Carla Belfiore

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Senior Cybersecurity student at Old Dominion University with experience in cybersecurity consulting, compliance, information assurance, and leadership through real-world client engagements. Recognized for leadership and outreach by the Cyber Clinic and advocating for experiential learning and future interns, demonstrating robust communication and collaboration skills. Currently studying for CompTIA Security+ (expected May 2026) and planning to pursue a master's degree in cyber conflict and cyber warfare, with the goal of applying technical and analytical cybersecurity skills in government agencies or military cybersecurity-focused roles for cyber operations and national defense.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Cybersecurity: Risk Assessment, Mitigation and Management, Networking, Shell Scripting, User Authentication
Systems/Tools: Windows, Linux, macOS, Python, Nmap, Firewall
Professional Strengths: Leadership, Collaboration, Problem Solving
Additional Strengths: Italian, English, Spanish

EXPERIENCE

Cyber Internship Teaching Assistant | Old Dominion University - Norfolk, Va | Aug 2025 – Present
- Guiding students in their experiential learning journey, supporting them through the process of applying academic concepts to real-world cybersecurity consulting work.
- Providing valuable feedback and grading student deliverables, ensuring technical and academic accuracy while meeting cybersecurity standards.
- Ensuring students meet course requirements, timelines, and internship requirements, helping them understand the importance of accountability and responsibility.
- Helping students strengthen technical skills, professional conduct, and client communication, preparing them for government and industry cybersecurity roles.

Cybersecurity Consulting Intern | Coastal Virginia Center for Cyber Innovation – Norfolk, Va | January – May 2025
- Conducted hands-on cybersecurity risk assessments and preparedness evaluations for local small businesses.
- Developed technical, analytical, and communication skills by directly engaging with clients, assessing their cybersecurity posture, and providing tailored recommendations while delivering consulting services.
- Collaborated with team members and sponsors (Valor Cybersecurity) to analyze client cybersecurity environments and governance practices.
- Served as a student ambassador and advocate for future interns, through mentoring, knowledge-sharing, and promoting experiential learning in cybersecurity.

EDUCATION

B.S. Cybersecurity | Old Dominion University | May 2026 | GPA: 3.76 | Dean's List
M.S. Cybersecurity (planned) | Old Dominion University | Fall 2026 – Spring 2027

RELEVENT COURSES

Programming and Networking (CYSE 250) – Introduced the Python programming language, as well as applicable networking protocols using the Cisco Packet Tracer resource.
Linux Systems for Cybersecurity (CYSE 270) – Gained hands-on experience in Linux system administration for using both graphical and command-line interfaces.
Windows Systems and Security (CYSE 280) – Gained hands-on experience in implementing security features such as malware mitigation, auditing, secure virtualization, secure deployment methods, and advanced threat analysis.
Cyber Techniques and Operations (CYSE 301) – Applied defensive and analytical tools and techniques for network mapping, firewall configuration, intrusion detection, forensic investigation, and penetration testing.
Cyber Risk Management (CYSE 430) – Introduced the topic of risk management and how risks, threats, and vulnerabilities affect information systems through different risk mitigation strategies such as business impact analysis, business continuity plans, and disaster recovery plans.

COMMUNITY

Women in Cybersecurity (WiCyS) | Cybersecurity Student Association (CS2A) | Armed Forces Communication and Electronics Association (AFCEA)