HALIFATU FARR YAKUBU

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PERSONAL PROFILE

Future-ready graduate with a solid foundation in cybersecurity and business management. Passionate about bridging technical security risks with organizational decision-making and seeking an entry-level role in cybersecurity analysis, risk management, or security operations and business management, where I can apply my analytical and leadership skills to protect assets while driving business efficiency.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Security management
- Data ethics
- Data and business analysis foundations (Power BI)
- Vulnerability assessment and social engineering simulation, and defence
- Operating systems/ software installation, upgrade, activation, and troubleshooting
- Operating systems security (Windows) and Linux commands
- Network security
- Web security
- Amazon Web Services (AWS) foundational knowledge
- Prompt engineering
- Basic programming knowledge in HTML, CSS, Python, and JavaScript
- Microsoft Office suite (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint)

CYBERSECURITY FRAMEWORKS AND GRC

- NIST Cybersecurity Framework (CSF): for overall cybersecurity posture management
- NIST Risk Management Framework (RMF): for risk management and system authorization process
- ISO/IEC 27001: International information security management standard
- CIS Critical Security Controls: actionable best practices for securing systems
- MITRE ATT&CK: a framework for understanding threat behaviours and adversary tactics
- COBIT: Governance and management of enterprise IT
- GDPR: Data protection and privacy compliance

SOFT SKILLS

- Public speaking
- Attention to detail
- Critical thinking
- Adaptability
- Time management
- Teamwork
- Leadership

PROJECTS EXPERIENCE

WinInstall: Windows management tool (June 2025)

- I used Python and PowerShell to build a Python tool that helps to install, upgrade, and activate Windows and the Microsoft Office suite. It can also be used to optimize systems, back up data, and install some common software like Chrome, VS Code, WinRAR, and more.
- I compiled the tool into a portable .exe, enabling it to be used on all Windows systems without installing any dependencies.

IT & Security guidance chatbot (October 2025)

- Developed a **highly responsive** JavaScript/Tailwind CSS chatbot using **Gemini API** to provide automated IT support and basic cybersecurity guidance.
- Enhanced user experience and efficiency by delivering **context-aware, on-demand technical assistance**.

Vulnerability assessment of a student portal (March 2025)

- I conducted a manual security test on the student portal to identify vulnerabilities in the technologies and systems used to develop and host the portal.
- I documented and reported the test results to the management and gave some recommendations for system security enhancement.

Mastercard cybersecurity simulation on Forage (April 2025)

- Completed a job simulation as an analyst on Mastercard's Security Awareness team.
- I helped identify and report security threats like phishing emails.
- Analysed and identified which areas of the business needed robust security training and I designed a short presentation to educate them.

Six-week internship at Coldsis Ghana Limited (2024)

- Served as an intern in the software and cybersecurity department, where I supported in frontend development and also penetration testing of some developed systems under supervision and on a regular.

Cybersecurity awareness and education outreach (May, 2025)

- As the Women's Commissioner and cybersecurity enthusiast, I organized a community outreach programme. We visited 3 secondary schools within my school community and educated both students and teachers on digital literacy.

- I demonstrated how phishing attacks happen using some tools and also educated them on how to avoid being phished.

Data cleaning and visualization using Excel and Power BI (February 2025)

- Utilized a sample dataset in Power BI to demonstrate data cleaning, transformation, and visualization techniques.
- Created visual reports using Power BI to effectively present insights and trends in the data.

LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Women's Commissioner, ITSA-UPSA (2023/2024 and 2024/2025 academic year)

- Organized breast cancer awareness and education programs with free screenings for students.
- Collaborated with Google Developers Students Club (UPSA) for the Build with AI program, providing students with practical education on AI agent development.
- Coordinated breast cancer and mental health awareness programs with psychologists, nurses, and a breast cancer survivor.
- Organized Tech Trek program for career guidance and industry networking.
- I organized a "Project Prep" program for final-year students, where they were guided on project work expectations and selection.
- Registered and joined the IEEE Young Professionals through the student branch in UPSA
- Organized community outreach programs for digital literacy education in secondary schools.
- Mobilized girls in the department to attend the FEMITECH conference 2025 and the Females in Technology and Engineering Conference 2025.
- I also supported other executives in organizing their programs

EDUCATION

- **University of Professional Studies, Accra (2021-2025)**

BSc Information Technology Management
Graduated with First Class honours

Relevant coursework
Systems audit and control, electronic business, business policy and Strategy, IT sourcing and Procurement, Computer applications in business, Management Information Systems, and Computer and Network security.

- **Faith Community Baptist Senior High School (2020-2021)**

  Offered General Arts, with Elective ICT, Geography, Government, and Economics as my electives.

- **Kadjebi-Asato Senior High School (2016-2019)**

  Offered General Arts, with Elective ICT, Geography, Government, and Economics as my electives.

CERTIFICATIONS

ISO/IEC 27001:2022 Information Security Associate

Issued by SkillFront

Demonstrated understanding of information security management systems (ISMS) and compliance with international security standards.

ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems Associate

Issued by SkillFront

Demonstrated knowledge of Quality Management Systems (QMS) principles, continuous improvement (PDCA cycle), and ensuring business processes meet customer and regulatory requirements.

Google Cybersecurity Professional Certificate (9-Course Specialization)

Issued by: Coursera/Google

Gained job-ready skills in SIEM tools, network security, incident response, assets and threat management, and security automation using Python and Linux commands.

AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner – Foundational
Issued by: Amazon Web Services (AWS)
Demonstrated foundational knowledge of cloud concepts, security, architecture, pricing, and core AWS services.