



The California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office is led by Interim Chancellor Erik E. Skinner.

College Highlight

Community College in the Greater Sacramento Region

This past year, the community colleges in the Greater Sacramento Region were able through grant funding provided by the California Community College Chancellor’s Office, to provide students with 7/24 access from any Internet accessible location to a sandboxed virtual environment, providing up to eight (8) virtual computers that enabled them to practice advanced hacking and penetration testing techniques.

This advanced approach to instruction provides key "hands-on" training in isolation, meaning students do not have to face the potential of infecting their own computers or networks. With its availability, students can improve their skills and knowledge, gaining experience without having to resort to simulated resources. At Sierra College for example, this virtual lab environment is a key component for a number of our classes. As an example, the following list identifies the course and adjunct faculty teaching for us this fall:

Course No.	Course Title (Related Certification)	Adjunct Instructor (Employer)
CIS 142	Systems / Network Administration (MCSA)	Andy Brannan (California Office of Legislative Counsel)
CIS 147	Information Security Systems (CompTIA Security+)	Jaime Sainz (HPE)
CIS 152	Cybersecurity: Ethical Hacking (Certified Ethical Hacker)	Jonathan Taylor (Sutter Health)

Advanced courses like those listed above are typically taught during the evening hours as community colleges to provide working adults with a path towards career and salary advancement. Because of our tax supported status as State public academic colleges, the cost is extremely reasonable at \$46/unit (approximately \$150 for a 3 unit class). Utilizing adjunct faculty who are actively participating in the front lines of cybersecurity defense benefits students, as faculty bring their daily experiences and current knowledge into the classroom.

With the extraordinary shortage of cybersecurity professionals, many of the community colleges across the State have similar course offerings. Please spread the word about the cybersecurity training opportunities available through the California community college system.

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