

Justin Bhana

Aspiring cybersecurity professional in final year of Computer Science degree

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Aspiring cybersecurity professional and final-year Computer Science student with a strong foundation in programming, a passion for problem-solving, and hands-on experience in CTFs, penetration testing, and API security. Actively engaged in the cybersecurity community through platforms like TryHackMe, APIsec University, and Hack South, while also gaining practical exposure through internships, technical projects, and startup leadership. Known for persistence in tackling complex challenges, quick learning, and collaborative mindset. Currently exploring opportunities in security analysis or research to deepen technical expertise and contribute to impactful cybersecurity initiatives.

Education

Bachelor of Science

University of Pretoria

2022 - Current

- Computer Science (Graduating 2025)

Certificates

Google Cybersecurity Professional

- Topics: Security Fundamentals, Threat Analysis, Network Security, SIEM tools, Incident response, GRC.

APIsec University: API Security Certified Professional - In progress

- Topics: API Security fundamentals, API penetration testing, OWASP Api top 10, Securing APIs

Skills

• Cyber Security:

Penetration Testing | Reverse Engineering | Vulnerability Assessment | Web exploitation | Binary exploitation | Incident Response | Asset Security | AI & LLM exploitation.

• Technical:

C/C++ | Rust | Python | Java | Javascript | PHP | x86 Assembly | Bash | Git | Linux | Windows | FreeBSD | AWS | Azure | Burp Suite | Wireshark | Nmap | Rustscan | Metasploit | John the Ripper | Netcat | Hydra | FFUF | SSH | Joern.

• Soft Skills:

Communication | Leadership | Time Management | Problem Solving | Critical Thinking | Adaptability | Attention to Detail.

• Security Community Engagement:

Mentorship: Thulani Mabuza, SensePost Orange Cyberdefense

TryHackMe: Actively completing rooms and CTF challenges.

APIsec University: Actively engaging with course work and discord community.

Active member of **HackSouth Discord** and regular attendee of Oxcoffee Pretoria.

Experience

Student Intern (Ongoing)

Whirly Labs

June 2025 - July 2025

- Conducting guided research projects to explore real-world cybersecurity challenges and solutions.
- Collaborating on internal project tasks based on organizational priorities and workload.
- Static Code analysis through Joern

Co-Founder & Developer

Visual Life

2024 - Current

- Co-founded a tech/gaming e-commerce startup.
- Designed and maintained an e-commerce website for managing product listings, and stock tracking.
- Automated inventory and pricing systems and coordinated international and local procurement of tech stock.

Event Organizer & Technical Coordinator

- Organized gaming tournaments in partnership with ACGL, handling logistics, registrations, communications and administrative duties.
- Recruited and worked with well known international staff ensuring high production standards and community satisfaction.
- Mentored local volunteers and staff to grow the South African eSports scene.
- Worked with local organizations to boost visibility and event participation.
- Managed Discord community of 1000+ members, enforcing rules and implementing security measures to prevent spam and malicious activity.

Projects

- **API Threat Assessment Tool:** Developing a tool to test web api security and produce threat assessment reports based on the api documentation in collaboration with **BlueVisionITM**.
- **TCP & HTTP analyzer:** Developing a Rust-based tool to analyze HTTP, TCP, and QUIC traffic for heuristic based anomaly detection and breach pattern analysis.
- **City Building Simulation Game:** Built a city-building simulation game in C++ using SFML, applying economic and infrastructure modeling.