

# Musdaf Hirsi

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Portfolio: [musdaf-hirsi.github.io/portfolio](https://musdaf-hirsi.github.io/portfolio)

## OBJECTIVE

Motivated Computer Science student specializing in cybersecurity, seeking internship experience in vulnerability analysis, secure system configuration, and IT support. Strong hands-on experience with Linux, networking, and cybersecurity lab environments.

## EDUCATION

<b>Queen's University</b> B.A. in Computer Science	Sep 2022 – Present Kingston, ON
<b>Ubinifu College</b> CodeHive Software Development Program	Apr 2021 – Jul 2022 Nairobi, Kenya

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

<b>Languages:</b>	Python, C, Java, SQL, JavaScript
<b>Frameworks:</b>	Flask, Django, React, Next.js
<b>Cybersecurity:</b>	Linux (Ubuntu), Bash, Wireshark, Nmap, Burp Suite, VirtualBox, PuTTY
<b>Developer Tools:</b>	Git, GitHub, GitLab, Jira, Confluence, VS Code, PyCharm, IntelliJ, Eclipse
<b>Databases:</b>	PostgreSQL, SQLite

## PROJECTS

<b>Password Strength Analyzer</b>   <i>Flask, Python, zxcvbn, HIBP API</i> <b>Live Demo:</b> <a href="https://password-strength-web-qf0n.onrender.com">password-strength-web-qf0n.onrender.com</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Built a defensive password strength checker using entropy analysis and pattern detection with zxcvbn.</li><li>Integrated Have I Been Pwned API with k-anonymity to check passwords against known breaches.</li><li>Implemented rate limiting (10 req/min) and security headers (CSP, X-Frame-Options, X-Content-Type-Options).</li><li>Designed secure JSON API that processes passwords in memory only — never logs or stores user input.</li></ul>	2025
<b>Phishing URL Detector</b>   <i>Flask, Python, PhishTank, URLhaus</i> <b>Live Demo:</b> <a href="https://phish-detector-e200.onrender.com">phish-detector-e200.onrender.com</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Developed a URL analysis tool that detects phishing indicators using static string analysis (SSRF-safe).</li><li>Integrated threat intelligence feeds (PhishTank, URLhaus) for known-bad URL lookups.</li><li>Implemented risk scoring (0-100) with explainable results for each detection signal.</li><li>Applied security hardening: rate limiting, request size limits, security headers, JSON-only API.</li></ul>	2025
<b>Cybersecurity Labs (SEED Labs)</b>   <i>C, Linux, OpenSSL</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Completed hands-on labs in buffer overflow, XSS, secret-key encryption, DNS spoofing, and password cracking.</li><li>Executed controlled cyberattacks in isolated Linux environments to analyze vulnerabilities.</li><li>Configured mitigations such as input validation, memory-safe C functions, and secure DNS settings.</li><li>Produced detailed reports documenting attack steps, observations, and recommended defenses.</li></ul>	2024 – 2025
<b>Siege of Morrofeld — Tower Defense Game</b>   <i>C++, Unreal Engine</i>	2025

- Developed five modular tower subclasses using object-oriented C++ and Unreal Engine's component system.
- Implemented core game mechanics including enemy pathing, tower targeting, firing logic, and wave management.
- Collaborated with an 8-person team using GitLab, Jira, and Confluence under strict deadlines.

## EXPERIENCE

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### IT Student Technician

May 2023 – Aug 2023

Housing & Ancillary Services, Queen's University

Kingston, ON

- Installed, configured, and troubleshooted university workstations, printers, and classroom IT equipment.
- Assisted with network device setup, connectivity checks, and basic switch port diagnostics.
- Ensured device compliance with university security standards and software imaging requirements.
- Provided front-line IT support for students, faculty, and staff with clear, beginner-friendly explanations.

### WUSC Local Committee Volunteer

Sep 2023 – Present

Queen's University

Kingston, ON

- Helped new WUSC scholars navigate settlement, orientation, and academic onboarding.
- Supported newcomers with course registration, residence setup, and accessing campus resources.
- Participated in planning cultural and academic support events to improve scholar integration.

### Household Data Enumerator

Jan 2020 – Dec 2020

Save the Children

Dadaab, Kenya

- Collected household survey data on living conditions, sanitation, and child well-being.
- Maintained high accuracy and confidentiality while working with diverse communities.