Cyber Security Portfolio

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Coaches:

# Introduction or Intake letter

I am a semester 4 student, who has spent the first two semesters as a Software student and then took an Open Learning semester to improve my software skills and delve deeper into UI design and data analysis and management. I got some knowledge of Linux and networking in Semester 1. Security however came to interest me when the topic of password hashing was first introduced to me in semester 2, I learnt about that topic and delved a bit deeper, finding out about such topics as rainbow tables, the difference between hashing and encrypting, social engineering and others related to passwords and the ways they are stored. I found immense joy and excitement in learning about this topic and when I much later went to the career event the list of topics and internship questions at the company Sue excited me as well. After my interest in this was sparked, I followed some hacks and breaches in Western systems, as well as DDOS attacks and hacks that happened during the first months of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine. The digital battlefront was fascinating to me: organized Ukrainian and Russian groups hacked and took down important institutions, government services and critical infrastructure, people from diasporas and across the globe could take part in this war. As the interest in the war dies down so did the prominence of this form of political activism in my life, but this is one of the events that illuminated the importance and practicality of these skills and knowledge.

The internet is a web of knowledge nodes and bubbles, a collection of personal websites and blogs as well as a handful of big platforms that become entities in themselves, house communities and cultures and create waves that bring them together. As my interest in cyber security simmered and grew, the algorithms and tides of the internet brought articles, people and concepts to my attention, which is how I got knowledge of them.

I consider myself a smart and passionate young woman. I do my best work when I am driven by curiosity and am conquering difficult challenges, I usually grasp new information quickly and ask and answer questions well. However, I am not always driven, when I stumble and struggle in my learning process, I often feel ashamed and worthless, hide my problems and dive into distractions. I am used to being able to solve problems on my own, so reaching out for help is difficult for me. When I am not driven and overflowing with ideas, focused on the pleasant monotony of a task, or pressured by deadlines, doing and planning work is difficult also. I have been working on ironing out the difficulties between the deadline panic mode, passion flow mode, monotone flow mode, we are a team mode and zombie mode & self-berating mode. Communication is a skill I am still working on. I am a shy person by nature, I don’t speak Dutch and haven’t quite figured out how to have conversations by text, so feeling comfortable in a team, cultivating accountability and trust, keeping in touch, and getting what I need from my peers requires deliberate effort. In my previous semester, I felt welcomed in my team and we had a very egalitarian(?) atmosphere, it was fun and a highlight of the semester, however the project itself was the worst part of it, our stakeholders were very vague, busy and the task itself was frustrating. Our team made and abandoned Trello boards, members showed up to presentations with surprise deliverables and we did only one group retrospective. My semester coach, Senne de Ruiter, helped me through the semester, by connecting me to relevant experts when I confessed my struggles, asking others for help for me, soothing my anxieties and giving good feedback. Because of my passion-oriented learning style, I either happily typed away or stewed in my misery, so I didn’t ask and get a lot of feedback. So, to sum up this paragraph, my learning goals this semester are:

* Ask for more feedback
* Respond to feedback
* Ask experts and coaches for help
* Communicate with my coach and teachers
* Communicate with my team
* Improve my planning skills
* Regulate my passion

# Learning outcomes

## Ethical Hacker

## Risk Consultant

## Security Engineer

## Security Analyst

## Security Professional

For each Learning Outcome a paragraph describing:

How did you obtain Body of Knowledge\* about the involved subjects?  
(note: just a summary needed here; what were your favorite subjects, overall impression? You can refer to the BoK-document if needed)

How did you apply your skills in the project?

What have you learned considering this Learning Outcome?

What are you proud of?

Which aspects do you want to develop further?

What will you do differently next time?

What grade would you give yourself on the corresponding Learning Outcome?

# Personal Projects

How did you spend your hours for:

Personal Vulnerability Investigation (expected about 5x4h = 20 hours)

Internship Preparation (expected about 10 hours)

Personal Specialisation Project (expected about 10x4h = 40 hours)

# Overall Conclusion and Reflection

Critical reflection on your results, learning process and personal development goals.