UniSC

C O U R S E   O U T L I N E

SEC709 Cyber Industry Placement/Research Project

School: School of Science, Technology and Engineering

2026 | Semester 1

Online	ONLINE	You can do this course without coming onto campus, unless your program has specified a mandatory onsite requirement.

Please go to usc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

This Work Integrated Learning (WIL) cyber security course provides experience of the workplace through a virtual or remote working environment. Students will undertake a set of work activities under the guidance and supervision of an academic supervisor at the University of the Sunshine Coast and an industry placement supervisor from the partner organisation; e.g., delivery of a specific industry research project on a topic agreed with the placement supervisor. Critical reflection on your own practice and the impact of organisational needs within the cyber security paradigm will be emphasised.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
ONLINE			
Online	600hrs	Not applicable	Not Yet Determined

1.3. Course Topics

- Reflective practice
- Scope of the field of study
- Applications and engagement in their field
- Career pathways in field of study
- Professional practice
- Professional communication
- Professional conduct

2. What level is this course?

700 Level (Specialised)

Demonstrating a specialised body of knowledge and set of skills for professional practice or further learning. Advanced application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

48 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1 Critique key components and processes involved in the understanding and deployment of cyber security controls and countermeasures.	Creative and critical thinker
2 Apply behavioural, ethical, information systems and criminological frameworks that explain workplace cyber security policies, techniques, and practice challenges associated with working within a cyber security environment from a multi-stakeholder perspective	Empowered Ethical
3 Identify and analyse attributes of cyber security risk assessment, prevention, detection and response system as they relate to the workplace setting.	Knowledgeable
4 Use analytical skills to demonstrate value and new knowledge and insights required within the workplace setting.	Empowered
5 Critically reflect on your own practice and values.	Creative and critical thinker Engaged
6 Act in accordance with prescribed code of conduct/ethics, including communicating respectfully with clients, colleagues and community members.	Knowledgeable Empowered Ethical

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the UniSC Glossary of terms for definitions of "pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites".

5.1. Pre-requisites

192 units of SEC postgraduate courses and must be enrolled in Program SC704.

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Limited Grading (PNP)

Pass (PU), Fail (UF). All assessment tasks are required to be passed for successful completion of the course.

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Feedback on process will be delivered at key points in the placement experience. Early feedback on the design of the student learning agreement assessment will be provided in the liaison meeting in the first 4- 5 weeks of placement. Mid placement review, by supervisor and student will provide early feedback on student performance at the mid-way point of placement or 190 hours.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Placement performance	Individual	385 Hours of Verification	Refer to Format	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	2	Code of Conduct	Individual	Duration of placement	Refer to Format	To Supervisor
All	3	Artefact - Technical and Scientific, and Written Piece	Individual	3000 word reflective journal and 30 minute presentation	Refer to Format	To be Negotiated

All - Assessment Task 1: Cyber Industry Placement / Research Project Performance

GOAL:	The goal of this assessment is to undertake 385 hours of professional practice in the cyber security field.
PRODUCT:	Placement performance
FORMAT:	Learning Agreement (set template involving 5-10 pages) to be completed by end of week 3 of the placement.
	Mid- and Final Placement Assessment Reports. Set template involving 5-10 pages. Due at completion of 190 and 385 hours respectively.
	385 Hours of Verification – signed verification of hours to be submitted at end of placement.

CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Evidence of critical reflection and critiquing of key components and processes	1
	2	Evidence of applying ethical, information systems and criminological frameworks that explain workplace cyber security policies, techniques, and practice challenges	2
	3	Analysis of cybersecurity workplace risk management	3
GENERIC SKILLS:			

All - Assessment Task 2: Code of Conduct

GOAL:	To undertake your professional practice while on placement in accordance with Field Education Manual Code of Ethics (2020), together with your agency's code of conduct and the student code of conduct at the University of the Sunshine Coast.
PRODUCT:	Code of Conduct
FORMAT:	Pre-placement introduction. Placement activity assessed and graded taking account of Placement Supervisor advice. As part of your placement you are required to complete 385 hours of verification. To be eligible to pass, you are required to complete the placement satisfactorily according to the criteria below. See Field Education Manual (FEM) on Blackboard for the student Code of Conduct and further details.

CRITERIA:	**No.**		**Learning Outcome assessed**
	1	Behaviour that is in accordance with the FEM Code of Ethics (2020);	6
	2	Adherence to USC's and the placement agency's code of conduct	6
	3	Contribution to knowledge/insight based on workplace analysis	4

GENERIC SKILLS:	

All - Assessment Task 3: Critical Reflective Assessment Task

GOAL:	To develop and evaluate your professional learning goals based on your Learning Agreement.
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Technical and Scientific, and Written Piece
FORMAT:	Learners will keep a diary throughout the placement recording and reflect upon experiences in the field, including interactions with staff and clients, issues and situations encountered and how theoretical frameworks inform practice. The diary should be approximately 3000 words in length. You will submit your diary and lead a discussion comprising an multimodal presentation and question and answer session totally approximately 30 minutes on how you have integrated your theoretical understandings into your practice framework. SUBMIT: 2 weeks prior to the end of placement

CRITERIA:	**No.**		**Learning Outcome assessed**
	1	Evidence of effective and ethical written communication including report presentation and referencing	6
	2	Evidence of critical reflection and critiquing of key workplace cybersecurity components and processes	1 5
	3	Evidence of applying ethical, information systems and criminological frameworks that explain workplace cybersecurity policies, techniques, and practice challenges.	6

GENERIC SKILLS:	

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

> There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

8.2. Specific requirements

Please note that some placements require criminal history checks and work with children checks. It is important to discuss this with the Course Coordinator at the pre-placement interviews.

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Risk assessments have been performed for all field activities and low to moderate levels of health and safety risk exists. Moderate risks may include working in an Australian bush setting, working with people, working outside normal office hours for example. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the online induction training for students, and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Limited Graded Course:

This course will be graded as Pass in a Limited Grade Course (PU) or Fail in a Limited Grade Course (UF) as per clause 4.1.3 and 4.1.4 of the Grades and Grade Point Average (GPA) - Institutional Operating Policy of the USC.

In a course eligible to use Limited Grades, all assessment items in that course are marked on a Pass/Fail basis and all assessment tasks are required to be passed for a student to successfully complete the course. Supplementary assessment is not available in courses using Limited Grades.

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

You must contact your Course Coordinator and provide the required documentation if you require an extension or alternate assessment.

10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: 07 5430 1168 or using the SafeZone app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone 07 5456 3864 or email safe@usc.edu.au.

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call 07 5430 1226 or email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the Learning Advisers web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to Student Hub, email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, AccessAbility Services can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to Student Hub, email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.8. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching

10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The Student Charter sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.10. General Enquiries

In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au