Earn your Master’s Degree in Cybersecurity — Fully-online

Professionals with experience in cybersecurity are among the most sought after employees in the world. A USF Master’s Degree in Cybersecurity will help you gain the credentials you need to advance in this fast-growing field. Choose from three concentrations: Cyber Intelligence, Digital Forensics or Information Assurance.

Who Should Attend

You are most likely to be successful if you have academic or work experience in the areas of C/C++ programming, computer networks, operating-system design, algorithms, data structures and computer organization. An undergraduate degree in computer science, computer engineering, MIS or IT is recommended for admission.

Program Details

The Master’s in Cybersecurity is an interdisciplinary 30- to 33-credit hour program offered by the USF Colleges of Arts and Sciences; Behavioral and Community Science; Business; and Engineering. All courses are fully online, and most courses are delivered in a convenient eight-week format that fits into the busy lives of working adults, allowing swift progression through the program.
Concentrations

Cyber Intelligence

This concentration provides you the skills to acquire and assess the intentions, capabilities and activities of potential adversaries and insiders who pose a threat, including attack methods that target people to penetrate systems, sometimes referred to as social engineering.

Learn to generate and evaluate courses of action to manage risks, counter vulnerabilities and enhance organizational decision-making as you develop an understanding of how intelligence drives a cybersecurity mission.

Courses will prepare graduates for entry-level or advanced positions as cyber intelligence or threat intelligence analysts.

This concentration requires the four core courses, plus six concentration courses and one practicum course.

Digital Forensics

This concentration focuses on digital forensics tradecraft, techniques and procedures, standards of practice and legal and ethical principles, all assuring that digital evidence is accurate, complete and reliable.

Learn how to investigate computer, cyber and electronic crimes; analyze networks that have been attacked or used for illicit purposes; and properly identify, collect, secure and present digital evidence.

Courses will develop students’ expertise in developing and implementing IT controls and software security; knowledge of legal and regulatory requirements, and methodologies for assessing and managing information risks and responding to breaches and disruptions.

This concentration requires the four core courses, plus five concentration courses and one practicum course.

Information Assurance

This concentration provides you with a core foundation of knowledge and applied expertise in information security controls, the regulatory environment and information risk management and incident response.

Learn how to balance defenses and risks to secure the integrity of information in storage; ensure its accessibility to authorized personnel and inaccessibility to unauthorized personnel; and maintain the confidentiality of an organization or agency’s sensitive, identifying and personal data.

Courses will prepare graduates for entry-level or advanced positions in the field of Digital Forensics (sometimes called Cyber Forensics).

This concentration requires the four core courses, plus five concentration courses and one practicum course.

Learn more at: cyber.usf.edu/info
Admission Requirements

In order to qualify for admission into the fully online Master’s Degree program, you must have one of the following:

• A bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution and 3.00 GPA or better in all work attempted while registered as an undergraduate student working towards a degree.
• A bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution and a previous graduate degree with a 3.00 GPA or better from a regionally accredited institution.
• The equivalent bachelors and/or graduate degrees from a foreign institution.

Application Process

To begin the application process, you will need the following documents:

• Two letters of recommendation
• A current resume
• Transcripts (copies accepted at this stage)
• Scores from the GRE General Test (applicants with degrees from regionally accredited U.S. universities may request a waiver)
• A statement of purpose in which you describe your academic and professional background, reasons for pursuing this degree and professional goals pertaining to cybersecurity
• TOEFL or IELTS scores demonstrating proficiency in English, if applicable

Tuition and Fees

Total costs will vary based on the number of credit hours required by the concentration selected. Costs listed below do not include cost of textbooks or other educational resources.

• In-State: $347.91 per credit hour tuition + $133.52 per credit hour student services fees
• Out-of-State: $772.43 per credit hour tuition + $154.74 per credit hour student services fees

Financial aid and scholarships may be available.

Out-of-State Students

Out-of-state students from one of the 16 Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) states may be eligible for in-state tuition through the Academic Common Market, which allows students to study in a specialized field at an out-of-state college while paying in-state tuition rates. We will work closely with you if you would like to pursue this option, or if you need to confirm or change your residency status. To learn more, visit the SREB website at: www.sreb.org/page/1304/academic_common_market.html

Veterans Assistance

Military Tuition Assistance, Veteran’s GI Bill and State Tuition Waivers may be used to pay for this Master’s Degree.

Questions

To discuss your options and determine whether our program is right for you, please contact an Academic Program Specialist at cybereducation@usf.edu or 813-974-5565.