Faisal Alhatimi

Saudi Arabia

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SUMMARY

MSc in Cybersecurity (BSc in Computer Science). Strong foundations in data structures, algorithms, networking, and security. QA experience testing banking services, gaining practical exposure to application and infrastructure security. I have a strong interest in offensive security and consultations.

EDUCATION

Newcastle University - MSc Cybersecurity   Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Master of Science in Cybersecurity   *Sep 2025 – Sep 2026 (expected)*
- Relevant Modules: Information Security and Cryptography, Systems Security, Cloud Computing, Network Security and Ethical Hacking
- Dissertation: N/A

Newcastle University - BSc Computer Science   Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (Software Engineering)   *Sep 2021 – Sep 2024*
- Relevant Modules: Security and Programming Paradigms, Software Engineering Team Project - Best Team project in the School of Computing

CERTIFICATIONS

Offensive Security Certified Professional (OSCP)   In Progress
Penetration testing, network enumeration, and AD exploitation

Certified Penetration Testing Specialist (CPTS)   In Progress
Advanced network and Active Directory penetration testing with professional reporting

eLearnSecurity Certified Professional Penetration Tester (eCPPTv3)   Expected May 2026
Network penetration testing, web application testing, and post-exploitation skills

eLearnSecurity Junior Penetration Tester (eJPTv2)   Issued Feb 2026
Practical penetration testing skills and network security fundamentals

CompTIA Security+   Issued May 2025
Core IT security concepts, risk management, and threat mitigation

EXPERIENCE

Software Test Engineer   Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Bank Albilad   *Mar 2025 – Aug 2025*
- Designed and executed 500+ test scenarios across SIT and UAT environments, closing 46 test cycles.
- Identified and tracked 34 defects, collaborating with developers and stakeholders to resolve issues before release.
- Delivered 11 production features across core banking (T24), digital channels, Oracle ERP, and ServiceNow, including 4 large-scale features, ensuring stability and compliance with requirements
- Performed gray-box and black-box testing, and analysed backend application logs to trace and verify user actions.

PROJECTS

CTF & Offensive Security Lab | *VMware Fusion, Kali Linux, OpenVPN, Hack the Box*   Feb 2026 – Present
- Built a dedicated penetration testing lab using Kali Linux for offensive security training and tool development.
- Configured secure OpenVPN connections to access remote CTF and training environments.
- Completed multiple Hack The Box machines and challenges.
- Documented attacks, tools, and remediation recommendations to reinforce defensive security knowledge.

Homelab | *Proxmox, Kubernetes, Docker, NAS, Networking*   Jan 2025 – Present
- Designed and deployed a virtualised homelab on Proxmox for cybersecurity experimentation.
- Implemented containers using Docker and a Kubernetes to support scalable and portable application deployment.
- Adopted declarative infrastructure for reproducible service deployment and configuration management.
- Configured NAS-backed storage for backups.
- Engineered segmented virtual networking using VLANs, enabling isolated environments.

Hit Box Replica | *Raspberry Pi, CAD, Python, PyCryptodome* April 2024 – Oct 2024
- Created a custom PS4-compatible arcade controller using Raspberry Pi and 3D-printed components.
- Researched legacy controller communication protocols and integrated Python-based logic for handling authentication data using PyCryptodome.
- Combined open-source input handling with hardware and software integration to replicate a controller's functionality.

Volunteering Experience

Photographer & Media Manager Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK
Saudi Students Club *Sep 2025 – Present*
- Managed the club's social media accounts, captured and edited photographs for club events.

Peer Mentor Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Newcastle University *Sep 2023 – Jun 2024*
- Guided new students in transitioning to university life, providing advice, demonstrating adaptability, and communication skills.

Event Coordinator Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Saudi Students Club *Jul 2023 – Jun 2024*
- Organised and managed 10+ events for Saudi students, including cultural gatherings and official visits with up to 500 attendees, cooperating with the Cultural Attaché of Saudi Arabia.

Student Representative Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
INTO Newcastle University *Jan 2021 – Sep 2021*
- Represented student interests, gathered feedback, and acted as a liaison between faculty and students to improve academic and social experience.

Programming & Security Tools

Security Tools: Nmap, Wireshark, Hydra, Metasploit, Burp Suite
Programming Languages: Python, Go, Bash, SQL
Frameworks & Libraries: Flask, PyCryptodome, FastAPI
Development Tools & Operating Systems: Linux, macOS, Git, Docker, Kubernetes, Tmux, Homebrew
Documentation & Markup: LaTeX, Markdown

Technical Skills

Security Concepts: Threat Modelling, Access Control, Identity and Access Management, Network Security
Professional Skills: Technical Documentation, Security Reporting
Languages: Native Arabic, Professional English