

Army Cybersecurity Leader Visits Students at UCF

ORLANDO, July 7, 2020 – Students pursuing UCF’s [Modeling and Simulation of Behavioral Cybersecurity Graduate Certificate](#) had a special guest last week, which demonstrates the kind of exposure they get to real-world scenarios.

Amit Kapadia , product manager for cyber resiliency and the training chief engineer at the U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation in Orlando, spoke to students taking the Emerging Cyber Issues class on June 30. Kapadia received his bachelor’s and master’s in electrical engineering from UCF in 2004 and 2007, respectively.

Kapadia is responsible for the technical direction and oversight for a variety of areas including the Persistent Cyber Training Environment, Army Acquisition Blue Team, and National Cyber Range Complex. He has worked in a variety of domains supporting the acquisition of test instrumentation and live-virtual-constructive simulations.

“We are so grateful to have had Mr. Kapadia join us,” says Assistant Professor Bruce D. Caulkins who oversees the certificate program and runs the class. “These amazing opportunities for our students are all thanks to the great partnership between UCF and Army PEO STRI.”

The graduate certificate program is housed in the School of Modeling, Simulation and Training. Twenty-three students are currently enrolled in the class. The 15-credit hour program provides students with an interdisciplinary modeling and simulation approach to cybersecurity with a particular emphasis on the behavioral aspects of cybersecurity and cyber operations.

With more people working online and more commerce being conducted virtually, hackers and other destructive agents are looking for ways to steal everything from individual Social Security numbers and credit card information to intellectual property and state secrets.

Experts in cybersecurity, also known as information security analysts, are in high demand. In 2019 more than 112,000 jobs were available in the field, according to the U.S. Department of Labor, which also forecasts a 32 percent growth in this job by 2028.