Course: Howard: Digital Forensics 1
Cyber Pathways Across Maryland SME Rubric

Reviewer Name: John Knight
Date: 9-20-2018

This course is offered by Howard Community College (https://www.howardcc.edu/programs-courses/programs/cyber-forensics-tech-aa/). The goal for this review is to validate that the curriculum is complete, current, and relevant to industry cybersecurity needs. Please use the comments sections for each category to explain your overall impressions, whether positive or negative.

COURSE STRUCTURE AND SYLLABUS	Y	N	N/A
Course description is factually complete and accurate	Y		
Course structure includes major lessons and assignments	Y		
Prerequisite requirements are included and appropriate	Y		
Required facilities and equipment are included and appropriate	Y		
Required course texts are listed	Y		
Appropriate supplementary materials and resources are provided	Y		
Course organization and design is clear, coherent, and appropriately structured	Y		
Concepts and skills build logically, with appropriate transitions between course sections	Y		
Learning outcomes are clearly stated, measurable, and appropriate for the level of the course	Y		
Learning outcomes emphasize application of knowledge and skills	Y		

Comments about the course:
Please summarize your impressions of the course in regard to structure and curriculum. Keep in mind suggestions for revisions or gaps in the curriculum in regard to industry standards and needs. If your course is meant to prepare students for a certification exam, please indicate whether or not you feel the course as outlined will do so.

This course description is factually complete and accurate as stated on the READ ME FIRST and SAMPLE SYLLABUS and as compared to the Howard CC course catalog.
The structure is well laid out on a 15 week presentation which includes major lessons, assignments, and appropriate labs.

The prerequisite requirements are clearly stated. An advisory is given for a prerequisite course in computer hardware but it is also clearly stated that such is not required or "necessary". Most Digital Forensics courses make that statement but students with no hardware background will find this course very challenging as they have little to no background in understanding file structures and hard drive components.

This is an online course and each individual should not have any trouble in setup of and local requirements. Along with the stated text the online component includes access to the Course Technology' MindTap product which has been proven to be very effective as a course companion for labs and additional resources. The instructors are provided an Instructor Manual with tips and teaching aids for each chapter.

The organization and design is clear, coherent, and appropriate for a beginning digital forensics course. Learning outcomes are stated in Part 2 of the syllabus. Each chapter noted in the syllabus displays the intended concepts of the given chapter.

This course builds logically, the syllabus builds logically, outcomes are clearly stated and measured through 2 exams and 1 final exam as well as appropriate lab reinforcement for the applicable skill sets for the student digital forensicator.

In addition, the course was developed along the lines of the DoD Cyber Crime Center requirements. Howard Community College is one of a select group of colleges nationwide to have received the National Center of Digital Forensics Academic Excellence Award.

This course is highly recommended for any Community College or University offering Digital Forensics.