



Professor Ayad Barsoum Leads a Cybersecurity Class

St. Mary's University (StMU), grounded in its Catholic Marianist tradition, is committed to nurturing faith and developing leaders dedicated to serving the common good. This is achieved through a blend of community engagement, a comprehensive liberal arts education, and a commitment to academic excellence. Within this context, the School of Science, Engineering, and Technology at StMU aims to produce ethical, service-oriented leaders in the fields of science, engineering, and technology. The school emphasizes experiential learning within a student-focused environment that promotes success.

One of the unique offerings at StMU is the Master of Science (MS) in Cybersecurity, designed to equip students with the necessary knowledge, skills, and best practices for protecting an organization's digital assets. This program not only emphasizes technical proficiency but also incorporates ethical

considerations and legal implications. Students engage in a variety of courses covering topics such as network security, digital forensics, cyber risk management, cryptography, software security, cloud computing security, and cyber law. These courses are practically oriented, allowing students to gain direct experience in defending networks, computers, programs, and data against cyber threats.

The MS in Cybersecurity program offers two paths to completion: one option includes 30 credit hours of coursework coupled with a 3-credit capstone project, while the other involves 27 credit hours of coursework and a 6-credit thesis project. Graduates are expected to demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of cybersecurity, showcasing their ability to protect cyber assets, employ effective digital forensic techniques, understand and mitigate software vulnerabilities, and apply these skills in a real-world context.

The cybersecurity field, particularly in San Antonio, is experiencing significant growth, presenting numerous opportunities for graduates. Notable employers in the region include NSA/CSS Texas, the 16th Air Force, Raytheon, and Booz Allen Hamilton. Furthermore, major companies such as Google, Microsoft, Amazon, IBM, SWRI, USAA, and IPSecure are also in search of skilled cybersecurity professionals, underscoring the demand for graduates with this expertise in both the public and private sectors.

DESIGNATIONS

- CAE-Cyber Defense

CONTACT INFORMATION

Ayad Barsoum
abarsoum@stmarytx.edu

Teresa Beam
tbeam@stmarytx.edu

www.stmarytx.edu