

Bridging Worlds: An Enhanced Biography of an Information Professional

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BSIS Senior Capstone

2/8/2026

Introduction

Much like the complex, decision-driven narratives found in immersive strategy games such as The Outer Worlds, the realm of Information Science requires a keen ability to navigate the unknown, assess variables, and make critical decisions that shape the future. In these digital environments, success depends on managing resources, understanding complex systems, and predicting the outcomes of specific choices. This dynamic is a perfect metaphor for my professional philosophy. I view data not merely as static numbers, but as a vast, unexplored landscape where strategic analysis can unlock solutions to real-world problems. As a student at the University of South Florida (USF), my academic journey has been defined by this drive to bridge the gap between raw information and actionable intelligence. This portfolio represents the culmination of my Bachelor of Science in Information Science (BSIS), showcasing a transition from a curious observer of systems to a skilled architect of intelligence solutions.

Biographical Background

My personal journey has been defined by adaptation and a commitment to growth. Originally based in Oldsmar, Florida, I recently undertook a significant transition by relocating to Fairmont, West Virginia. This move was more than just a change of scenery; it was a strategic decision to position my family for a stable and prosperous future. My motivation is deeply personal: my fiancée, Lauren, and my son are the driving forces behind my work ethic. They inspire me to strive for excellence and to build a career that offers both security and impact.

Beyond my academic and professional life, I maintain a sharp focus on logic and strategy through my personal interests. Whether I am engaging with complex video game narratives or solving logic puzzles, I am constantly training my mind to look for patterns and permutations.

This love for problem-solving is innate, and it seamlessly translates into my professional capability to handle complex data structures and cybersecurity challenges.

Academic Journey and Skill Acquisition

During my tenure in the program at USF, I have honed a diverse set of technical and analytical skills. My coursework has provided a robust foundation in data management, covering essential tools such as SQL for database querying and Python for data scripting. However, my technical skills are bolstered by a strong focus on the human and strategic elements of information.

Through my concentration in Intelligence Studies, I have learned to view information security through a proactive lens. Understanding the intelligence cycle planning, collection, processing, analysis, and dissemination has been pivotal. I have explored the nuances of counterintelligence and the ethical implications of data privacy. These courses have equipped me with the ability not only to protect networks but to understand the "why" and "how" behind potential threats. This synthesis of hard technical skills and soft analytical skills allows me to communicate complex data findings to stakeholders effectively, a critical competency in today's job market.

Professional Experience

My academic knowledge is complemented by tangible entrepreneurial experience. As the Founder and Data Auditor of Alloway LLC, I have had the unique opportunity to apply information science principles in a live business environment. In this role, I am responsible for ensuring data integrity, auditing information assets, and maintaining operational standards.

Leading Alloway LLC has taught me that being an information professional is about more than just code; it is about stewardship. I have had to develop "soft skills" such as leadership, client communication, and time management. Working independently has required a high degree of self-discipline, ensuring that projects are completed with precision and accuracy. This experience has bridged the gap between theoretical classroom knowledge and practical business application, demonstrating my ability to deliver results under pressure.

Career Goals and Future Outlook

Looking forward, my career trajectory is focused on the intersection of Artificial Intelligence and National Security. I am currently pursuing a Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence at USF. My goal is to leverage this advanced degree to secure a position within the Intelligence Community (IC) or the private defense sector, specifically in roles related to counterintelligence or data analysis.

The field is ripe with opportunity. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2024), employment for information security analysts is projected to grow 32 percent from 2022 to 2032, much faster than the average for all occupations. To remain competitive in this expanding field, I plan to obtain industry-standard certifications such as the CompTIA Security+ and the Certified Analytics Professional (CAP). Ultimately, I aspire to lead teams that utilize AI to solve complex security challenges, ensuring that my work leaves a lasting, positive impact on the safety and efficiency of our information infrastructure.

Conclusion

As I stand on the threshold of this new chapter, I am equipped with a unique blend of technical proficiency, strategic insight, and personal resilience. From the logic puzzles that

sharpen my mind to the rigorous academic training at USF, every aspect of my background has prepared me for the challenges of the information age. I am eager to bring my skills in data auditing, intelligence analysis, and AI to an organization that values innovation and integrity.

References

- Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. (2024, September 6). Occupational Outlook Handbook: Information Security Analysts. <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/computer-and-information-technology/information-security-analysts.htm>
- University of South Florida. (n.d.). Career Services. <https://careers.usf.edu/>