Career Paper

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Introduction

The field of cybersecurity is a very big field in demand that has a vast selection of job opportunities to choose from, each of which focuses on maintaining a particular aspect of network security. After reviewing several job opportunities online, the job that I find to be the most interesting is being an Information security analyst, with this job I will have the main responsibility of identifying and mitigating several network security vulnerabilities, analyzing potential dangers and the threats they can potentially pose on a clients computer system all while delivering on good quality customer service. This job also relates greatly to the concepts of social science, which we discussed greatly in class, in the essay I will discuss what being a cyber security analyst entails, and how this job relates to the social sciences topics that we discussed in class.

What Does a cyber security analyst do what does the job entail?

As mentioned earlier, a cyber security analyst has the responsibility of trying to help maintain the integrity of a client’s computer system, all while providing detailed, easy to interpret information about the potential risks and dangers that were detected and how to mitigate and prevent these risks. Typically, an analyst has the task of providing some sort of system in which a company’s physical hardware, or digital assets such as important software or digital personal information stay secure, and not of the risk of being stolen, one way in which they do this by installing IDPS and firewalls. An IDPS or Intrusion Detection and Prevention System is a piece of security software that monitors a user’s network, by having routine data scans or checkups that alerts the user of said suspicious activity and will deal with the potential threat accordingly, commonly the user will receive some sort of notification saying that suspicious activity is detected, the IDPS will then procced to remove said risks and provide the user with a detailed explanation as to what threat was detected on their system, a Firewall is responsible for denying access to said threats before they even have the opportunity to get detected by an IDPS, it serves as a sort of bodyguard for a user’s computer. On top of installing IDPS and firewalls to a client’s computer system, security analysts also have the responsibility of conducting threat research and developing and promoting good practices for a user to have online. Threat research consists of a cyber analyst gathering and analyzing all available information about a threat. This is typically done in tandem with promoting good practices online, the reason being to help teach clients about the best ways to carry out certain practices online and teaching them about the threats they can possibly encounter just by simply using their computer every day.

How does this occupation relate to the aspects of social science

The Cybersecurity analyst job relates greatly to the topic of social science, and a lot of the concept that we discussed in class can be applied to the job. The first area in which I believe this job relates to social science is considering the human factors, in this concept a cybersecurity analyst may explore how factors that are related to being a human everyday may influence a user’s decision, one theory that greatly supports this claim is the Maslow hierarchy of needs discussed in chapter 4. The Maslow hierarchy of needs is a chart that explains all the needs that are required from a basic, psychological, and self-fulfillment prospective if any of these needs are not met it could very possibly entice a cyber criminal into taking illegal action to help fulfill one of these needs, the best example I could provide is simply basic needs, according to Maslow’s hierarchy food, water, rest, warmth, and security are all a person needs to do basic function but if a user doesn’t have even their basic needs met it can very possible influence decisions they make later on in life. Another social science concept that we discussed in chapter 6, is that an individuals behavior can increase the risk of cyber victimization, different behaviors that we partake in may or may not put us in different risks of cybercrimes, typically cybersecurity analyst inspect a criminals behavior to understand why they carried out the actions they did or attempt to detect a potential scam to prevent a user’s system form being compromised.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I believe the cybersecurity analyst role will be an invaluable experience and opportunity for me, I find the everyday task that they perform to be very interesting, and I think it will provide me with very useful knowledge. Another reason why I have an interest in being a cybersecurity analyst is the amount they get paid on average if a cybersecurity analyst gets paid around 113,000 dollars, a very nice mean wage to have. Ultimately the cyber field has a very wide variety of jobs to choose from, but I personally believe being a cybersecurity analyst is the best future profession for me.

Sources

10 Cybersecurity jobs to know: Entry Level and beyond (2025, March)

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What does a cybersecurity Analyst do? (2025, January)

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What is an Intrusion Detection and Prevention System (IDPS)?

<https://www.redhat.com/en/topics/security/what-is-an-IDPS>