

MIDWEST COLLEGIATE COMPUTING CONFERENCE

March 21-22, 2024

www.mwc3.org

MWC³

Cybersecurity

Sponsored by: Grand Valley State University

Competition Overview and Components

Teams will participate in a Capture the Flag competition where they will solve challenges to score points. Challenges will range from simple to complex in areas such as cryptography, log analysis, packet analysis, password cracking, open-source intelligence, and steganography.

Teams will be provided background information, techniques, and resources that they will utilize to solve challenges. Solving basic challenges will unlock more difficult ones. Teams will be able to buy hints using previously scored points to help solve challenges during the competition. The team that scores the most points will win the competition.

Team Composition

Teams may consist of one or two students. Teams of two, where at least one student has prior experience, are preferred and encouraged.

Skills

The problem statement will include (but not limited to) topics from the following:

No prior knowledge or experience in Cybersecurity is required. However, knowledge of historical ciphers, network packets, steganography tools and techniques, and Linux will be beneficial.

Scoring

Participants will earn points as they solve challenges within an interactive, timed CTF system. Hints can be purchased using earned points to help solve more complex challenges.

Schedule

See Competition Schedule for Competition time and place. The time will include Competition overview, Competition work and turn in. Check in will begin 20 minutes before the Competition begins.

Resources

Each student can and should bring their laptop. Students may use any free, publicly available software or web resources.

Technical requirements

Each computer must have a Windows OS, Internet access and a working Web Browser, preferably Firefox or Chrome. Other suggested requirements include:

Kali Linux OS

Wireshark

An EXIf editor

Python Editor or Notepad++