

## 1 Professionalism In A Modern Age

### 2 Welcome!

- Thank you for joining us for this workshop!
- This workshop is focused on professionalism in the modern age!
  - As well as looking at how professionalism has evolved and changed!
- We hope you find this workshop, fun, informative, and beneficial to your effort!
- Our Agenda:
  - What is Professionalism?
  - Professionalism Through the Ages
  - Professionalism Today
  - Professional Start
  - Professional Building

### 3 What is Professionalism?

- Professionalism may mean different things to different people based on a variety of factors.
- For our purposes, Professionalism is defined as:  
"The competence or skill expected of a professional"  
-Oxford Languages
- Why this definition?
  - Competence and skills are not just technical
- We will discuss and look at how you already have professional skills and how to apply them

### 4 Professionalism Through The Ages

- Professionalism has not been a static thing, it has continually evolved
  - So we must evolve as well
- In the past professionalism, was much more of a personable, one-on-one or one-to-group
  - Meaning your professionalism was much more of a public display
- Technology and access to data has influenced this immensely
  - In ways you must be aware of
- Technology is not only impacting the ways in which we work, but in our understanding of who we work with
  - As well as who to hire

### 5 Professionalism Today

- Professionalism is involved in almost every aspect of our lives, whether you realize it or not.
  - We have a social media platform for it...(LinkedIn)
- It is expected that we demonstrate professionalism or uphold certain standards even off-hours
  - Yes, your employer can fire you for your personal postings (even on a private account should it be discovered)
- We should look at professionalism as a way to present ourselves both online and offline.
- So how can we start?

### 6 Professional Start

- You have already been building your professional skills
  - Sports
  - Clubs



- Volunteer work
- Community projects or relative projects
- The characteristics that you have built in these activities translates to the workplace:
  - Self-Esteem
  - Respect
  - Communication
  - Critical Thinking
  - Can you think of others?

## 7 Professional Building

- We have a foundation from the previous slide
- Now how do we continue to build professional skills?
  - Keep doing good things
  - Keep trying new things
  - Keep helping others
  - Keep improving and identifying skills you need
- How do we identify?
  - Job, internship, apprenticeship postings
  - What others tell us
  - What we know

## 8 Activity: Building Professionalism

- Go to these links:
  - [Workforce Framework for Cybersecurity \(NICE Framework\) | NICCS \(cisa.gov\)](#)
  - [DoD Cyber Workforce Framework – DoD Cyber Exchange](#)
- Spend 10-15 minutes identifying 2 roles you may be interested in
  - Read through the Abilities & Skills
- Identify 3-5 professional skills that you need to succeed in that role
  - Don't copy the bullets, read through and think about what skill that exemplifies
- Finally, go here: [Cyber Career Pathways Tool | NICCS \(cisa.gov\)](#)
  - Highlight 2 roles you chose, and write down the roles they connect to

## 9 Welcome Back!

- We hope you had a great lunch!
  - Did you think about professionalism?
  - Did you think of more skills you developed?
    - Or did that job keep your attention?
- We are going to discuss and work on how to communicate professionalism
  - It's one thing to have it, it's another thing to share it
    - It's a necessary thing to share 😊

## 10 Communicating Professionalism

- We've identified professional skills needed for specific jobs
- Communicating your professionalism can be as simple as Resume
  - But that's the bare minimum
- Communicating professionalism should be second-nature



- Professionalism more than just leadership
  - It is about doing right by your fellow person, whether or not you'll receive all the credit
  - Communicating is done non-verbally and verbally
  - It's reducing conflicts
  - Building loyalty & trust
- Communicating professionalism is done in your everyday actions in the workplace
  - As well as your public image

#### 11 Exemplifying Professionalism

- As mentioned previously, non-verbal communication is just as important as verbal communication.
- Exemplifying professionalism can be as simple as:
  - Maintaining eye contact (in interviews and in everyday communication)
  - Posture & body language
  - Handshakes
  - Facial expressions & gestures
  - Reading the room
- Exemplifying professionalism is not just telling people what you are good at, it's about leading by example

#### 12 Conflict Resolution

- Conflict is an inevitability that cannot be avoided in a workplace (and in life)
- Part of professionalism is being able to resolve conflict regardless of it being work related or not
  - Competition – is a type of conflict, be professional, ethical, compete with honor and integrity with grit and determination
- Resolutions:
  - Accommodation – Listening to the other party and coming to an agreement that addresses their issue.
  - Compromising – Listening to the other party and both agreeing to give up something to reach an acceptable solution (on both sides).
  - Collaborative – Working with the other party to create a win-win situation for all parties.
  - Forgiveness – Even if you're the one wronged, willing to work despite of the issue
- Remember a critical part of professionalism is developing and maintaining trust even in conflict.

#### 13 Benefits of Professionalism

- Professionalism is not a tree that bears no fruit
- Here are some benefits of professionalism for both you and the organization:
  - Healthy, fun & engaging workplace environment
  - Better relationships between coworkers, managers, & supervisors
  - Enjoyment in what one does
  - Effective Communication
  - Clear Career Pathways
- These are just a few, from what we've discussed today, can you think of other benefits from professionalism?

#### 14 Professionalism: OFF

- You are not a machine



- This workshop isn't to turn you into a machine either
- It is normal to want to turn professionalism off
  - To have a moment to relax and not have to be on your best behavior
- This is a normal and okay feeling!
- It is also doable!
  - Find ways to relax
  - Find things that interest you outside of your work
  - Have hobbies that are away from technology
  - Enjoy meeting up with friends
- Professionalism OFF doesn't equal abandon everything
  - Have fun, but have fun responsibility
  - Always be careful about what you post!

### 15 **Sharpening Your Skills**

- If you recall, you identified several work roles that interests you and some professional skills that you would need to be in that role.
- Identifying the skills are the first step, now you need to develop/sharpen them
- Be active
  - In your community
  - In your field
    - Participate in competitions, labs, and/or coursework
    - <https://d2hie3dgn9wvbb.cloudfront.net/>
      - myEMates is a great resource to learn concepts and terms interactively as well as skills
- Map out your path
- Work towards that path
  - Don't dismiss any learning opportunities along the way
  - Diligence is a professional skill!

### 16 **Activity: Professional Pathway**

- Return to that document that you used to identify 2 work roles
- From the careers they connect to, pick 1
- For the next 15-20 minutes compare the two, what differentiates them
- Finally, write out a 5 step plan on developing at least 1 skill that relates to both fields and how you can achieve it
- We will discuss it at the end
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### 17 **Conclusion**

- Thank you for attending this workshop
- We hope you are leaving more confident and with an idea of how you can develop your professional skills
  - As well as a pathway to do so
- Professionalism shouldn't stop here, in fact, it should be something that is continually worked.
- You're already doing it, so keep up the great work!

