

Cybersecurity

Advanced Security Monitoring Tools

Lesson 20.2



Class Objectives

By the end of class, you will be able to:

1

Differentiate between various advanced security monitoring solutions, such as SOARs, UBAs, and UEBA's, and determine which is most appropriate for a specific security situation.

2

Understand how knowledge of SIEM software and Splunk is valued in the information security job market.

3

Continue learning about Splunk with free Splunk training courses.



Advanced Security **Monitoring Tools**

Introduction to Advanced Security Monitoring Tools

Today, we'll learn about other information security products used by security organizations.

We'll introduce Splunk's SIEM product, Enterprise Security, and explore several other security products available in the marketplace.

First

Next

We'll focus on security careers relevant to the knowledge and tools learned in the last five classes.

We will introduce and work towards the Splunk Fundamentals certification.

After the break

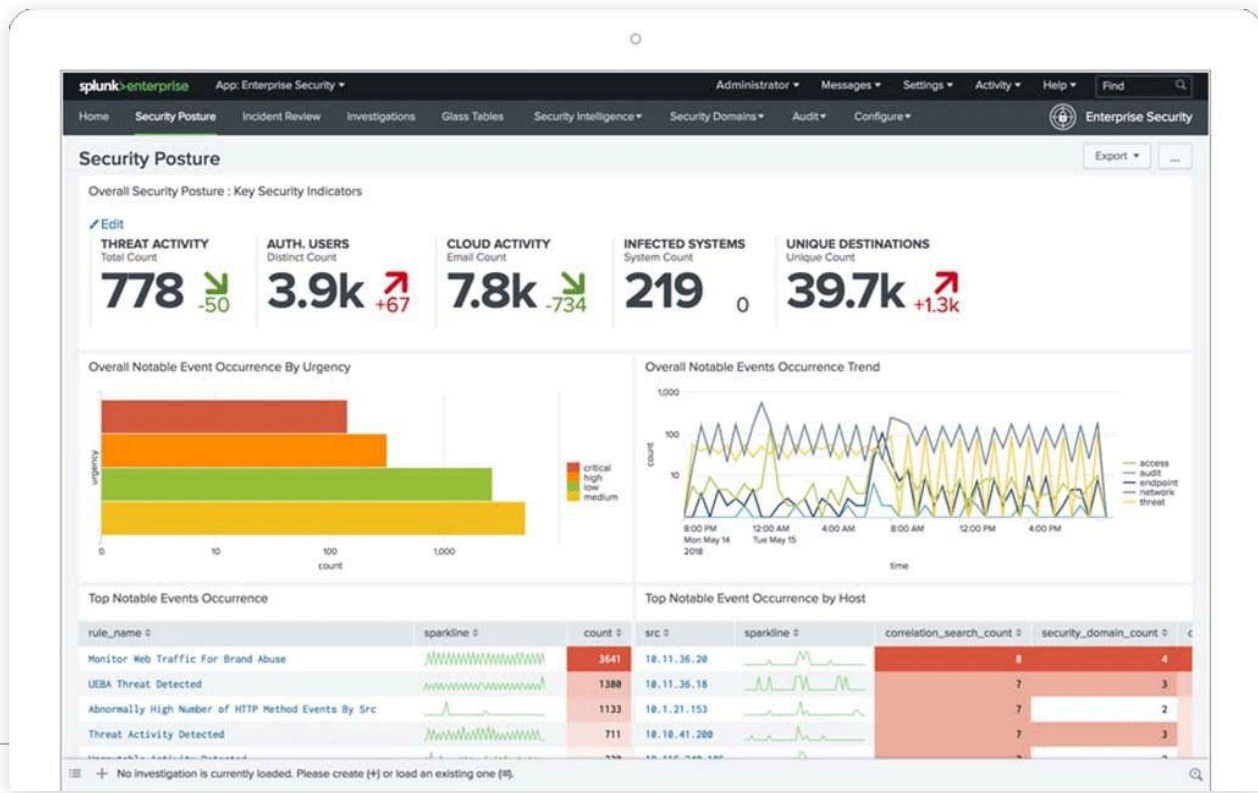
We'll introduce the final project, the bootCon presentation.

Finally

Splunk Enterprise Security

In the past five classes, we covered many of Splunk's capabilities and add-on applications.

The Splunk SIEM product, **Splunk Enterprise Security (ES)**, is one of the most popular add-on products for security professionals.

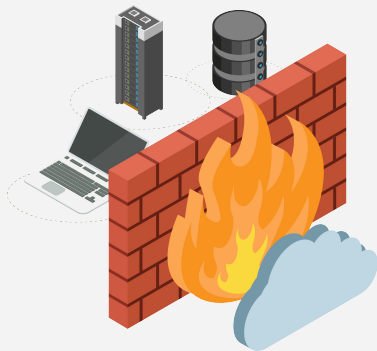


Splunk ES

Splunk ES is a SIEM product that provides security professionals with insights from machine-generated data, such as:

01

Network devices
like routers and firewalls



02

Endpoint devices
like antivirus solutions



03

Vulnerability management systems
like Nessus



Splunk ES is one of the most popular add-on products for security professionals, as it has pre-built dashboards, reports, and built-in features.



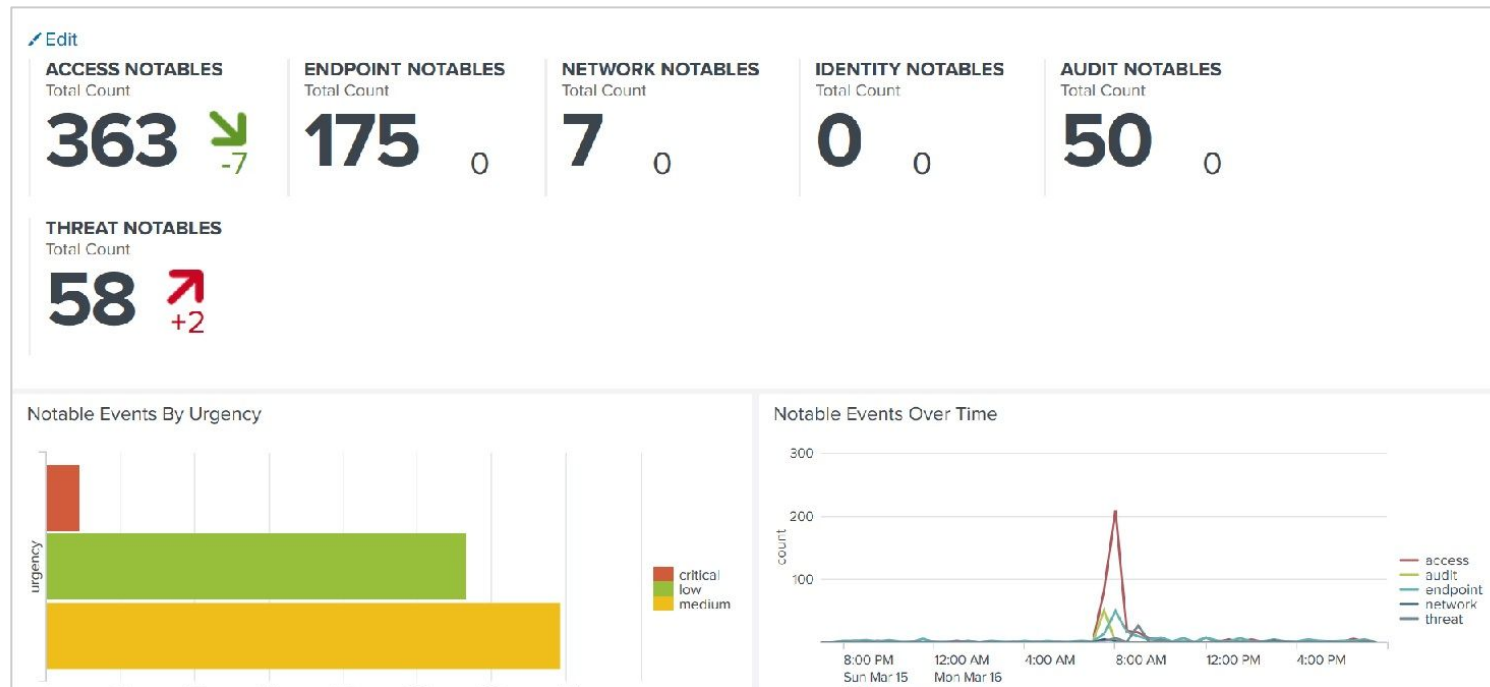
Splunk ES

Splunk ES features allow you to:

- 1 Identify, prioritize, and investigate security events.
- 2 Gain insights into security events.
- 3 Monitor the status of a security environment.
- 4 Audit security events.
- 5 Navigate these tasks with a pre-built, easy-to-use interface.

Splunk ES

Example of a basic Splunk ES dashboard



Advanced security monitoring solutions provide additional benefits such as machine learning, artificial intelligence, automation, and response.

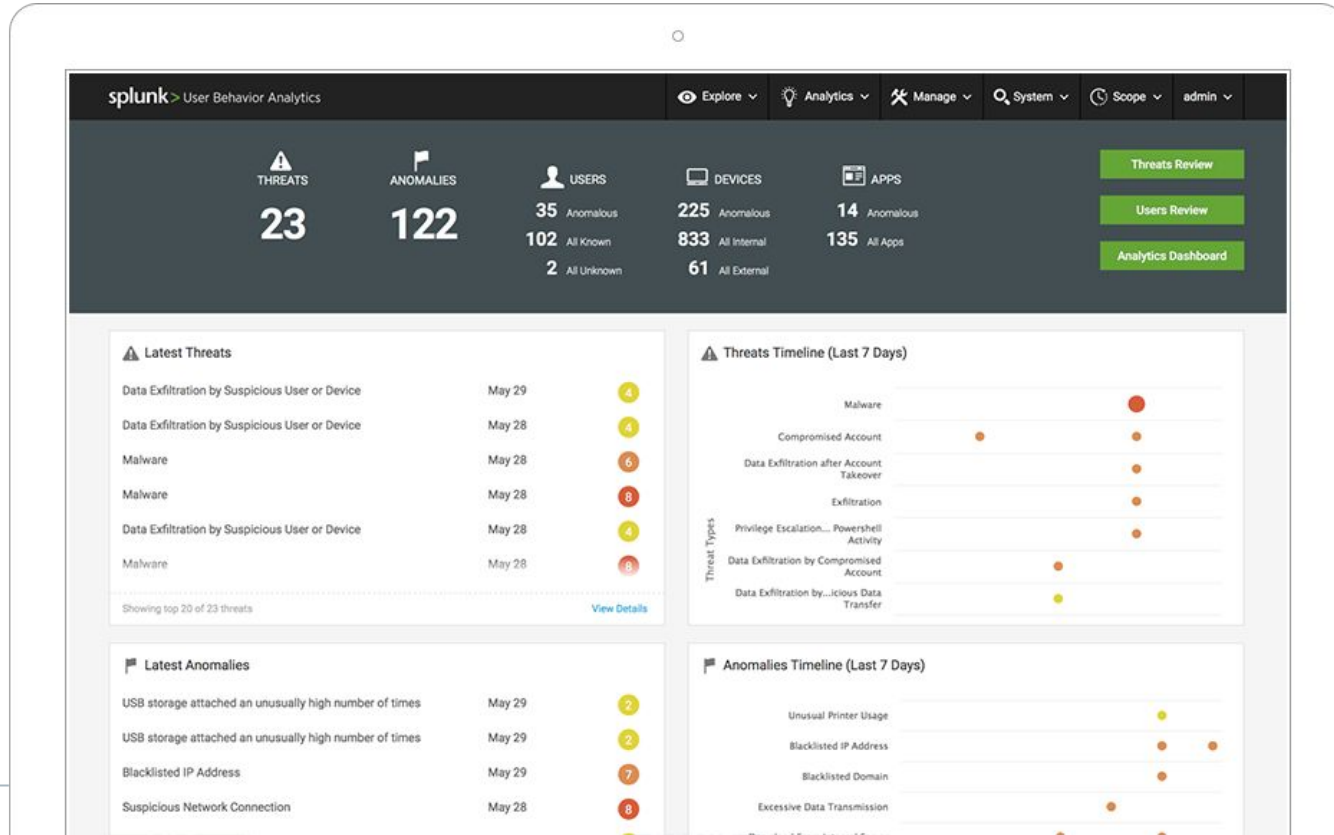


Advanced Security Monitoring

The most popular advancements in the information security industry include:

UBA	User behavior analytics	A security monitoring tool that uses machine learning, artificial intelligence, and data processing to detect abnormalities in user activity
UEBA	User and entity behavior analytics	A security monitoring tool similar to UBA, except it extends its monitoring to other “entities”
SOAR	Security orchestration, automation, and response	Comparable to a SIEM, it automates security processes and responds to security incidents

UBA gathers information about typical user behaviors and creates baselines.



UBA

For example:

01

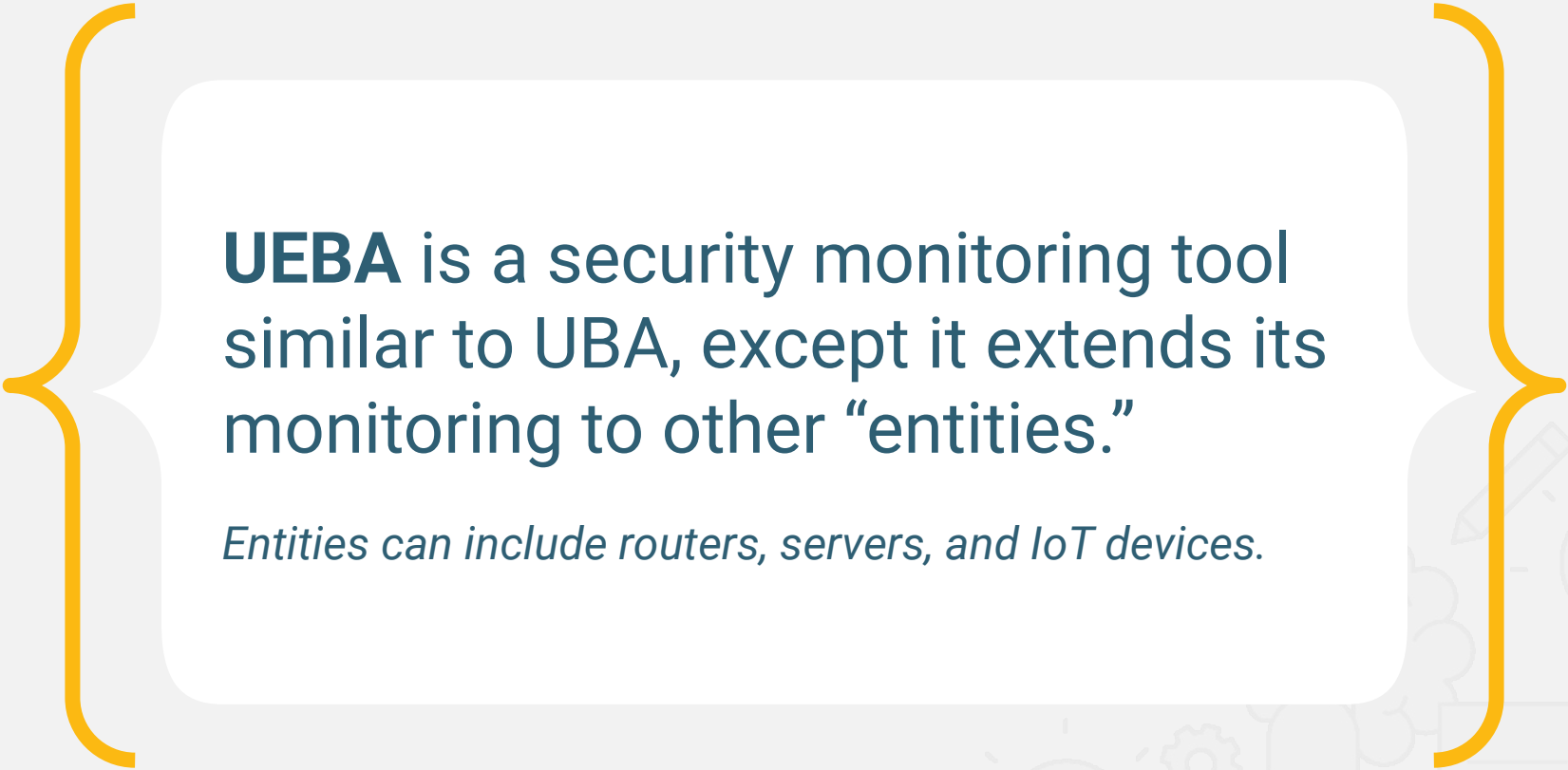
UBA can gather information on the servers and systems that a user accesses, as well as when and how frequently they do so.

02

UBA can then create alerts for when a user's activity deviates from this typical behavior.

03

If a user usually only logs in to a server between 9am and 5pm Monday through Friday, UBA would create an alert if the user logged in at 2am on a Saturday.



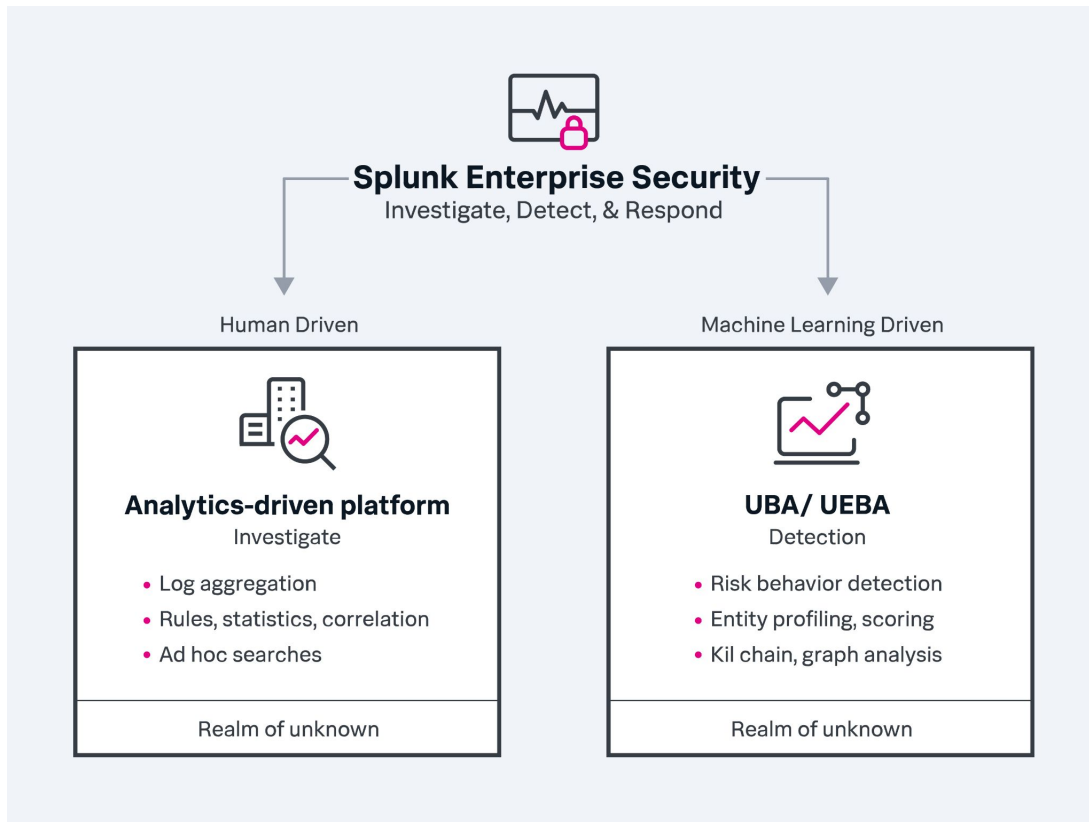
UEBA is a security monitoring tool similar to UBA, except it extends its monitoring to other “entities.”

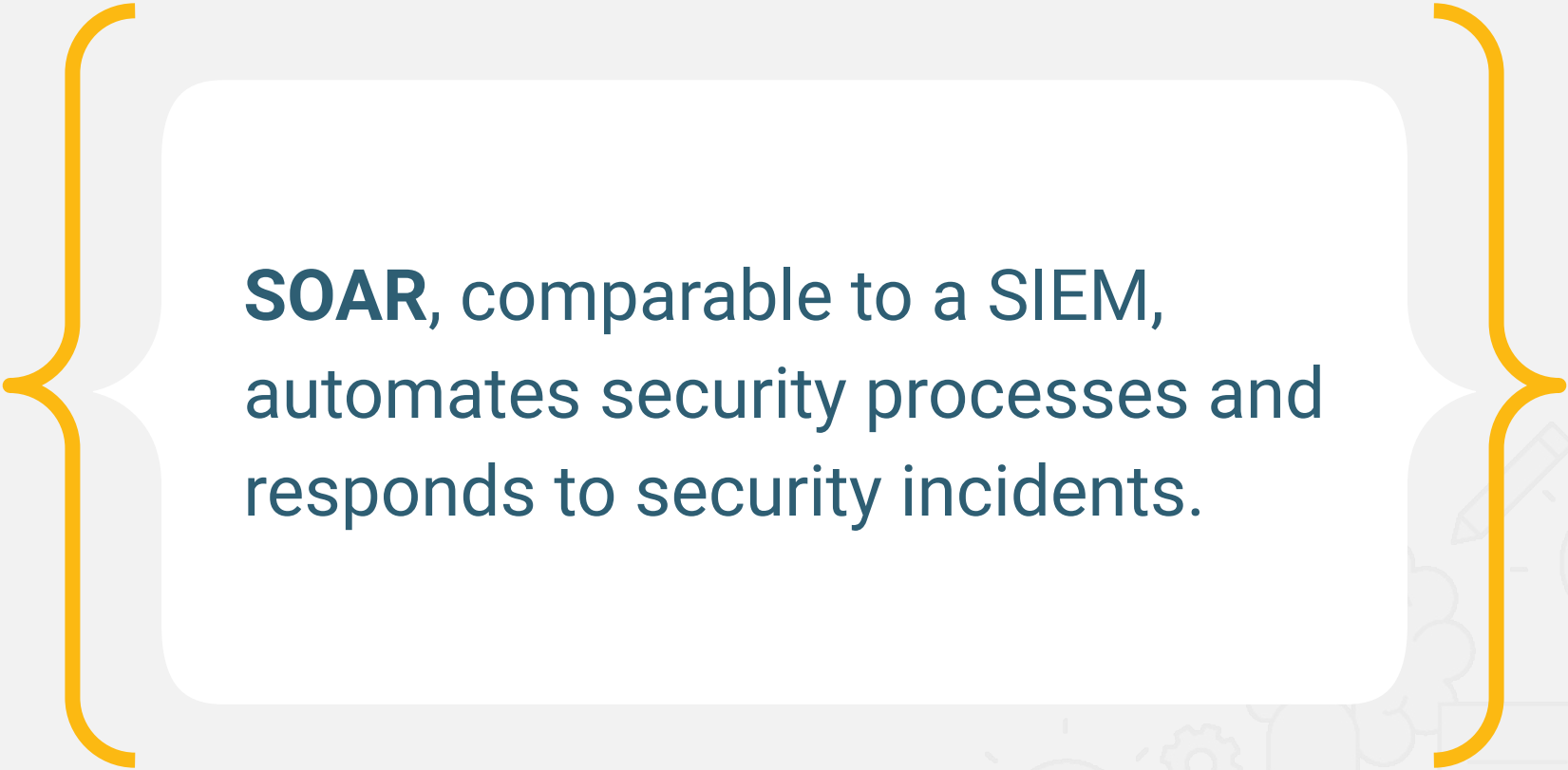
Entities can include routers, servers, and IoT devices.



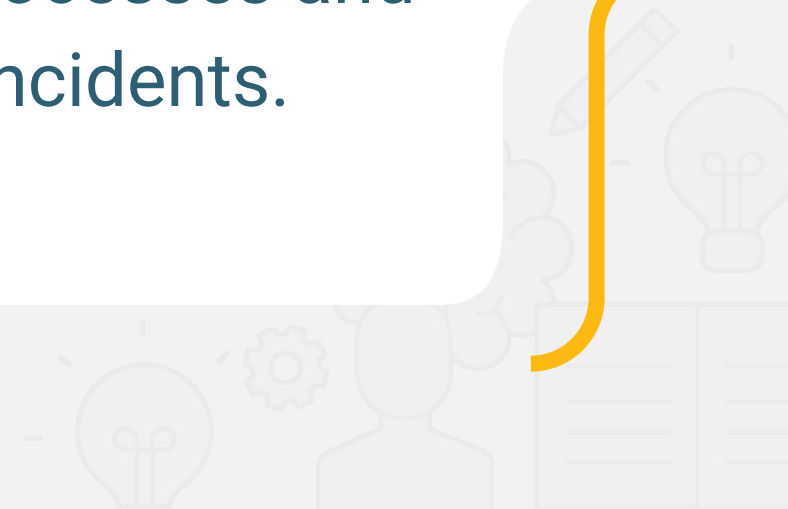
UEBA

UEBA looks at typical user and entity behaviors and creates alerts when they display unusual activity.





SOAR, comparable to a SIEM,
automates security processes and
responds to security incidents.



SOAR

Examples of:

Automating security processes

- Creating logging
- Assigning priorities to security incidents

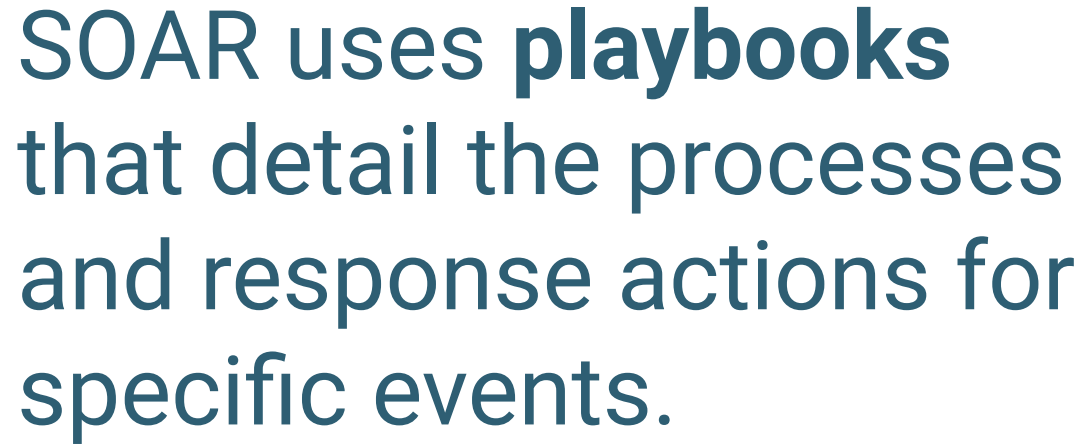
Responding to security incidents

- Launching security investigations
 - Mitigating threats
-

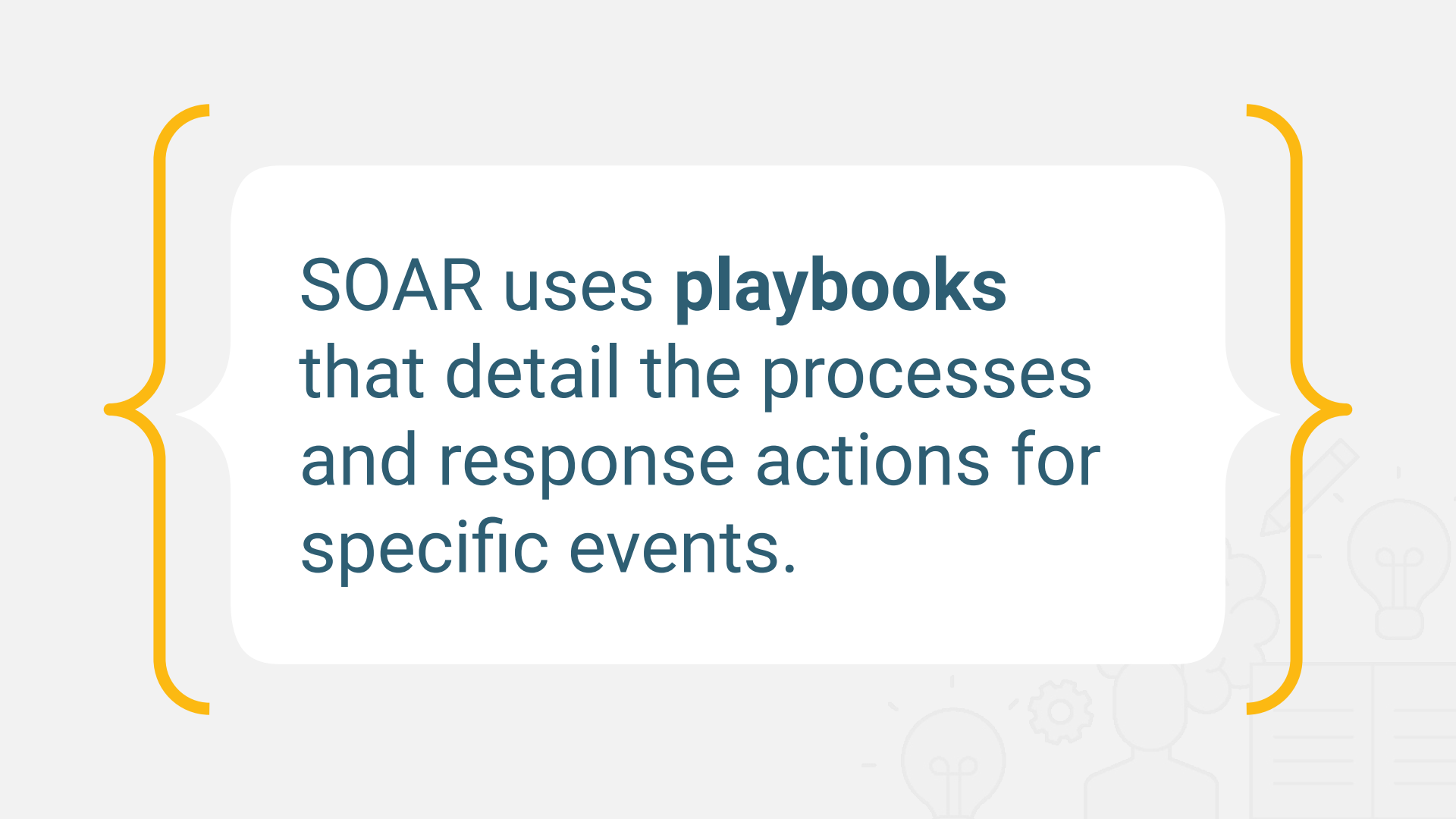
Similar to a SIEM, SOAR gathers machine data from multiple entities and analyzes the data for security events.

The letters 'SIEM' are rendered in a large, white, stylized font with a 3D effect. The background features a faint, circular fingerprint pattern in a lighter shade of blue, centered behind the text.

SIEM

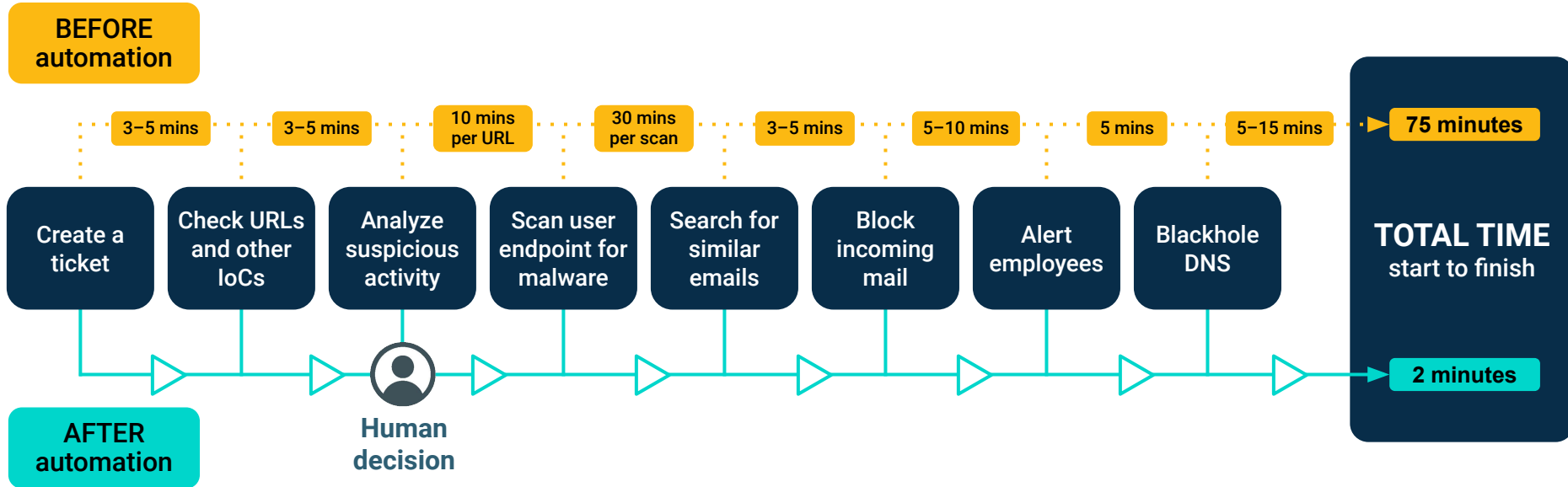


SOAR uses **playbooks**
that detail the processes
and response actions for
specific events.



SOAR

This diagram illustrates how using SOAR playbooks can decrease incident response time. Playbooks are uniquely designed and configured by each organization.





Activity:

Advanced Security Monitoring Tools

In this activity, you will research SOAR, UBA, and UEBA vendors to find a best fit for your organization.

Suggested Time:
20 Minutes





Time's up!
Let's review



Questions?





Splunk Careers

Now we'll explore careers and certifications related to the Splunk knowledge and tools learned over the past five lessons.



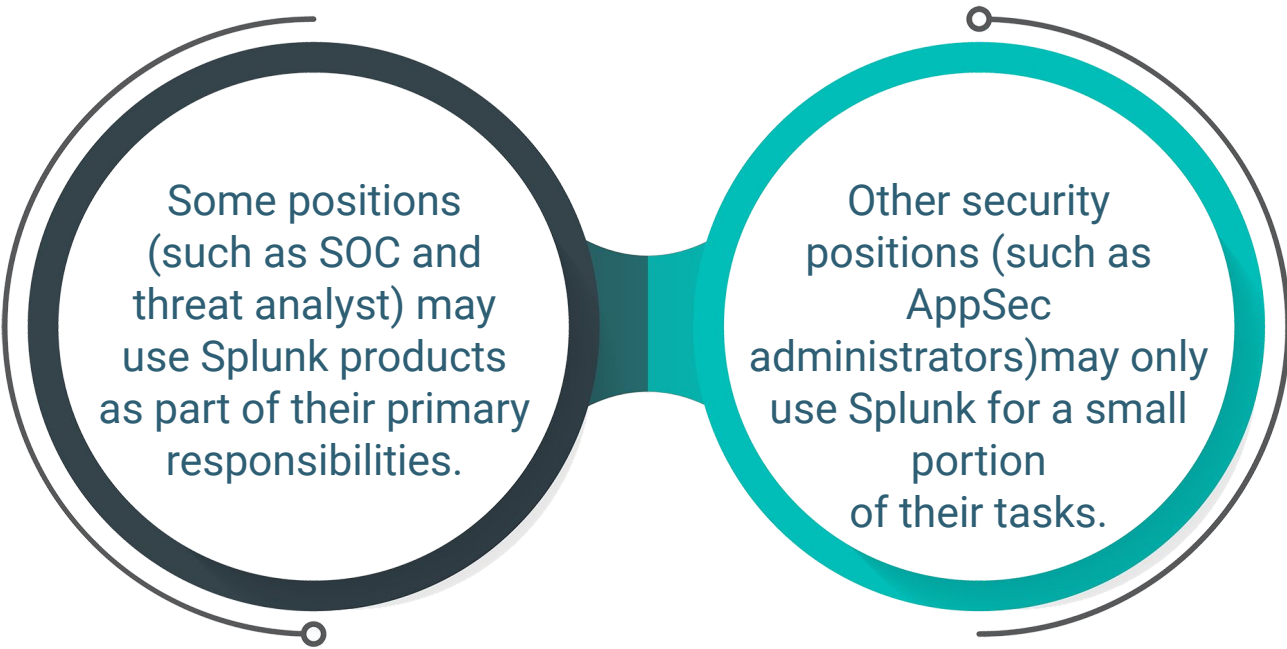
Experience working
with Splunk is a desirable
qualification for many
information security
positions.



Splunk Careers: InfoSec Positions

SOC analysts	Work in a security operations department alongside security engineers. Their positions involve detecting, containing, and potentially remediating information security threats. Most SOC analysts use SIEM products, such as Splunk ES, to monitor their environment.
Cyber threat analysts	Analyze an organization's networks and applications to protect organizations from cybercriminals. Cyber threat analysts often use Splunk products to make predictions about cybercriminals and what attacks they may conduct.
Application security engineers	Use Splunk to fix web and mobile application vulnerabilities. AppSec engineers use Splunk to analyze their application logs to assist with creating and testing their remediation.
Network security administrators	Use products like Splunk to monitor suspicious network traffic, such as DDOS attacks. They can use the findings from Splunk logs to mitigate and prevent future attacks.
Incident response managers	Use Splunk to monitor the status of ongoing security investigations when an incident has occurred.

Splunk Careers: InfoSec Positions



Some positions (such as SOC and threat analyst) may use Splunk products as part of their primary responsibilities.

Other security positions (such as AppSec administrators) may only use Splunk for a small portion of their tasks.

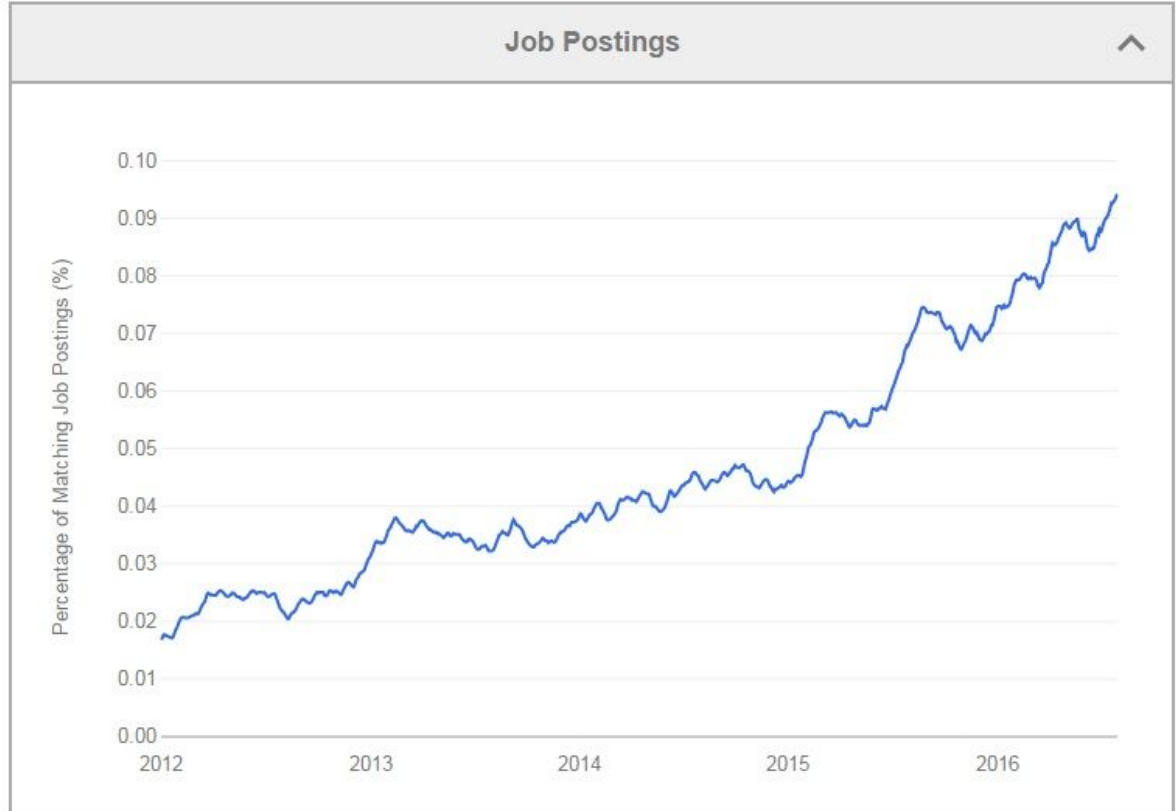


Either way, understanding how to use Splunk is a valuable skill for InfoSec professionals.

Splunk in InfoSec Careers

Splunk is already a required skill in many roles, and the industry demand is increasing every year.

This chart shows the rising percentage of job postings for Splunk roles.





Activity:

Splunk Careers

In this activity, you will search several job sites for Splunk-related careers and answer questions about each position.

Suggested Time:
15 Minutes





Time's up!
Let's review



Questions?





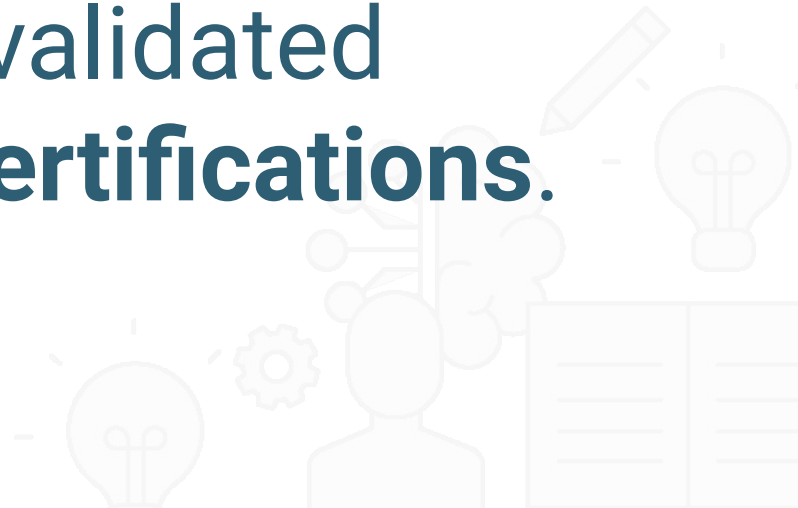
Break
15 mins



SIEM Certifications



Similar to other domains
in cybersecurity, Splunk
skills are validated
through **certifications**.



Splunk Certifications

Having a certification can help a cyber professional acquire a new position, receive a promotion, and attain networking opportunities with professionals who have similar certifications.



Splunk Certifications

Splunk offers many certifications for a variety of skill levels.



Splunk Core Certified User

Entry-level certification that demonstrates a user's basic ability to use the Splunk software



Splunk Core Certified Power User

Demonstrates a user's foundational skills with Splunk's core software, plus more complex skills, such as creating calculated fields and data models



Splunk Core Certified Advanced Power User

Demonstrates a user's capability to design reports, complicated searches, and dashboards

Splunk Certifications

Splunk offers many certifications, for a variety of skill levels.



Splunk Enterprise Certified Admin

Focuses on an individual's ability to support daily administrative tasks using Splunk ES



Splunk Enterprise Certified Architect

Focuses on a Splunk administrator's role supporting advanced troubleshooting, configurations, and deployments in Splunk ES



Splunk Enterprise Security Certified Admin

Focuses on a Splunk administrator's role to support installation, advanced troubleshooting, configurations, and deployments in Splunk ES

Splunk Certifications

Like for many certifications in the InfoSec field, training for Splunk certifications is expensive.

Fortunately, Splunk offers many single-subject courses for free.

The screenshot shows the Splunk Training & Certification website. The header includes the Splunk logo and navigation links for Products, Solutions, Why Splunk?, Resources, Support, and a Free Splunk button. The main banner features the text "Splunk Training + Certification" and a call to action: "Hungry for bite-sized training? Check out our menu of new, single-subject courses! Learn More". Below the banner is a "QUICK LINKS" section with links to My Training Profile, Splunk Education Student Handbook, Splunk Certification Handbook, FAQ, Authorized Learning Partners, Videos, and Basic Subscription Datasheet. A search bar and a "FILTERED BY: Free Courses" filter are present. The "Filter all" section shows 29 Results and a "Clear All" link. The "Content Type" filter has checkboxes for Courses, Free Courses (checked), and Certification Exams. The "Certification" filter has a dropdown arrow. The "Role", "Product", and "Suite" filters also have dropdown arrows. Three course cards are displayed: "Splunk User Behavior Analytics" (FREE COURSE), "IT Essentials Learn - Walkthrough" (COURSE), and "Free Splunk Fundamentals 1" (FREE COURSE). Each card includes a brief description and a "Learn More" link.

QUICK LINKS | [My Training Profile](#) | [Splunk Education Student Handbook](#) | [Splunk Certification Handbook](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Authorized Learning Partners](#) | [Videos](#) | [Basic Subscription Datasheet](#)

Search FILTERED BY: Free Courses x

Filter all
29 Results [Clear All](#)

Content Type ^

- ☐ Courses
- ☒ Free Courses
- ☐ Certification Exams

Certification v

Role v

Product v

Suite v

FREE COURSE
Splunk User Behavior Analytics
In this course we tour the UBA interface, look at how UBA defines threats, discuss steps to take when responding to possible threats and how to triage false positives.
[Learn More >](#)

COURSE
IT Essentials Learn - Walkthrough
This 8-minute eLearning course steps you through the IT Essentials Learn app.
[Learn More >](#)

FREE COURSE
Free Splunk Fundamentals 1
This course teaches you how to search and navigate in Splunk, use fields, get statistics from your data, create reports, dashboards, lookups, and alerts.
[Learn More >](#)



Activity:

Splunk Certifications

In this activity, you'll register for a Splunk account and begin single-subject courses.

Suggested Time:
60 Minutes



Activity: Splunk Certifications

Resources for taking the Core Certified User certification exam:

1

Splunk: [Core Certified User certification](#)

2

Splunk: [Journey to getting certified \(video\)](#)

3

Splunk: [Exam registration tutorial](#)

4

Pearson VUE: [Exam registration](#)

5

Splunk: [Certification study guide](#)

Splunk Certifications

If you are interested in continuing your education towards a **Splunk Core Certified User** certification:

You can access additional learning courses in your own time.



You can take the Splunk Core Certified User exam to earn a Splunk certificate.



Questions?





Overview of Remaining Projects And Introduction to BootCon

Project Weeks

You will complete two more projects in this course:

1. Defensive Security Project

- This project will occur at the end of the Defensive Security module and will incorporate everything you learnt in this module.
- We'll cover the details next week.

2. Final Project: BootCon

- This project will occur in the last week of class.
- We'll get an overview now so that you can begin brainstorming and preparing.

Cybersecurity Research Presentations

Cybersecurity professionals commonly present the following to their peers:

- 1 Security research they're conducting
- 2 Newly discovered security vulnerabilities of products, devices, software, or hardware
- 3 Demonstrations of the “hacks” that will exploit these vulnerabilities
- 4 Mitigations to protect against these vulnerabilities



- These presentations often occur at security conferences, trade shows, and other industry events.
- Cybersecurity professionals commonly attend these events to remain up to date with new technological developments and techniques.

BootCon Presentations

Similarly, you will have an opportunity to showcase your skills during bootCon.

- 1 On the last day of class, we will hold a cybersecurity conference called bootCon.
- 2 Each student will have an opportunity to showcase the skills they learned during the bootcamp with a presentation.
- 3 If students elect to present as a group, every group member must participate in the presentation.
- 4 Most cyber professionals present at conferences when they've found a new vulnerability. However, for bootCon presentations, it is acceptable and recommended that you recreate a finding that has already been discovered.



A bootCon presentation
is **NOT** a research paper.



While research will be required, all presentations must be tangible and demonstrable.

A demonstration can either be:

- Conducted in person
- A prerecorded video that accompanies the presentation
(if a live demonstration isn't practical)



BootCon Presentations

Each bootCon presentation should fall into one of the following three categories:

	01	02	03
Category	Exploiting a vulnerability of an IOT device	Developing code or a program that can complete a cybersecurity task	Demonstrating how a cybersecurity tool that was not covered in class can accomplish a specific goal
Example	Hacking your personal Blu-Ray player	Developing a Python script that can automate an Nmap scan	Using SET to design a social engineering campaign



BootCon Rules and **Requirements**

BootCon Rules and Requirements

You must submit a project summary to your instructor for approval.
The summary should be submitted with a Slack message by Week 22.

Your project summary should include:

- 1 The topic and title of your presentation
- 2 The end goal or vulnerability being exploited
- 3 A list of devices and/or technologies that will be used to accomplish the goal
- 4 A summary of how the devices and technologies will be used to accomplish the goal

BootCon Rules and Requirements



Under no circumstances may any aspect of your bootCon presentation be unethical or illegal.

You must:

- 1 Perform all hacks and tests in simulated environments.
- 2 Complete any network connections in your home and/or controlled environment.
- 3 Only perform IoT hacks on devices that you own.

BootCon Rules and Requirements

Presentations must have a goal whose achievement you can demonstrate.

For example:

Goal:

Cracking WEP wireless traffic from your home router



Demonstration:

Showing how you captured and cracked your wireless traffic



You can either conduct your demonstration live or record it and present it while you guide people through what took place.

BootCon Rules and Requirements

You must submit your presentation in the form of a Google Slides deck that, at a minimum, includes the following:

Cover slide	Presentation title and team member(s) presenting
Technical background	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explanation of why you selected the topic you are presenting• Networking, cryptographic, or security concepts applied• Research steps taken
Demonstration preview	Preview of the steps that you'll take in the upcoming demonstration
Demonstration	A live or recorded demonstration is conducted here
Demonstration summary	A summary of the demonstration that you just conducted and any impact that it may have
Mitigation	Recommendations for mitigating against the attack that you just conducted. If your presentation isn't about an attack, this is not required.

BootCon Rules and Requirements

01

You will present your project on the last day of class, and your total presentation time should be 7–10 minutes.

02

If you choose to form a group of 2–3 students, presentation time can be 5 minutes per student.

BootCon Rules and Requirements

If you need ideas for your presentation, refer to the [bootCon presentation guide](#), which contains:

1

Sample presentations

2

List of Kali Linux tools

3

List of IoT hacks

4

Videos of hacks presented at security conferences



Remember: Your project proposals are due in Week 22!



The End