

Reflection #1

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Reflection #1

Prior to this semester, I initially believed that we would have been working around twenty to forty hours a week to assist clients in the cybersecurity clinic. I had expected a typical internship environment, like that in an office, but this class was special, so I was somewhat surprised that the first six weeks would be training. Only in the eighth week do we meet our clients, which I look forward to. Overall, this exclusive class has been superb for both my confidence and experience. Rarely do I have classes as engaging as CYSE 368, with the exception of Professor Graham's cybercrime courses and an ethics course. Although I understand that online classes are asynchronous, I feel as though the majority of the time the professors hardly care. This internship was an exception, and I doubt an online version of the cybersecurity clinic is feasible. Dr. Baaki's design thinking sessions were a serious change of pace considering the physical courses I have taken in the past were mostly standard lectures. I also enjoyed the difference of the minigames he set out for us, which is why I particularly remembered his lectures. I distinctly remember Dr. Baaki taught us to focus on the present in and outside of design thinking; all throughout my three years at ODU, I have constantly planned ahead on what assignments needed to be completed, errands I needed to run, and deadlines. I have to be truly present to be focused, which will serve its use once I meet with my client(s). I cannot properly assist my client(s) if I am too busy worrying about upcoming assignments.

Conclusion

So far, my experience in CYSE 368 has been phenomenal, and I expect the future weeks to prepare me for my meeting with clients. Dr. Baaki had very engaging but also informative lectures on design thinking, and both TAs have been extremely helpful/active; as a matter of fact, they are the only GroupMe group I signed up for that had active updates. My only gripe with this class is the size of the classroom we typically meet in, but there are only so many circumstances you can control. Had there been a smaller group this year, I would not think much about it.