

# BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

## ONLINE CYBERSECURITY

# ASPIRE

## EXPERIENTIAL MAJOR MAP

### CYBERSECURITY RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Build the skills to defend digital systems and lead secure organizations. Cybersecurity professionals play a critical role in protecting businesses, governments, healthcare organizations, and nonprofits from evolving digital threats. West Liberty University's Cybersecurity concentration prepares students to combine technical cybersecurity knowledge with business insight, creating graduates who can protect systems, manage risk, and support organizational success in a rapidly changing technological landscape.

#### THE WHO...

- Future Cybersecurity Professionals
- Working Professionals
- Technology-Focused Problem Solvers
- Future Security and Business Leaders
- Flexible Learners

#### THE SKILLS ...

- Cyber Threat Analysis & Defense
- Network Security & Information Assurance
- Risk Management & Incident Response
- Cybersecurity Policy Creation
- Corporate Cyber Training

#### THE JOBS ...

- Cybersecurity Analyst
- Information Security Specialist
- Network Security Analyst
- Risk & Compliance Analyst
- Security Operations Center (SOC) Analyst
- Digital Forensics or Incident Response Specialist

### WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

Graduates are prepared for careers across public, private, and nonprofit sectors where cybersecurity expertise is essential. The program prepares students with both technical cybersecurity competencies, enabling graduates to contribute immediately to organizational security initiatives. Opportunities range from entry-level technical positions to pathways leading toward management, compliance, information assurance, and cybersecurity leadership roles in a high-demand field.

#### HILLTOP ADVANTAGE

The Hilltop Advantage is a structured, student-centered approach that ensures every student graduates with not only a degree, but also meaningful experiences, career-ready skills, and a clear post-graduation plan.

#### THE PROGRAM

- Flexible Learning Options
- Industry-Aligned Curriculum
- Experienced Faculty
- Simulated Learning
- Career-Focused Prep
- CompTIA Certification Preparation
- MBA Fast Track Option

# College of Business - Online Cybersecurity

| ASPIRE                                                                                              | FIRST YEAR                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | MIDDLE YEARS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | LAST YEAR                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | GRADUATE PROGRAMS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>A<br/>ACADEMIC<br/>MASTERY</b>                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete foundational coursework</li> <li>Develop an understanding of cybersecurity principles, threats, and defenses.</li> <li>Build foundational skills in operating systems, networking, and coding.</li> <li>Obtain CompTIA Certification(s)</li> <li>Learn ethical and legal responsibilities in cybersecurity.</li> </ul>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete core cybersecurity coursework</li> <li>Strengthen technical skills in system security and threat analysis.</li> <li>Obtain CompTIA Certification(s)</li> <li>Apply cybersecurity concepts to practical scenarios.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete specialized and capstone coursework</li> <li>Demonstrate mastery of technical, analytical, and strategic security concepts.</li> <li>Obtain CompTIA Certification(s)</li> <li>Apply cybersecurity knowledge to enterprise-level challenges</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Master of Business Administration (MBA)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>S<br/>SELF-DISCOVERY<br/>&amp; STRENGTHS</b>                                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore cybersecurity career paths</li> <li>Reflect on interests in technology, problem-solving, investigation, and security.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify desired cybersecurity specialization.</li> <li>Assess leadership, technical, and communication strengths.</li> <li>Develop a professional identity as a cybersecurity practitioner.</li> <li>Define short- and long-term career objectives.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Articulate personal cybersecurity philosophy and career goals.</li> <li>Develop a professional growth and certification roadmap.</li> <li>Reflect on growth as a cybersecurity leader and problem solver.</li> <li>Establish a commitment to lifelong learning in a rapidly evolving field</li> </ul>                                                                                                    | <b>Industry Sectors</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information Technology &amp; Software</li> <li>Government and Defense</li> <li>Energy, Utilities, Manufacturing, Telecommunication Industries</li> <li>E-commerce, Transportation and Logistics</li> </ul>                                                        |
| <b>PI<br/>PROFESSIONAL<br/>PREPARATION<br/><br/>INTEGRATIVE &amp;<br/>EXPERIENTIAL<br/>LEARNING</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a professional résumé and LinkedIn profile.</li> <li>Attend cybersecurity awareness events and guest speaker presentations.</li> <li>Create a cybersecurity portfolio or GitHub repository.</li> <li>Participate in introductory cyber labs and simulations.</li> <li>Conduct informational interviews with cybersecurity professionals.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete a cybersecurity internship, co-op, or consulting project.</li> <li>Participate in advanced security labs and cyber range exercises.</li> <li>Engage in Cyber related competitions.</li> <li>Conduct vulnerability assessments and security audits.</li> <li>Develop a professional cybersecurity portfolio.</li> <li>Earn industry-recognized certifications</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete a capstone project focused on a real-world cybersecurity challenge.</li> <li>Present findings and recommendations to faculty and industry partners.</li> <li>Finalize a professional portfolio including labs, certifications, and projects.</li> <li>Secure employment, graduate school admission, or advanced training opportunities.</li> <li>Prepare for advanced certifications</li> </ul> | <b>Career Opportunities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cybersecurity Analyst</li> <li>Information Security Specialist</li> <li>Network Security Analyst</li> <li>Risk &amp; Compliance Analyst</li> <li>Security Operations Center (SOC) Analyst</li> <li>Digital Forensics/ Incident Response Specialist</li> </ul> |
| <b>RE<br/>RELATIONSHIPS<br/>&amp; LEADERSHIP<br/><br/>ENGAGEMENT &amp;<br/>WELL-BEING</b>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Join cybersecurity, technology, or computing student organizations.</li> <li>Connect with faculty mentors and peer mentors.</li> <li>Participate in campus cyber awareness initiatives.</li> <li>Develop effective study habits, resilience, and stress-management strategies.</li> </ul>                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Serve in leadership positions within cybersecurity organizations.</li> <li>Mentor newer cybersecurity students.</li> <li>Participate in regional and national cyber competitions.</li> <li>Develop teamwork, leadership, and communication skills.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen professional mentoring relationships.</li> <li>Support cybersecurity outreach and awareness initiatives.</li> <li>Engage with professional organizations such as ISC², ISACA, and InfraGard.</li> <li>Develop strategies for maintaining well-being in high-pressure cybersecurity environments.</li> </ul>                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |