

# Cybersecurity Internship Clinic Design

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## **Abstract**

This paper analyzes a cybersecurity internship clinic design and its curriculum with respect to its contribution to awareness and education methods. The cybersecurity clinic aims to provide cybersecurity network defense awareness and services (cybersecurity education/training, risk management posture) to local government and small businesses in the Hampton Roads area while providing experiential learning opportunities for higher education students. In small and repeatable fashion, the clinic will equip the Hampton Roads small business community with cybersecurity preparedness, and a more robust risk posture. The secondary benefit is to increase the number and quality of students working and filling open cyber positions in the Hampton Roads area and Virginia. The curricular design of the clinic will have three phases and these components will be discussed in detail. The initial phase is a design thinking workshop where students are trained in design thinking and meet the leaders of the organizations which they will provide service. This will give the students an opportunity to know more about the businesses. The second phase is a cybersecurity training session where students are mentored by a local cybersecurity company on building relations with small businesses as well as building a security awareness training and/or risk assessment model. Third phase is the final phase where students work with the company for their service and provide a service either as an employee training session or a risk assessment / best practice report. All these will be tailored for the specific business or organization. The paper discusses the details of the internship clinic curriculum and analyzes potential benefits as well as challenges in the process.