

Module 1. Security Fundamentals

Module Learning Objectives

This module introduces students to fundamental concepts and principles in cybersecurity. The content provides a comprehensive coverage on what threaten the security of our cyberspace and how we could reinforce our systems in order to mitigate those. The module also covers the non-technical factors that govern cybersecurity at enterprise level. Students will also learn about cybersecurity as a promising career to get into.

Module Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Accurately explain basic cybersecurity related concepts.
- Clearly define principles of cybersecurity.
- Explain security models with precision.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of security related frameworks.
- Describe security related legal, ethical, and social issues.
- Discuss risk management in the context of cybersecurity.
- Explain what cybersecurity entails as a profession.
- Enumerate required skill sets for different working roles in cybersecurity.

Module design:

Submodule 1: Security Concepts and Principles

- Unit CAD_01: Security Concepts
Threats and Adversaries (threat actors, malware, natural phenomena)
Vulnerabilities and risk management (include backups and recovery)
Security life cycle, Data security, CIA, Access, Authentication, Authorization, Non-Repudiation, Privacy
- Unit CAD_02: Security Design Principles
Separation, isolation, encapsulation, modularity, simplicity of design (Economy of Mechanism), Minimization of implementation (Least common mechanism), open design, complete mediation, layering (defense in depth), least privilege, fail safe defaults/fail secure, least astonishment (Psychological acceptability), minimize trust surface (reluctance to trust), usability, trust relationships
- Unit CAD_03: Security Models
Bell-La Padula, Biba, Clark Wilson, Brewer Nash, Multi-level security

Submodule 2: Security Management

- Unit CAD_04: Security Management Frameworks, Guidelines, Policies
NIST, ISO etc.
- Unit CAD_05: Security Controls/Practice
Preventative, Detective, and Responsive
Session Management
Exception Management
- Unit CAD_06: Risk Management
Basic risk assessment
Security risk assessment and analysis
- Unit CAD_07: Non-technical Security-Related Issues
Legal issues
Ethics
Ethics(Ethics associated with cybersecurity profession)
Ethical codes and frameworks
Ethics and cyberspace
Ethical issues
Property availability rights of others
Respect and principles of community resource use, allocation, and abuse censorship
Ethic-based decision tools
Cybersecurity and social responsibility
Privacy
Personally identifiable information
Fair Information Practice Principles (FIPPS): Transparency, Individual participation, purpose specification, data minimization, use limitation, data quality and integrity, security, accountability and auditing
Privacy impact assessments
Anonymity and pseudonymity
Privacy policies, laws and regulations
Risks to privacy
Tracking and surveillance

Privacy tools: encryption, VPNs, scramblers
Privacy laws and legal basis

Submodule 3: The Cybersecurity Profession and Careers

- Unit CAD_08: Cybersecurity as a profession
- Unit CAD_09: Building up your skills