

Practices for Secure Software Report

Table of Contents

DOCUMENT REVISION HISTORY	3
CLIENT.	
Instructions	
DEVELOPER	
1. ALGORITHM CIPHER	
2. CERTIFICATE GENERATION	
3. Deploy Cipher	
4. Secure Communications	6
5. Secondary Testing	6
6. FUNCTIONAL TESTING	
7. SUMMARY	9
8. Industry Standard Best Practices	

Document Revision History

Version	Date	Author	Comments
1.0	08-17-2025	Melissa Chessa	

Client



Instructions

Submit this completed practices for secure software report. Replace the bracketed text with the relevant information. You must document your process for writing secure communications and refactoring code that complies with software security testing protocols.

- Respond to the steps outlined below and include your findings.
- Respond using your own words. You may also choose to include images or supporting materials. If you include them, make certain to insert them in all the relevant locations in the document.
- Refer to the Project Two Guidelines and Rubric for more detailed instructions about each section of the template.

Developer

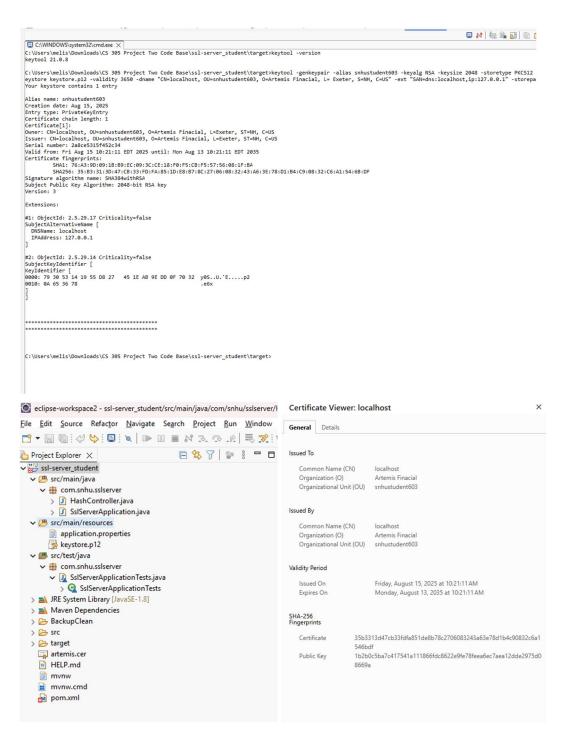
[Melissa Chessa]

1. Algorithm Cipher

[I recommend using TLS 1.2+ with RSA-2048 for secure transport and SHA-256 for checksum verification. TLS safeguards the confidentiality and integrity of client-server communication, while SHA-256 provides tamper detection by generating a unique hash. Older algorithms such as MD5 or SHA-1 are deprecated due to known vulnerabilities.]

2. Certificate Generation

I generated a self-signed certificate and keystore using Java Keytool. The alias (certificate username) is **snhustudent603**, and both the keystore and key are protected by the password **cs305-2025**. I used **CN=localhost** with Subject Alternative Names for *localhost* and *127.0.0.1* to support local HTTPS. I exported the certificate to **artemis.cer** as required and included a screenshot of the CER file.



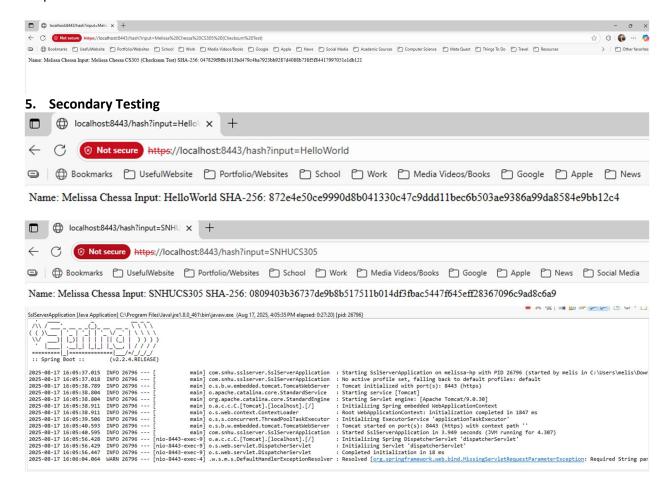
3. Deploy Cipher

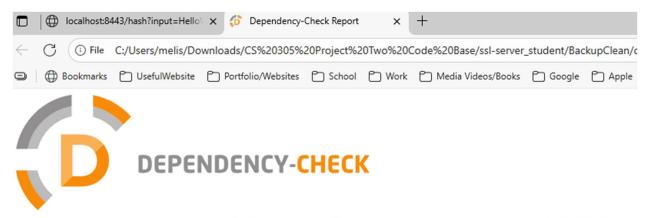
Screenshot showing SHA-256 cipher successfully deployed, hashing the input and returning the checksum:



4. Secure Communications

Screenshot showing the SSL/TLS secure communication working over HTTPS with the hash function response:





Dependency-Check is an open source tool performing a best effort analysis of 3rd party dependencies; false positives and false negatives may exist in the analysis performed by the tool. Use of the tool at holder or OWASP be held liable for any damages whatsoever arising out of or in connection with the use of this tool, the analysis performed, or the resulting report.

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Project: ssl-server

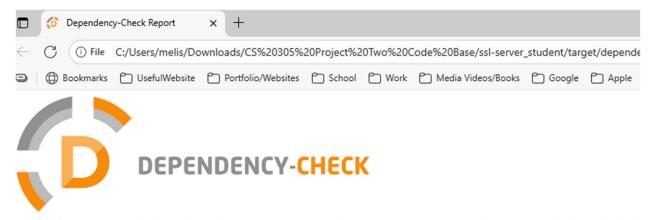
com.snhu:ssl-server:0.0.1-SNAPSHOT

Scan Information (show all):

- dependency-check version: 5.3.0
 Report Generated On: Fri, 15 Aug 2025 16:08:50 -0400
- · Dependencies Scanned: 49 (34 unique)
- Vulnerable Dependencies: 20
- Vulnerabilities Found: 196
- · Vulnerabilities Suppressed: 0

Summary

Display: Chaving Vulnerable Dependencies (aliak to show all)



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How to read the report | Suppressing false positives | Getting Help: github issues

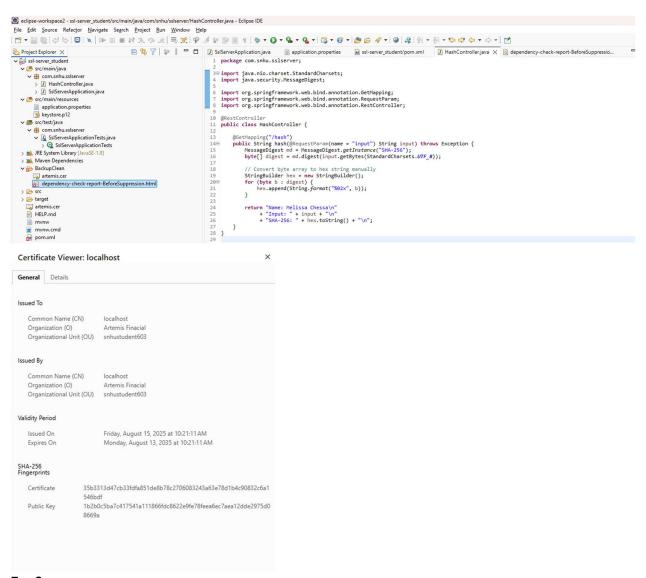
Project: ssl-server

com.snhu:ssl-server:0.0.1-SNAPSHOT

Scan Information (show all):

- dependency-check version: 5.3.0
 Report Generated On: Sun, 17 Aug 2025 18:38:39 -0400
 Dependencies Scanned: 49 (36 unique)
- Vulnerable Dependencies: 19
- Vulnerabilities Found: 206
- · Vulnerabilities Suppressed: 9

6. Functional Testing



7. Summary

[In this project I refactored Artemis Financial's starter application to add a checksum verification endpoint and secure it over HTTPS. I created a self-signed certificate and configured Spring Boot to serve the app on port 8443 using TLS. I implemented a SHA-256 hashing route that returns my name, the input string, and the computed checksum, and I verified functionality in the browser with multiple distinct inputs. I then ran OWASP Dependency-Check to confirm my refactor did not introduce additional vulnerabilities; I documented results and suppressed only non-applicable findings (test-only, API-only, or container-provided). Finally, I reviewed the code for logic, syntax, and basic security issues and validated that the server starts cleanly and the endpoint behaves as expected over HTTPS. This end-to-end process demonstrates refactoring to meet security requirements and compliance with the testing steps called for in the assignment.]

8. Industry Standard Best Practices

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Encrypt in transit (HTTPS/TLS): I enforced HTTPS with a keystore so all client-server traffic is encrypted. In production, certificates would be CA-signed and renewed automatically.

Use modern integrity primitives: I used SHA-256 for checksums and avoided deprecated algorithms (e.g., MD5, SHA-1).

Shift-left security testing: I integrated OWASP Dependency-Check into the Maven build to surface known third-party risks after code changes. Findings were triaged; only false/non-applicable items were suppressed, while real framework vulnerabilities remain documented for a future upgrade cycle.

Least surprise & separation of concerns: The hashing logic lives in a dedicated controller and the app bootstrap remains minimal. This improves readability, testing, and maintenance.

Secure defaults & input handling: The endpoint expects explicit input and returns deterministic output; optional defaults can be provided safely for demonstration without processing untrusted expressions.

Documentation & evidence: I captured screenshots for certificate creation, HTTPS access, checksum results, build logs, and the scan report to provide an auditable trail of changes and tests..]