

New Program Proposal

Minor in Cybersecurity

The Undergraduate Minor in Cybersecurity is a five-course (15 credit hours) program. It is designed to help students from all backgrounds achieve a foundation in Cybersecurity. It provides students the flexibility to focus on technical and/or managerial aspects of Cybersecurity. The program also allows students to choose from a range of electives based on student interests. This minor serves a broad group of managers, technical specialists, and professionals enrolled in any baccalaureate degree at UMSL. A prior background in information security is not required to enter this program. This minor may be added for up to two years following completion of the baccalaureate degree.

Requirements: All students must take four required courses and one elective.

Required		
INFSYS 3842	Data Networks and Security	3
INFSYS 3848	Introduction to Information Security	3
INFSYS 3858	Advanced Security and Information Systems	3
INFSYS 3878	Information Security Risk Management and Business Continuity	3
Elective		
Choose one of the following:		
INFSYS 3868	Secure Software Development	
CMP SCI 4700	Computer Forensics	
CMP SCI 4780	Computer and Network Security	3
Total Hours		15

Students may substitute the above courses with other courses upon approval by the Chair of the Information Systems department. In all cases, 15 hours are

needed to complete the Undergraduate Minor in Cybersecurity. A minimum of four courses must be taken in residence at UMSL.

Sign-offs from other departments affected by this proposal

Department	Contact Person	Phone #	Objections
S006000	Haiyan Cai	x6719	No
S003250	Finn Esbensen	x4619	No

Rationale

Arguably, Cybersecurity is currently one of the most critical issues facing individuals, organizations, governments, and society. Media reports are replete with breaches of information security and the adverse consequences for all stakeholders involved. Thus, demand for professionals who understand the managerial and technical aspects of information security is growing. However, security is a rather broad field and includes a plethora of interconnected sub-specialties. Students or professionals seeking an entry into this field are often overwhelmed by its vastness. Further, security is both a management issue and a technological issue. Thus, it is critical that students think about it from both perspectives and develop skills at their intersection. This minor is designed to attract students from diverse backgrounds who wish to get a foundation in information security. Given its flexible structure it allows students to pursue either more technical courses throughout their program or have a mixture of technical and non-technical courses to match their interests and skill-sets.