

Writing Assignment One: Job Analysis

Abstract

Having a successful career is something that most, if not all, people desire in this life. Finding the right career for you may be difficult for various reasons including simply not knowing how to look at job listings and see if a certain job would be the best fit for you. Being able to analyze a job listing is a useful skill to have when looking for your future career.

Introduction

During my time at Old Dominion University, digital forensics is a topic that always intrigued me. In fact, it is one of the only topics that I can see myself doing as a career. Choosing a job that best fits my interests is important, as I don't want to be stuck doing something that I do not enjoy for the rest of my life. Analyzing job listings is helping me to narrow down my career choices for what is best for me.

Thesis

In this paper, I will be analyzing the job listing for the position "Digital Forensics Engineer." I will look at every aspect of the job listing in order to better understand what will be required of me if this were my job.

The Purpose and Responsibilities of a Digital Forensics Engineer.

When researching job opportunities in my desired field, I came across a job titled "Digital Forensics Engineer." For this position, you would be working in Washington D.C. for

the Central Intelligence Agency, or the CIA. The CIA is a government agency in the United States that specializes in gaining intelligence and using the information gained to strengthen national security, especially against foreign countries (Central Intelligence Agency). The overall role of this position is to examine and analyze data on cyber attacks that are happening, and work to develop a code that will help with recovering information from threats. You would need to do extensive research on problems arising and use your knowledge and skills to develop solutions to solve them.

Specific Skills Required

As job listings do, this job listing listed specific skills and qualifications needed. One skill listed directly was “problem solving skills” (Digital Forensics Engineer). This is a job that constantly has information and problems coming at you, so problem solving skills are needed. One of the main responsibilities of this job is to solve the problem of cyber threats and attacks using the information you have found in your research. The listing also stated that you should be innovative and creative. The field of cybersecurity is one that is constantly evolving, and with that, the problems that you face are also evolving. One needs to be able to get creative in their way of thinking to counteract the difficult problems that you will likely face. Having a strong initiative was also something desired for this position. The main goal for the CIA is to protect and defend national security, and this takes a lot of initiative. This job will have difficult times, and someone with drive will be needed to complete whatever troubling task may arise. Lastly, an obvious necessity for this position is having the ability to write code, as writing code and developing solutions is a main goal that this job requires.

Reading Between the Lines of the Ad Text

Reading between the lines, there are some conclusions that can be drawn to have a better understanding of what is needed for this position. As for this job you will be working for the CIA, this job requires someone who is driven and serious. The job listing states how you need to have at least a 3.0 GPA which you can infer means that they desire someone who has performed well academically. Having a Bachelor's degree in the correct related fields was listed at the first requirement (Central Intelligence Agency). This, along with the GPA requirement, suggests that the CIA wishes to hire someone who has excelled in an academic institution.

How My Courses Have Prepared Me For These Skills

One of the minimum qualifications for this position is to be able to write code. During my time at Old Dominion University, I have been introduced to various programming languages. I have basic knowledge in C++ and Python. I am a bit more knowledgeable with Linux, as I have had two classes where the programming language being used was Linux. Beyond looking at the technical aspects, this job also requires you to be innovative and creative. I would say that my English Composition courses have helped me in that regard. In these English courses, I have had to submit different types of writing, like a memoir, which have helped me tap into my creative side, as I am not used to writing in that format. Going back to reading between the lines, in this job, you will likely have to present your research findings as well as the code solution you may have written. Because of this, I would also say that my Public Speaking course has also prepared me for this position. Public speaking will always be difficult, but there are tips and techniques that I learned that will help me better approach presentations.

Conclusion

Using resources both on the internet and in class allow you to be able to have a better understanding of the workforce and how to navigate it. Being able to analyze job listings allows you to not only look at the directly stated requirements, but also look to read between the lines of what all the job will entail.

References

Central Intelligence Agency. (n.d.). Central Intelligence Agency.
<https://www.cia.gov/careers/jobs/digital-forensics-engineer/>

Digital Forensics Engineer Job in Washington DC, DC. (n.d.).
https://federalgovernmentjobs.us/jobs/Digital-Forensics-Engineer-759370300.html?utm_campaign=google_jobs_apply&utm_source=google_jobs_apply&utm_medium=organic