## INTRODUCTION

Hello there! Welcome to the course that will jump-start your SOC Analyst career and transform your future!

I'm so glad you're here, and I want to assure you that you've come to the right place!

Whether you're arriving fresh out of college or making a career change, I applaud you.

I know it's not always easy to enter a new career field, so I admire you for seeking out your dreams and making them come true, whatever the obstacles.

As such, let's not waste any time!

We'll dive right into the world of cybersecurity, get in on the action, and capitalize on your knowledge for a fulfilling career and satisfying salary.

## Cybersecurity: Hot, Hot, Hot

As you probably already know, cybersecurity is a sizzling hot field.

I mean, the cup for cybersecurity jobs literally runneth over.

In fact, as of May 2021, there were nearly 500,000 open jobs in cybersecurity in the United States alone, according to CBS News.

Whoa. That's enough to employ half the population of Austin, Texas or Jacksonville, Florida! Nearly unfathomable.

So it's fair to say that opportunity abounds in cybersecurity!

Let me share an insider secret that you'll be happy to know, though.

While you'll discover nearly endless cybersecurity job listings, the candidates applying for those positions don't always have the right stuff.

In other words, those applicants may not have the skills needed to fill that position.

Or the ones who do have the skills instead elect to enter artificial intelligence, software development, data science, or robotics.

This bodes well for you, though!

That ideal position you have your eye on when scrolling through open jobs? Or that company you'd love to work for, if you only had an inside connection?

We'll give you a leg up on those.

Through this course, you'll gain the up-close and personal access needed for insider tips and tricks to begin a thriving SOC analyst career. You're well on your way to being the SOC analyst candidate with the "right stuff!"

## **Bumps and Bruises**

Now, I'll admit that the road to cybersecurity success is usually a bit windy--and even a little unpredictable.

Accordingly, few candidates go from Point A to Point B and find success overnight.

As with all things worth achieving, you'll need to put in a fair amount of effort and determination.

You might be wondering what that means for you?

We're just asking that you mentally prepare yourself for the trek ahead and stick with us through the course.

In other words, don't give up before the finish line when success is within reach!

Now, I trust that you have at least baseline technical skills to qualify for your dream job. I might not be much help if you don't.

Additionally, a significant portion of working in cybersecurity comes down to getting your foot in the door.

But this...this we can help you with!

## The Infosec Advantage

Before we dive into Chapter 1, let me share about infosec, an incredible resource for experienced and inexperienced technology lovers alike. The cybersecurity world offers all kinds of communities to accommodate just about every individual and every interest. Their goal is to provide a sense of community for those in the cybersecurity space.

And honestly, you simply won't find that kind of support outside of infosec.

Trust me. There are so many incredible people waiting to connect with you on infosec based on similar interests or backgrounds. Things that perhaps your spouse or significant other just don't understand because they aren't in the cybersecurity world.

So dig into the various communities offered by infosec--there are a lot--and find your space and your people.

This asset alone will further propel you toward your dream career!

Now we're ready to hit Chapter 1. First, though, my initial recommendation might really surprise you.

Ergonomics is important. You're gonna need an exceptional office chair.

Find one, and then let's get this party started.