



Graduate Diploma in Cybersecurity

Course Outline

Key facts

Award granted	AAHE course code
Graduate Diploma in Cybersecurity	GDCYB
Study level and type	Credit points
Postgraduate coursework	48 credit points
Mode of delivery	Duration*
Blended: scheduled on-campus, face-to-face classes (three hours per week for each unit) with some online content and activities	Full time: 12 months (2 semesters) Part time: 24 months (4 semesters)
CRICOS course code	Campus
113871B	Melbourne
Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF)	Availability
Upon successful completion, the award conferred is recognised in the AQF at Level 8	Fee-paying domestic and international students

**International students must study full-time.*

Key dates

Important dates can be found on the AAHE website under Study at AAHE: <https://aahe.edu.au/key-dates/>,

Fees

Information about tuition fees, other fees and charges and refunds can be found on the AAHE website under Study at AAHE: <https://aahe.edu.au/fees/>

Course overview

Protecting information and IT infrastructure from complex and evolving cyber-threats is a critical challenge for modern organisations. The responsibility to prevent and respond to cyber-attacks falls to cybersecurity professionals, and global demand for highly trained cybersecurity professionals is at an all-time high and is expected to increase over time.

The Graduate Diploma of Cybersecurity is a one-year full time coursework degree (48 credit points) aimed at students wanting a professional qualification that expands or deepens their knowledge of cybersecurity. Students will develop an advanced capability in analysing and designing cybersecurity technologies and management solutions for complex systems and organisations. The course is designed to meet the educational needs of students ultimately seeking to transition into or advance in a career as a cybersecurity professional.

The Graduate Diploma in Cybersecurity covers areas of critical importance to operational-level and management-level cybersecurity professionals. It has been designed with input from leading industry professionals and academics in the field of Cybersecurity. Graduates will acquire an education that meets industry standards and expectations and is on a par with some of the best national and international benchmarks in the Cybersecurity discipline.

The course equips students for self-learning and prepares them for dealing with the dynamics of the workplace. Graduates will be enabled to adapt to the rapidly evolving nature of the discipline through an appreciation for lifelong learning and through the practice of self-reflection which is embedded throughout the curriculum and through the active learning aspects of the course.

Course learning outcomes

On successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Apply advanced and specialised knowledge and skills to critically analyse, design, test, implement and manage fit-for-purpose and creative solutions to defend information, processes, IT systems, platforms and networks from cyber threat actors in contemporary contexts for professional practice or scholarship
- Analyse complex cyber security issues, risks and vulnerabilities as they relate to the evolving strategic and operational context of organisations, IT systems and communication networks
- Design and develop strategies, policies, procedures and practices to manage cyber security in organisations based on best practice standards and methods
- Clearly present a coherent and independent exposition of the method applied, conclusions made, and professional decisions taken on complex theoretical and technical cyber security issues to specialist and non-specialist audiences
- Demonstrate professional and ethical standards in the application of cyber security knowledge and skills while exercising responsibility and accountability for self-learning and professional practice whether working individually or in a team

AAHE Graduate Attributes

The AAHE Graduate Attributes below are embedded in the curricula and support the students' ability to acquire and apply the knowledge and skills that they need to succeed in their personal and professional lives.

Graduate attribute	An AAHE graduate will:
Disciplinary knowledge and skills	Be able to confidently apply their comprehensive, discipline-specific knowledge and skills in professional practice and real-world contexts.
Global citizenship and perspective	Possess a deep understanding of the impact that their profession has on society and how it can be used for individual, community and global advancement and well-being. They will develop personal values and practices that are ethically grounded and that embrace diversity, fairness and social and environmental responsibility in local and global contexts.
Communication skills	Be aware of and sensitive to specific situations and audiences when presenting and exchanging information, ideas and concepts. They will demonstrate highly developed speaking, listening and writing skills and will be able to influence others with well-articulated and soundly backed analyses and opinions in a respectful, inclusive and constructive manner.
Critical thinking and problem solving	A critical thinker whose curiosity and creativity leads them to question ideas and assumptions, draw upon evidence and analyse complex scenarios as they formulate their own conclusions and innovative solutions to current and future challenges.
Information and Digital literacy	Be able to identify, locate, analyse and use reliable information effectively and create and convey information in appropriate formats and through effective channels. They will be comfortable utilising a range of digital technologies that are needed to live, learn and work in contemporary society.
Self-management and development	Be self-aware and self-directed with the capacity to set priorities, manage time and work independently. They will be confident in their knowledge and skills, but also reflective and continually striving for personal and professional improvement as life-long learners.
Teamwork and collaboration	Have the capacity to engage productively with others and contribute as a member of a team to a common goal. This will be demonstrated by a high order of competency in navigating team dynamics, encouraging the exchange of ideas and viewpoints, facilitating conflict resolution, negotiation skills and taking a lead when required.

Approach to teaching, learning and assessment

The Graduate Diploma in Cybersecurity develops the students' knowledge and skills in the discipline. It embeds a collaborative and technology-enabled active learning approach that encourages student participation in the learning process, peer to peer learning and ongoing reflection, delivering a truly genuine and distinct AAHE education experience.

Following a thorough orientation, you will participate in small lecture and tutorial groups, where you are encouraged to collaborate, exchange ideas, learn from each other and reflect on your learning, both in the classroom and through the collaborative online learning environment.

The typical weekly process begins with you speculating about a problem or scenario that you have been given before the scheduled on-campus, face-to-face class, then actively engage with the class and reflect on the same problem or scenario. Classes themselves are interactive, with regular anonymous polls and multiple-choice questions to encourage active participation. Following the class, you will document your problem-solving process or reflection on the scenario in an online journal. In this way, using the principles of adult learning, you immediately apply your work to problem-solving, and develop into reflective practitioners. The scenarios and problems, along with the class material, are available to you anytime and anywhere through the online learning management system (LMS). You are also encouraged to engage with your peers through multiple opportunities to collaborate and to interact in the classroom and online.

In preparing for major assessments, you will regularly participate in authentic, experiential learning activities. These may be computer laboratory classes, practical exercises such as conducting penetration testing, risk assessment, team-based projects or real-world work integrated learning experiences such as working for a client in an industry project or through a work placement.

AAHE's active learning approach guides the design of units and their content and activities. The assessments build from this approach and are carefully mapped against the unit and course learning outcomes, establishing clear alignment and assuring that the learning outcomes are achieved.

The design of assessments incorporates smaller formative assessment tasks that enable you to receive regular feedback and stay on track, culminating into one or more summative assessments that measure your learning, skills acquisition and the extent to which you are meeting the units' intended learning outcomes.

Course structure

Code	Unit title	Unit credit points
CYB801	Foundations of Cybersecurity	6
CYB802	Programming and Secure Software Development	6
CYB803	Securing Networks & Communications Infrastructure	6
CYB804	Systems Analysis & Design for Security	6
CYB805	Security Engineering	6
CYB806	Cybersecurity Governance and Management Practices	6
CYB807	Cyber Resilience in Organisations	6
CYB808	Cyber Privacy, Policy, Ethics & Law	6

Progression requirements

One-year full time:

1 st Semester	Foundations of Cybersecurity	Programming & Secure Software Development	Securing Networks & Communications Infrastructure	Systems Analysis & Design for Security
2 nd Semester	Security Engineering	Cyber Privacy, Policy, Ethics & Law	Cybersecurity Governance & Management Practices	Cyber Resilience in Organisations

Two years part time:

1 st Year	Foundations of Cybersecurity	Programming & Secure Software Development	Securing Networks & Communications Infrastructure	Systems Analysis & Design for Security
2 nd Year	Security Engineering	Cyber Privacy, Policy, Ethics & Law	Cybersecurity Governance & Management Practices	Cyber Resilience in Organisations

 Must be taken in first semester

 Must be taken at the same time

Career outcomes

The Graduate Diploma of Cybersecurity opens up many opportunities for graduates seeking to enter or advance in the field of Cybersecurity in careers such as:

- Chief Information Security Officers / Director of Cybersecurity / Cybersecurity Practice Lead
- Cybersecurity Operations Coordinator
- Cybersecurity Advisor and Assessor / Cybersecurity Auditor /
- Cyber Threat Analyst
- Intrusion Analyst
- Malware Analyst
- Incident Responder
- Penetration Tester
- Vulnerability Researcher / Vulnerability Assessor

Entry requirements

Bachelor's degree in any discipline OR

Graduate Certificate, or equivalent, in any discipline OR

5 years of documented relevant work experience

Applicants must also meet the minimum English language requirements set out below.

English proficiency

An applicant must provide evidence that they have met the following minimum English language proficiency requirements:

Test	Minimum score
International English Language Testing System (IELTS)	6.5 overall No individual band below 6.0
TOEFL internet-based test taken on or before 25 July 2023	79 overall Reading no less than 19 Writing no less than 24 Speaking no less than 20 Listening no less than 20
C1 Advanced / Cambridge English: Advanced (Certificate in Advanced English)	176 overall No band less than 169
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)	56 overall No communicative skill less than 50
Kaplan International Tools for English	459 overall

Only the most recent score from any language proficiency test will be considered and it must be less than two years old on the date the course commences.

Applicants will also be considered to meet the English language requirements if they have successfully completed at least two (2) years of full-time study in English at AQF Level 5 Diploma or above at an Australian registered vocational or higher education provider.

A provisional offer may be made to applicants who provide a Confirmation of Enrolment (COE) for an ELICOS program in English for Academic Purposes (EAP) for a duration of at least twelve (12) weeks for every 0.5 below 6.0 overall or subsection IELTS or equivalent result. Evidence of successful completion of the ELICOS program must be provided before the applicant will be permitted to enrol at AAHE.

The English language proficiency requirement does not apply to applicants in the categories set out in the [Migration \(English Language Tests and Evidence Exemptions for Subclass 500 \(Student\) Visa\) Instrument \(LIN24/022\) 2024](#).

Students who have completed English for Academic Purposes 2 (EAP2 standard) may also be considered to meet the English language requirements but will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Applicants who have completed six years of secondary schooling, or a minimum of three years of tertiary education, in an English medium institution in an English-speaking country may be exempted from the English language requirements, unless there is evidence to the contrary.

Applicants from non-English-speaking countries where schooling can be undertaken in English medium institutions can be accepted as having an English-speaking background, provided that they are from an English-speaking community in that country, undertook schooling in an English medium institution and were residents in the country.

Certified copies of evidence of studies undertaken with English as the medium of instruction must be provided before the applicant is permitted to enrol at AAHE.

A list of countries where English is an official language and/or secondary schooling/tertiary education is generally undertaken in English, that is accepted at AAHE, is maintained by the Registrar.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants

Applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders who do not meet the entry requirements will be considered on the basis of a personal statement regarding their education and experience and their results in an aptitude test and an interview.

Equipment requirements

Students are required to supply their own laptop and bring it with them to all classes.

Due to the technological requirements of this course, it is recommended that students obtain a laptop with the following minimum specifications:

- Intel Core i7
- 32GB of RAM
- Cache Size 12 MB or more
- Primary HDD storage 1TB or more
- Wireless networking IEEE 802.11ac, Bluetooth 5.0
- Operating System: Windows 10 Pro
- USB ports - 3 or more

Credit for prior learning

Where appropriate, a student whose prior learning or experience exceeds the requirements for admission to AAHE will be granted credit in accordance with the Credit for Learning Undertaken Elsewhere Policy and Procedure. See <https://docs.aahe.edu.au/policies/>

How to apply

Information about how to apply for the course and the application form can be found on the AAHE website at <https://aahe.edu.au/apply//>

More information

More information can be found on the AAHE website at <https://aahe.edu.au/> or email admissions@aahe.edu.au

AAHE does not guarantee a migration outcome or a successful education assessment outcome to any student who enrolls in one of our courses.