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CYSE 494

Week 6 Journal Entries

Entry 1: Describe five businesses or nonprofits that have been created in my field.

The National Cybersecurity Alliance is a non-profit organization that promotes the safe use of technology and informs all users about the best ways to safeguard themselves, their families, and businesses against cybercrime. The Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing software security through the use of community-based software projects and educational and training conferences. The Center for Internet Security (CIS) is a nonprofit organization most recognized for its best practices for security IT systems and data. In addition to nonprofit organizations, there are numerous businesses that have also been established in the cybersecurity field. McAfee Corporation is among one of the biggest computer security software companies in the world; moreover, this company serves home users, businesses, public sector, and service providers to continuously monitor and improve their security. Lastly, Darktrace is a cybersecurity company that specializes in artificial intelligence that detects ransomware, phishing emails, and other cyber threats to critical systems.

Entry 2: What is your overall perspective on the entrepreneurship experience?

Overall, I thought this learning experience was very informative and helpful in looking through an entrepreneurial perspective. This class provided me with the skills to build a business around a product or service and how to make my product stand out from competitors. In addition to this, I also learned other crucial information such as legal issues, budgeting and financial statements, and ethical issues surrounding entrepreneurship. To succeed in this class, I had to think deeply about a social issue that existing products and technology have not solved. Not only this, but I also learned how to bring new innovations to existing products or services to find solutions to current issues.

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

This class taught me how to prepare to be a competitive candidate by learning how to collaborate with others, develop a deep understanding of a problem within my field, develop leadership skills, and innovate existing solutions. It helped me to look at a problem and figure out how to create better solutions that allow for growth, development, and make a positive impact on society. This class has provided me with the skills to be a competitive candidate by learning how to pitch myself to employers and how to improve after failing. It has also allowed me to develop my own way of thinking and come up with alternative and unique solutions.

Entry 4: What suggestions do you have to improve the experience?

I thought this class was extremely beneficial and prepared me for entering the cybersecurity field. To improve the experience, I would suggest incorporating slide presentations alongside the module videos. Personally, I learn better when I have a presentation to go back and read over. Additionally, when I take notes I will try to paraphrase something; however, sometimes I will either write something incorrectly, not be able to understand what I was trying to say, or miss crucial information. Then, it would be somewhat difficult trying to remember which video I need to go back to or which timestamp of that video. Other than that, I thought this learning experience was very informative and overall prepared me for working in my field.

Entry 5: What's next for you?

After earning my degree, I am going to first study for my security plus certification while still working full-time. I wanted to study and take the test during this semester; however, I could not find the time with taking five classes and working full-time. In addition to this, I want the opportunity to take a couple months off after finishing school and work at my current job before applying for a job within my field. With the help of my mom, my brother was able to get a job as an IT help desk consultant. Once he moves out of this position, I hope to work the same job just to get my foot in the door and work my way up to a higher position within the same company.