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CYSE 368

Spring 2026

02/08/2026

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A Better Way Campaign

Reflection #1

Internship Reflection Paper

First 50 Hours

Working as a Cybersecurity Specialist intern at A Better Way Campaign for 50 hours has introduced me to the necessity of communication and coordinating with each level of my team to accomplish given tasks. The first 50 hours have been primarily focused on introducing me to the company, its structure, goals, methods, my team, and my purpose in it. After the onboarding process my team was given multiple tasks to complete. These tasks included a security analysis of access controls, multi-factor authentication planning, and planning a phishing simulation. I have been able to accomplish the basic structure of these along with the help of my team. Researching optimal strategies, technologies, and tools has taken most of my task-associated time. The steps taken after researching were to communicate potential avenues for implementation. My role in these tasks has depended on the scale of the task itself, ranging from sole-worker, to delegated assignment within the scope of the task.

Communication has been by far the most useful tool at my disposal during the first 50 hours of my internship. It is imperative to the accomplishment of the task for each of our team members to be on the same page and looking to accomplish a collective goal. I very frequently communicate with team members, and the director to ensure everyone knows their delegation, and achieve clarification of the task and its intention. Without proper communication, we would be unable to accomplish a majority of the tasks assigned to us. If we were to attempt these tasks, they would most likely be ineffective.

In addition to work I have been able to put into practice knowledge gained from previous classes taken. This includes my linux classes, penetration testing class, and each of the cybersecurity related courses. I have also been able to observe the inner workings of organizations like this, as well as how they accomplish their objectives, regardless of their specialty.

Overall, the first 50 hours have provided me with training to operate within the company, produce a team environment that cultivates success, and plan professional operations and reports. In reflection on my first 50 hours, I should have been more proactive in my communication, and committed to developing easily readable reports from research I had conducted for the organization. In my next 50 hours at the organization I hope to delve into hands-on activities with my team members, develop working connections between software, penetration test, develop monitoring reports, and put into practice the plans being made in collaboration with my team.