

# Nehemia Araia

Nehemia5araia@gmail.com | (804) 365-2931 | [Portfolio](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [GitHub](#)

---

## EXPERIENCE

### Handshake AI | *Fellow*

Remote | Oct 2025 - Present

- Evaluated numerous LLM outputs to identify bias, hallucinations, and reasoning gaps, contributing data and insights that improved model reliability, contextual accuracy, and alignment across diverse prompts.
- Collaborated with researchers to refine model behavior through structured annotation, prompt engineering, and failure-mode analysis, directly supporting safer AI development and higher-quality model performance.

### University Information Security Office | *Security Analyst Intern*

Norfolk, VA | Aug 2025 - Present

- Investigated and Responded to **75+** monthly phishing and suspicious email reports, leveraging **Microsoft Defender** to identify threats and mitigate risks across the university.
- Leading student SOC operations by executing incident response procedures, escalating high-severity alerts, and collaborating with management to reduce potential risks.

### Amazon Web Services | *Cloud Support Engineer Intern*

Dallas, TX | May 2025 - Aug 2025

- Led the development of an AI-powered meeting summarizer that transcribes and generates summaries from audio, while enhancing cloud architecting and troubleshooting skills through scenario based challenges.
- Automated the design & deployment of a highly available, auto scaling ECS containerized application using Terraform, integrating ALB, WAF, and CloudWatch, improving response time by **45%** through load balancing
- Completed **65+** hands-on labs, applying **50+** AWS services across real-world scenarios involving automation, networking, compute, and storage.

### Northwest Federal Credit Union | *IT Security Intern*

Herndon, VA | June 2024 - Aug 2024

- Engineered and deployed a phishing campaign to educate employees on social engineering tactics, leading to a **20%** reduction in phishing susceptibility across the organization.
  - Collaborated with the team to optimize security tools and ensure **NIST SP 800-53** compliance, supporting patch management, endpoint protection, disk encryption, email/web gateways, MFA, and LogRhythm SIEM.
- 

## SKILLS

**Certifications:** AWS Certified AI Practitioner | AWS Solutions Architect Associate | Security+ | CISSP (Studying)

**Languages & AI/ML:** Python | JavaScript | SQL | PowerShell | Bash | Node.js | YAML | LangChain | PyTorch

**Tools & DBs:** Terraform | CloudFormation | Kubernetes | Docker | Jenkins | Prometheus | Grafana | Linux | DynamoDB

**Security:** CrowdStrike | Rapid7 | IBM QRadar | Splunk | ELK | SonarQube | Trivy | Semgrep | ServiceNow

---

## PROJECTS

### Security AI Agent for Vulnerability Assessment

Norfolk, VA | Sept 2025 - Oct 2025

- Fine-tuned an LLM with LoRA and built a RAG agent to detect code and IaC vulnerabilities, map findings to CWE/CVSS, and validate fixes with Semgrep, Tfsec, and Checkov, improving detection F1 by 15 points.

### AI Driven Cloud Threat Analysis & Compliance Mapping

Norfolk, VA | Oct 2025 - Nov 2025

- Built an AI driven cloud threat detection pipeline that mapped GuardDuty findings to NIST, CIS, & MITRE ATTACK, correlated CloudTrail events, and sent SNS alerts with Bedrock summaries to speed incident response.
- 

## EDUCATION

Old Dominion University | *BS, Cybersecurity* | *Minor: Data Science* | *GPA:3.5*

Norfolk, VA | *Grad. May 2026*

- **Knowledge:** Threat Modeling & Intelligence, Cloud Security (AWS, Azure, GCP), Alert Triage, Agentic Workflows, Detection Engineering, IAM, DevSecOps, Incident Response, Malware Analysis, Vulnerability Management, GRC (NIST, CIS, ISO, SOC 2).
- **Relevant Coursework:** Generative AI in Cybersecurity, AI methods & models, Business Analytics, Ethical Hacking & Pen Testing, Cyber Risk FedRAMP/Audit, Linux System for Cybersecurity.

**CTFs:** UCCS Mountain West Cyber Challenge, CyberFusion, CyberForge, AWS Jam (Placed Top 3).