



Cybersecurity Course Descriptor

Course Title	Cybersecurity	Faculty	EDGE Innovation Unit (London)
Course code	NCHNAP561	Course Leader	Professor Scott Wildman (interim)
Credit points	15	Teaching Period	This course will typically be delivered over a 6-week period.
FHEQ level	5	Date approved	June 2020
Compulsory/ Optional	Compulsory		
Pre-requisites	None		
Co-requisites	None		

COURSE SUMMARY

This course explores questions such as: Are your IT systems built, used and managed according to organisational policies? Are they in compliance with international, national, and local legal requirements? What are the potential risks and legal liabilities associated with your IT systems and procedures? Seeks to develop frameworks for assessing gaps between what your organisation is doing and should be doing to protect the organization and its stakeholders. Learners will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge of cybersecurity using industry-standard cloud-based technology e.g. using ServiceNow training.

COURSE AIMS

- For learners to understand how cybersecurity affects computer systems, such as operating systems, embedded systems and distributed applications.
- Train learners in the legal and ethical responsibilities regarding data protection and security.
- To allow learners to explore the impact of user trust in designing computer systems and solutions.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the course, learners will be able to:

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

- K1b Have knowledge and critical understanding of how computer systems are built and their vulnerabilities to cyber-attacks and security breaches .
- K2b Have critical knowledge of how cybersecurity measures can be designed and built into modern computer systems, including embedded and distributed systems.
- K3b Have critical knowledge of modern IT security regulations and ethical considerations and how they affect computer systems and users.

SUBJECT SPECIFIC SKILLS

- S1b Conceptually design secure computer systems.
- S2b Advise organisations and/or users on data protection regulations and ethics.

TRANSFERABLE AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- T1bi Obtain and use robust information from a variety of sources as part of self-directed learning.
- T1bii Demonstrate an effective technical proficiency of written English that uses a wide range of literacy skills and vocabulary selected appropriately to communicate to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- T2b Develop logical analysis and conceptual thinking.
- T3b Critically evaluate different approaches to problem solving within this field of study.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

This is an e-learning course, taught throughout the year.

This course can be offered as a standalone short course.

Teaching and learning strategies for this course will include:

- On-line learning
- On-line discussion groups
- On-line assessment

Course information and supplementary materials will be available on the College's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

Learners are required to attend and participate in all the formal and timetabled sessions for this course. Learners are also expected to manage their self-directed learning and independent study in support of the course.

The course learning and teaching hours will be structured as follows:

- Off-the-job learning and teaching (6 days x 7 hours) = 42 hours

- On-the-job learning (12 days x 7 hours) = 84 hours (e.g. 2 days per week for 6 weeks)
- Private study (4 hours per week) = 24 hours

Total = 150 hours

Workplace assignments (see below) will be completed as part of on-the-job learning.

ASSESSMENT

FORMATIVE

Learners will be formatively assessed during the course by means of set assignments. These will not count towards the final degree but will provide learners with developmental feedback.

SUMMATIVE

Assessment will be in two forms:

AE	Assessment Type	Weighting	Online submission	Duration	Length
1	Written assignment	50%	Yes	-	2,000 words +/- 10%, excluding data tables
2	Report based on workplace case study	50%	Yes	-	2,000 words +/- 10%, excluding data tables

FEEDBACK

Learners will receive formal feedback in a variety of ways: written (via email or VLE correspondence) and indirectly through online discussion groups. Learners will also attend a formal meeting with their Academic Mentor (and for apprentices, including their Line Manager). These bi- or tri-partite reviews will monitor and evaluate the learner's progress.

Feedback is provided on summatively assessed assignments and through generic internal examiners' reports, both of which are posted on the VLE.

INDICATIVE READING

Note: Comprehensive and current reading lists for courses are produced annually in the Course Syllabus or other documentation provided to learners; the indicative reading list provided below is used as part of the approval/modification process only.

BOOKS

- Cranor, L.F. and Garfinkel, S., (2005), *Security and Usability: Designing Secure Systems that People Can Use*, Beijing: Farnham: O'Reilly
- Pfleeger, C.P., (2007), *Security in Computing*, Harlow: Prentice Hall
- Summers, R.C., (1997), *Secure Computing: Threats and Safeguards*, New York; London : McGraw-Hill

JOURNALS

Learners are encouraged to consult relevant journals on cybersecurity.

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Learners are encouraged to consult relevant electronic resources on cybersecurity, such as the British Computing Society Code of Conduct: www.bcs.org.uk.

INDICATIVE TOPICS

- Computer systems and threats
- Embedded and distributed systems
- Legal and ethical data protection regulations

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Version number	Date approved	Date published	Owner	Proposed next review date	Modification (As per AQF4) & category number
2.1	May 2022	May 2022	Scott Wildman	June 2025	Category 1: Corrections/clarifications to documents which do not change approved content.
2.0	January 2022	April 2022	Scott Wildman	June 2025	Category 3: Changes to Learning Outcomes
1.0	June 2020	June 2020	Scott Wildman	June 2025	