

# Reflection

Jermiah Robinson

March 1st, 2026

IDS 493 – 29313

This course has been an enlightening experience for myself and for my own portfolio page. Old Dominion University has taught me many more elements of my life, especially with me focusing fully on Cybersecurity as my major. While it has helped me prepare for the real world and my experience overall with the field, a strong portfolio is also needed to stand out there. My skills have improved so far with deductive work, problem solving and even my own research skills have improved since then. This course helps me expand on these skills and allowed me to state them on my portfolio.

ODU has taught me many things since I've been here. I learned to be more sociable to people around me, I learned to develop critical thinking skills and apply these to real world situations. Even then, I have had hard times with course materials and even struggled with math. Although, with me now being more sociable, I was able to talk with tutors and get myself prepared to pass the math courses required for my major, which I did. Previous courses did also help me too as well, with many in cybersecurity providing enough experience for me to move to the next course and understand the material. This program also greatly helped me develop more social skills, and I was even able to have a stable portfolio to obtain better positions in the future.

Overall, IDS 493 is a great experience if you want to improve your portfolio. Whether you're a cybersecurity major or a different field all-together, IDS 493 will reinforce or help you with your portfolio. It helped me analyze that color is a very important aspect, and it being easy to navigate and look around is a great way to attract employers. So far on my own portfolio, I was able to update a lot of information about me and make some great changes to not only my resume page, but also my home page itself. I would point to my about me page. I did have a challenging aspect of this course, and that was design itself. There are so many ideas I could do, that I just could not settle on a set theme and design. Overtime however, I decided to settle it on a

theme that is close to my career, which is penetration testing and malware analysis. With more time though, I could improve much more on the design and structure of the portfolio. I would like to thank my previous cybersecurity courses for helping me flesh out my portfolio and giving me the idea to work on one.

In conclusion, I had a really fun time with this course. It helped me cover my essential skills that I use in my career, it helped me create a suitable portfolio that employers could read and understand me. It helped me understand more of myself and how to apply myself out there. Researching is quite an important aspect of these courses too, and interdisciplinary research is always good to perform, especially when it comes to your own skills. Like how I was able to relate some of my own work with my ethical hacking course to here. Being an interdisciplinary thinker in this field requires a lot of critical thinking and problem solving, especially certain positions in the cybersecurity field. After ODU, I plan to get my master's in cybersecurity and will pursue positions that I can do in my dream field of penetration testing and malware analysis.