

CYB001X Introduction to Cybersecurity Syllabus

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the field of Cybersecurity for those who are curious about it, and who want to be literate in the field. Learners will gain an overview of the Cybersecurity landscape including perspectives from both an international and national (USA) arenas along with a starter to the threat potential and the legal consequences.

Topics include:

- overview of the cybersecurity landscape;
- international and national (USA) perspective;
- the legal environment; and
- threat actors.

Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, the learner will be able to:

- Identify key terms and concepts in the field of cybersecurity, relating them to real-world scenarios
- Apply key concepts to building awareness of cybersecurity issues in your own organization;
- Distinguish among threat actors and their motivations in a historical context;
- Match appropriate types of controls to the actions of different threat actors and your organization;
- Compare and contrast cybersecurity operating and legal environments across international boundaries and explain how they impact one another.

Prerequisites

There are no required prerequisites other than curiosity and interest in Cybersecurity. This is an introductory level course.

Time Commitment

This course is self-paced; learners can expect to spend about **2 to 5 hours** per weekly topic or lesson engaging with the course materials.

Certification

This course is the first of four courses in the edX certificate series on Essentials of Cybersecurity. The other courses are:

- CYB002X: Cybersecurity: the CISO's View
- CYB003X: Building a Cybersecurity Toolkit
- CYB004X: Finding your Cybersecurity Career Path

Learners may take these courses in any sequence. A verified learner receives a certificate for successful completion of each course taken. An additional certificate in Essentials of Cybersecurity is issued to learners who successfully complete all four courses in the series.

See edX's [Verified Certificates](#) for more information.

Course Materials

Required:

All required material are included in the weekly or lesson course pages.

Academic Policies

Grading Policy

To pass this course with a verified certificate, all learners must earn a minimum of 70% total for the graded course activities.

Course Activities

Discussion Forums

Etiquette

All learners are expected to engage in respectful dialogue in the public discussion forums.

Participation Expectation

The discussion forums in this course provide an additional learning space to practice relevant discourse on the course topics.

Knowledge Checks

Following course content, brief auto-graded questions (some with feedback) may appear that focus the learner on specific concepts or terminology. These knowledge checks are part of the graded course activities.

Peer Interaction

Peer Assessment

Other learners in the course score peer-graded activities with a rubric based on understanding of the course content.

Polls

These questions are provided to gather learner opinions and do not necessarily represent the most accurate answer.

Course Team

Barbara Endicott-Popovsky

Barbara Endicott-Popovsky is the director of the Center for Information Assurance and Cybersecurity. She also teaches cybersecurity in several University of Washington programs. Endicott-Popovsky is a member of several national committees shaping cybersecurity education. She earned her doctoral degree from the Center for Secure and Dependable Systems in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Idaho.