

THE BIG PICTURE: Capture the Flag (CTF) Competitions for Cybersecurity Education and Curriculum

Security competitions are emerging as a new plug-in approach to traditional cybersecurity (CSEC) education. With the gradual introduction of CTFs at universities, the CSEC curriculum now covers popular topics, including Forensics, Reverse Engineering, and Cryptography. Government agencies, national laboratories, and industry partners sponsored CTFs are held around the United States, catering to high school students, college students, and even professionals worldwide. This experiential learning approach has attracted its learners to use it as a preparation mode for cybersecurity work roles stepping into the industry. **So, what are some elements to consider when approaching CTFs for CSEC Curriculum?**

