

# Abdullah Ansari

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## EDUCATION

University of Houston, C.T. Bauer College of Business

Dec 2023

Bachelor of Business Administration, Management Information Systems

- Cumulative GPA: 4.00/4.00, Dean's List
- Industry Certifications: CompTIA Security+ Certified, VHL Advanced+ CoC, OSCP in progress

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Security Consulting Intern

June 2022 – Aug 2022

WithSecure, New York City, New York

- Participated in web application, network, and hardware security assessments in addition to assisting consultants in the compilation/quality assurance of pre-engagement scopes and client reports.
- Completed internal training on technical writing as well as mobile and web application testing methodology along with capstone projects such as mock assessments, reporting exercises, and executive presentations.
- Conducted research on smart locks utilizing Bluetooth technology resulting in a published technical blog post, CVE advisories, and a presentation explaining the discoveries which gave attacker's full unlock access to all the smart locks.

Technology Assistant

Sep 2020 – May 2022

University of Houston, Houston, Texas

- Actively monitored network connections and configured event logging on Windows movie streaming servers to log unauthorized attempts to access copyrighted material reducing litigation risk.
- Systematically applied OS/software security patches on university workstations in compliance with IT security policies leading to a 15% decrease in overall attack surface.
- Formulated and implemented a periodic backup strategy for office media servers reducing possible service interruption to 30 minutes and meeting the office's 24-hour recovery time objective.

## ACTIVITIES & PROJECTS

Capture-The-Flag Competitions & Practical Training

July 2020 – Present

- Learned to exploit network services, buffer overflows, and web applications by completing 4 learning paths, 68 rooms, 11 badges, and reaching level 0x9 [OMNI] on the TryHackMe cyber-training platform.
- Competed in several CTF events including PicoCTF, BazaareBank, MWR Active Directory and BazaareShop.
- Built a successful testing methodology by compromising 47/47 machines of various difficulties including medium and Advanced+ level hosts in the Virtual Hacking Labs network without automated tools.
- Authored a comprehensive write up on 10 VHL Advanced+ machines detailing steps taken to achieve full access.

Texas Dept. Of Information Resources, Cybersecurity Project

Feb 2021 – April 2021

- Led a team of six students to successfully deliver a recommendation to the state cybersecurity coordinator regarding fulfillment of data security standards via the use of control catalogs.
- Managed project to maximize efficiency by capitalizing on each team member's inherent strengths and talents, resulting in early completion of deliverables by two weeks.
- Trained team members on fundamental security concepts via reading materials leading to research which was selected to be delivered to ~1400 state employees.

Ethical Hacking Club, Vice President, University of Houston

Aug 2022 – April 2023

## AWARDS & SKILLS

**Awards/Honors:** George Foundation Excellence Scholarship Award, UH Scholar's Award, Academic Excellence Award

**Tools:** Linux, Windows Active Directory, Python, C++, Metasploit, Wireshark, Burp Suite, SQLMap, Hashcat, Nmap

**Languages:** Fluent in English; Conversational in Spanish, Urdu, and Hindi