

# Raytheon Prepares Students for Future Technology Jobs Today



"The experience of working with a high-quality cyber range for hands-on learning was extremely valuable for the interns in our program who gained real experience with cybersecurity tools. The students learned relevant new skills using the Project Ares platform and the supplemental training course that was offered to them."

*FATMA BAZARGAN*

*DIRECTOR OF CYBERSECURITY, RAYTHEON EMIRATES*

# THE SITUATION

The team at Raytheon Emirates helps young people with Computer Sciences backgrounds get real-world experience to prepare them to make the leap into their career futures.

Raytheon Emirates is a subsidiary of Raytheon Technologies, headquartered in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates. Raytheon Emirates focuses on cybersecurity and empowering future technology leaders in support of Abu Dhabi's Economic Vision for 2030. This vision includes fostering a cyber-secure digital transformation of the UAE for economic diversification, growth, and development of a highly-skilled, productive Emirati workforce.

The mission of Raytheon Emirates Cyber is to collaborate with the UAE government, commercial partners, and the education sector and provide them with innovative and robust cybersecurity capabilities.

Raytheon Emirates is passionate about giving back to society, and it's part of their vision to provide undergraduate students from across the UAE with hands-on cyber learning opportunities. To accomplish this goal, they provide training that empowers students to learn cutting-edge technical skills through a highly selective and elite internship opportunity. The goal for these interns is to practice cybersecurity skills and build upon the Computer Science theory they have studied throughout their time in colleges and universities. When these students leave Raytheon, they have learned valuable skills to bring to the job market, solidified their career goals, and developed new technical skills in their internship program.



“Raytheon’s goal is to provide students with a platform to learn hands-on technical skills instead of the status quo which usually focuses on cybersecurity theory instead of actual practice. This type of practice allows students to experience the real look and feel of the technology that they will need to use daily when they start their careers.”

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## THE SOLUTION

The central theme of this internship program is the hands-on practice in a cyber range. Raytheon felt that students in the UAE didn't have frequent access to high-quality cyber ranges and wanted to offer that experience to their internship participants. To address this technology skills gap, the Raytheon team leveraged Project Ares as an educational tool to bring the practical hands-on keyboard learning element into their internship program.

The team at Raytheon choose the Project Ares Digital Forensics scenario as the learning lab and arranged for cybersecurity expert, Michael Kaplan of Phase 2 Advantage, to tutor the students. Mr. Kaplan was able to bring expert insight to their virtual classroom, clarify topics when there were questions and continue to expand upon the lessons contained within Project Ares.

As a result of this intensive Forensics learning experience, the interns found that Project Ares not only tested their skills but also taught them new skills when they used the hints contained within the Forensics course.



“Technical simulations and exercises are largely missing from undergraduate cybersecurity programs that we’ve encountered. Students might learn some concepts or theory at school, but they don’t have access to tools that allow them to switch from theory to practice or learn through trial and error.

That’s one of the reasons that I wanted to do this internship.”

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## THE BENEFITS

The team at Raytheon Emirates feels that having a structured-skills learning program is the heart and soul of an internship program that prepares students to be successful as they transition into their specialized careers.

Many of the student interns are soon to graduate and this internship is usually the final requirement for them to complete their degree programs. However, they often don't know what to do next or even what jobs might be a good fit. There are countless options, but they've had limited exposure to the professional working landscape.

Fatma and her team encourage them to reflect on some challenging questions during the internship program. Would you fit better into Forensics or Security Analytics? Do you prefer government work or penetration testing? The program leaders are always eager to give their interns more insight into what these career fields hold in store for their futures. They bring in experts from various disciplines and backgrounds to offer their real-world insights into their fields of expertise as well as discuss areas of opportunity for new graduates to find roles that interest them. They firmly believe that the experience of learning from technology experts coupled with the real hands on the keyboard experience that the interns get from Project Ares is helping students find where they fit into the professional world.



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real world experience outside of  
classroom concepts.

We help them experience the  
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their careers in the workplace.”

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Project Ares® is an award-winning platform of hands-on cybersecurity labs that enhance competency-based education. For practical experience that is as true-to-life as it gets, Project Ares labs include authentic security tools in immersive scenarios on a cyber range. Cybersecurity educators and instructors trust Project Ares labs to enhance the learning experience of every aspiring and seasoned cyber professional.

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