation, just walk us through the presentation and certain design considerations that you kept in mind.

Senior Citizens Security/Online Safety Presentation *(prior review required/optional group)*

For this deliverable, students are to develop and present an internet security/safety course to a group of at least 3 senior citizens (Ages 55+). If you are considering this, some places to start are with the senior citizens in your network. Please ensure that the presentation is adjusted for the age group and topics are relevant and appropriate to that age group. Prior approval is required for this deliverable, and the deliverable can be completed in a group of up to 3 students. This activity counts as (2) professional development and engagement activities. For the in-class presentation, just walk us through the presentation and certain design considerations that you kept in mind.

General Adult (Peer/Family/Friends) Security/Online Safety Presentation *(optional group)*

For this deliverable, students are to develop and present an internet security/safety course to a group of at least 3 people in their network. Please ensure that the presentation is broad and relevant for the participants. Prior approval is required for this deliverable, and the deliverable can be completed in a group of up to 3 students. This activity counts as (2) professional development and engagement activities. For the in-class presentation, just walk us through the presentation and certain design considerations that you kept in mind.

Course Lecture *(prior review required/max 2 persons)*

Choose one of our course topics to present to the class. Presentations must be at least half of the class and cover the topic as previously agreed upon. This activity counts as (2) professional development and engagement activities.