

Nehemia Araia

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EXPERIENCE

Handshake AI | Fellow

Remote | Oct 2025 - Present

- Evaluated numerous LLM outputs to identify bias, hallucinations, and reasoning gaps, contributing data and insights that improved model reliability, contextual accuracy, and alignment across diverse prompts.
- Collaborated with researchers to refine model behavior through structured annotation, prompt engineering, and failure-mode analysis, directly supporting safer AI development and higher-quality model performance.

University Information Security Office | Security Analyst Intern

Norfolk, VA | Aug 2025 - Present

- Investigated and Responded to 75+ monthly phishing and suspicious email reports, leveraging Microsoft defender to identify threats and mitigate risks across the university.
- Leading student SOC operations by executing incident response procedures, escalating high-severity alerts, and collaborating with management to reduce potential risks.

Amazon Web Services | Cloud Support Engineer Intern

Dallas, TX | May 2025 - Aug 2025

- Completed 65+ hands-on labs, applying 50+ AWS services across real-world scenarios involving automation, networking, compute, and storage.
- Automated the design & deployment of a highly available, auto scaling ECS containerized application using Terraform, integrating ALB, WAF, and CloudWatch, improving response time by 45% through load balancing.
- Led the development of an AI-powered meeting summarizer that transcribes and generates summaries from audio, while enhancing cloud architecting and troubleshooting skills through scenario based challenges.

Northwest Federal Credit Union | IT Security Intern

Herndon, VA | June 2024 - Aug 2024

- Engineered and deployed a phishing campaign to educate employees on social engineering tactics, leading to a 20% reduction in phishing susceptibility across the organization.
- Collaborated with the team to optimize security tools and ensure NIST SP 800-53 compliance, supporting patch management, endpoint protection, disk encryption, email/web gateways, MFA, and LogRhythm SIEM.

SKILLS

Certifications: AWS Certified AI Practitioner | AWS Solutions Architect Associate | Security + | CISSP (Studying)

Languages & AI/ML: Python | JavaScript | SQL | PowerShell | Node.js | LangChain | LoRA | PyTorch | TensorFlow

Tools & DBs: Terraform | CloudFormation | Kubernetes | Docker | Jenkins | Prometheus | Grafana | Linux | DynamoDB

Security: CrowdStrike | Rapid7 | IBM QRadar | Splunk | SonarQube | Trivy | Wireshark | Burp Suite | ServiceNow

PROJECTS

Security AI Agent for Vulnerability Assessment

Norfolk, VA | Sept 2025 - Oct 2025

- Fine-tuned an LLM with LoRA and built a RAG agent to detect code and IaC vulnerabilities, map findings to CWE/CVSS, and validate fixes with Semgrep, Tfsec, and Checkov, improving detection F1 by 15 points.

Netflix Clone Deployment on Kubernetes with DevSecOps Practices

Norfolk, VA | Oct 2025 - Oct 2025

- Deployed a Netflix clone on Amazon EKS using a secure CI/CD pipeline with Jenkins and Docker, integrating SonarQube and Trivy for scanning and automating releases with Helm, ArgoCD, Prometheus, and Grafana.

EDUCATION

Old Dominion University | BS, Cybersecurity | Minor: Data Science | GPA:3.5

Norfolk, VA | Grad. May 2026

- Knowledge:** Threat Intelligence, Incident Response, Generative AI, Agentic Workflows, Machine Learning, Static Code Analysis, Azure, Cloud Security, RESTful APIs, Malware Analysis, Penetration Testing, SDLC, Data Analytics, Vulnerability Management, Cryptography, Governance, Risk, and Compliance.
- Relevant Coursework:** Generative AI in Cybersecurity, AI intelligence methods & models, Business Analytics, Ethical Hacking & Pen Testing, Cyber Risk FedRAMP/Audit, Linux System for Cybersecurity.

CTFs: UCCS Mountain West Cyber Challenge, CyberFusion, CyberForge, AWS Jam (Placed Top 3).