

Information Technology and Cyber Security Bachelor's Degree Program Interest Survey

Alison College was established in Calgary, Alberta, Canada on January 6, 2020. We acknowledge that we are situated on in the traditional territories of the Niitsitapi (Blackfoot Confederacy) and the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta.

At Alison College our students explore innovative trends and practices while acquiring the skills and knowledge relevant to current and future industry needs. Our tailored programs of studies enable our graduates to equip them with unique learning experience and intensive training throughout the program to become in-demand job candidates. We aim to provide both domestic and international students with hands on learning, an excellent study environment, small class sizes and high-quality education taught by our qualified instructor.

Alison College is in the process of developing a new degree program with a focus on Information Technology and Cyber Security. The purpose of this survey is to assess interest in this degree.

The degree program in Information Technology and Cyber Security is a blend of IT and Cyber Security and it is designed to prepare graduates who wish to start their career as an Information Technology and Cyber Security Specialist in a fast-growing industry. The field of information technology continues to expand; the skills of an IT professional will always be an employable asset.

Security violations, data breaches, and privacy failures are an ever-growing threat to businesses and individuals. Through classroom theory and hands-on projects in our diploma program, students will learn how to identify, analyze, and mitigate threats to internal IT systems and/or networks. Students will explore the systems, tools, and concepts used to minimize the risk to an organization's cyberspace, and the standards and procedures to protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information and information systems. As one of the world's fastest growing technology fields, the demand for IT and Cyber Security professionals has never been greater.

Based upon the above description of a proposed bachelor's degree in information technology and Cyber Security please help us to assess the value and need for establishing such a degree by completing the following survey.

1. Your title _____
2. In your opinion, is there a need for the proposed program?
 Strong need Moderate need No need

3. Identify those areas of professional knowledge or research that will be important for your organization in the next 5-10 years: _____

4. What aspects of the proposed program are of most interest/importance to you? _____

5. What aspects are of least interest/importance to you? _____

6. Make any comments or suggestions regarding the proposed program that you may have:
Course content _____

Please indicate any topics or subject matter that you think should be considered for inclusion.

Are there any that you think should not be included? Please specify.

Time to degree

Students can choose to ladder up to a degree if they wish or stop at a certificate or a diploma. To obtain a certificate, they would take 10 courses. To attain a diploma, they would take 20 courses and to attain a degree, they would take a total of 30 courses. The degree would take 3 years.

Step 1: Information Technology and Cyber Security Certificate (10 courses)

Step 2: Information Technology and Cyber Security Diploma (20 courses)

Step 3: Information Technology and Cyber Security Degree (30 courses)

Please let us know your views on this type of structure.

Research experience: Should students have research experience before taking this program or should opportunities to gain research experience be incorporated into the curriculum?

Professional experience: Should students have professional experience before taking this program or should opportunities to gain professional experience be incorporated into the

curriculum? _____

Internship: Should students be given opportunities to gain practical experience through an internship?

7. What is your overall assessment of this proposed program? Does it make sense? What are its strengths/limitations? _____

8. Who else (individuals/agencies, etc.) within your network should be informed of this initiative? _____

9. As an organization and employer in the Information Technology and Cyber Security sector, what are three main attributes, skills or specialized knowledge that you consider essential within your organization?

10. As an organization and employer in the Information Technology and Cyber Security sector, identify the main gaps in knowledge and/or skills that you have identified in new hires with similar educational backgrounds.

11. Is there a need in your organization for personnel with the knowledge, training and skills acquired by those who complete an undergraduate degree in Information Technology and Cyber Security program? (Y/N)

12. If yes – Is this need expected to increase over the next 5-10 years?

13. Would you recommend the Information Technology and Cyber Security degree to your employees?

(Y/N/uncertain)

14. If yes – would you consider supporting employees wishing to enroll in the proposed program in terms of tuition support? Providing time-release? Other? (please specify)

15. If you had a vacant position in your organization, would you seek applicants who have completed the Information Technology and Cyber Security proposed program? (Y/N)

16. Would graduates of the proposed program be of greater potential value to your organization than if they not completed the program? (Y/N)

Why or Why Not?

17. Do you have any other suggestions?

Please send the survey back to dean@alisoncollege.ca

Thanks so much for sharing your views with us!!

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