

Important cybersecurity tools

Core cybersecurity knowledge and skills

🎥

Video: Introduction to Linux, SQL, and Python

3 min

📖

Reading: Use tools to protect business operations

20 min

📝

Practice Quiz: Test your knowledge: Core cybersecurity knowledge and skills

4 questions

📖

Reading: Create a cybersecurity portfolio

20 min

📝

Quiz: Portfolio Activity: Draft a professional statement

5 questions

📖

Reading: Portfolio Activity Exemplar: Draft a professional statement

10 min

Review: Cybersecurity tools and programming languages

Congratulations on completing Course 1!

To pass this course, you must receive a grade of 80% or higher on the graded items in the program and course overview.



Start assignment

Activity Overview

Receive grade

To Pass 80% or higher

Your grade

-

In this activity, you will review the provided template and professional statement outline to create a professional statement that you can include as part of your cybersecurity portfolio documentation. Previously, you learned about options for creating and hosting a cybersecurity portfolio.

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A professional statement is an introduction to employers that briefly describes who you are and what you care about. It allows you to showcase your interest in cybersecurity, work experience, knowledge, skills, and achievements. As you continue to learn more and refine your understanding of key cybersecurity concepts, you can return to this professional statement and revise it as needed.

To review the importance of building a professional portfolio and options for creating your portfolio, read [Create a cybersecurity portfolio](#).

Be sure to complete this activity and answer the questions that follow before moving on. The next course item will provide you with a completed exemplar to compare to your own work. You will not be able to access the exemplar until you have completed this activity and answered the questions.

Scenario

You are excited to enter the field of cybersecurity. As you search for jobs, you find an entry-level position that interests you and aligns to your skills and knowledge. You decide to create a professional statement to introduce yourself to your potential employer and showcase who you are in a way that helps your application stand out.

**Note:** Creating a unique and authentic professional statement helps establish people's perception of who you are and what you care about.

Step-By-Step Instructions

Follow the instructions to complete each step of the activity. Then, answer the five questions at the end of the activity before going to the next course item to compare your work to a completed exemplar.

Step 1: Access the template

To use the template for this course item, click the following link and select *Use Template*. Keep it open as you proceed to the next steps.

Link to template: [Professional statement template](#)

OR

If you don't have a Google account, you can download the template directly from the following attachment.

📎

Professional statement template

DOCX File

Step 2: Access supporting materials

The following supporting materials will help you complete this activity. Keep it open as you proceed to the next steps.

To use the supporting materials for this course item, click the link.

Link to supporting materials: [Professional statement outline](#)

OR

If you don't have a Google account, you can download the supporting materials directly from the following attachment.

📎

Professional statement outline

DOCX File

Step 3: Draft your professional statement

Your professional statement is your opportunity to show prospective employers who you are as a person and potential employee, and it allows them to understand the value you can bring to the organization.

Follow these guidelines:

Refer to the template from step one and the professional statement outline from step two. Then, open a word processing document or use a piece of paper to create your draft.

- Use this time to self-reflect and analyze why you want to pursue a career in cybersecurity.
  - What interests you most about a career in cybersecurity?
  - What do you want to learn more about in the field of cybersecurity?
  - What do you hope to achieve as a cybersecurity analyst?
- Select two of your strengths. These can be strengths you currently have or ones that you are learning about and plan to develop throughout the program (e.g., collaboration, problem-solving, communication, using SIEM and other tools to identify and mitigate threats, risks, vulnerabilities, etc.)
- Select two of your values. Examples might include upholding an individual's right to privacy and a commitment to helping organizations ensure confidential data is safe.
- Create a core statement that represents your purpose or intention. In this case, your purpose or intention is to briefly explain or summarize your strengths and values in one to two sentences.
- Explain how your chosen strengths and values help you accomplish your core statement.

Step 4: Refine your professional statement

Open the document [Refine your professional statement](#) for additional guidance about strengthening your professional statement.

OR

If you don't have a Google account, you can download the supporting materials directly from the following attachment.

📎

Refine your personal statement

DOCX File

Pro Tip: Save a copy of your work

Finally, be sure to save a copy of your completed activity. You can use it for your professional portfolio to demonstrate your knowledge and/or experience to potential employers.

What to Include in Your Response

Be sure to address the following elements in your completed activity:

- Be intentional about how you want to be perceived by potential employers.
- Include your strengths and values, and be genuine about why you want to enter the cybersecurity profession.
- Regularly update your statement to reflect your growing professional skills and knowledge.

Step 5: Assess your activity

Following is the self-assessment for your professional statement. You will use these statements to review your own work. The self-assessment process is an important part of the learning experience because it allows you to objectively assess your professional statement.

There are a total of 5 points possible for this activity and each statement is worth 1 point. The items correspond to each step you completed for the activity.

To complete the self-assessment, first open your professional statement. Then respond yes or no to each statement.

When you complete and submit your responses, you will receive a percentage score. This score will help you confirm whether you completed the required steps of the activity. The recommended passing grade for this project is at least 80% (or 4/5 points). If you want to increase your score, you can revise your project and then resubmit your responses to reflect any changes you made. Try to achieve at least 4 points before continuing on to the next course item.

1.

Your professional statement includes strengths.

1 point
- ☒ Yes

☐ No
2.

Your professional statement includes values.

1 point
- ☒ Yes

☐ No
3.

Your professional statement explains your interest in the cybersecurity profession.

1 point
- ☒ Yes

☐ No
4.

Your professional statement explains who you are and how you can add value to an organization.

1 point
- ☒ Yes

☐ No
5.

Your professional statement is free from grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors.

1 point
- ☒ Yes

☐ No

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☒ I, **Terris Tan**, understand that submitting work that isn't my own may result in permanent failure of this course or deactivation of my Coursera account.

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