

Austin Cupp

1. Describe five businesses or non-profits that have been created in my field.

Cisco is a business that is a major player in the cybersecurity industry which specializes in networking and network security. Cisco also offers certifications and exams for those who are looking to build their resume for the cybersecurity world. Cisco offers firewall, endpoint, and other security solutions. Rapid7 (RPD) is a business that has combined SIEM with a strong vulnerability management platform and threat detection capabilities. With its product being easy to use and having great value, it has experienced long-term growth of 52% in the last year. Fortinet is another business that specializes in network security. Fortinet majors in core network security area but is strong in other key security areas such as EDR and SIEM. The National Cyber-Forensics & Training Alliance (NCFTA) is a non-profit organization founded in 2002 in Pittsburgh to provide a trusted, confidential forum where law enforcement and the private sector can work together to identify and disrupt today's most pressing cyber-related threats. CyberSecurity NonProfit (CSNP) is a nonprofit organization that helps the community by providing inclusive and accessible cybersecurity awareness, exploration, and education.

2. What is your overall perspective on the entrepreneurship experience?

My perspective on entrepreneurship within and outside of ODU has changed due to the entrepreneurship experience because of how much I have learned. I have learned what entrepreneurs' factor in when considering starting up a business, as well as how to determine a problem. I have learned how entrepreneurs create a product and determine what problem their product is going to solve. I learned how failure can be good regarding entrepreneurship. My overall perspective on the experience is that entrepreneurship is very difficult if you do not have the proper planning, resources, and target market. My perspective on the entrepreneurship experience is that it was informative and enjoyable.

3. How did the entrepreneurship prepare or not prepare you to be a competitive candidate for vacant positions?

It prepared me to know how the business looks for and views candidates when they are scouting and interviewing them. Businesses look for employees who are motivated, idealistic, and confident. In that same breath, businesses look for employees who might experience failure, but are able to overcome failure and learn from it. The entrepreneurship enabled me to understand important qualities that I will use in future vacant positions that I apply for.

4. What suggestions do you have to improve the experience?

I think the experience could be improved by having more assignments throughout the course instead of their being a two month break in between when assignments are due. I think smaller assignments, similar to the journals, would be better for some students to learn and retain knowledge regarding what makes a successful business and entrepreneurship as a whole. Personally, I think group work can be a bit of a challenge if the group members are not communicative or on the same page. Besides these suggestions, I enjoyed the course.

5. What's next for you?

What's next for me is at the conclusion of this semester I will have graduated from ODU with a bachelor's degree in Cybersecurity, with either the Magna Cum Laude or Summa Cum laude honor. I will begin looking for vacant positions relating to Cybersecurity around the United States, and I plan on earning the SEC+ certification by February. After that, I would like to earn more certifications relating to Cybersecurity and IT that I can include in my resume for any future job opportunities.