COURSE SYLLABUS

FISMA & Continuous Monitoring Fundamentals Course (Self-Paced)

An authorization to operate isn't the finish line—federal systems must be monitored continuously, with weaknesses tracked and risk reported to leadership over time. This intermediate course grounds Information Security Continuous Monitoring (NIST SP 800-137) in FISMA accountability: you'll design an ISCM strategy, manage findings through POA&Ms, and build the metrics and reporting that support ongoing authorization.

Group classes (Live Online) and onsite training are available for this course. For more information, email onsite@graduateschool.edu or visit: https://www.graduateschool.edu/courses/fisma-and-continuous-monitoring-fundamentals-self-paced



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Course Outline

Module 1: FISMA Governance, Accountability, and Risk Oversight

Examine the statutory foundation of FISMA and the roles responsible for cybersecurity governance, accountability, and risk oversight.

Module 2: Designing an ISCM Strategy

Develop an information security continuous monitoring strategy aligned with NIST Special Publication 800-137.

Module 3: Asset, Configuration, and Vulnerability Visibility

Review the asset, configuration, and vulnerability data needed to support effective continuous monitoring.

Module 4: Control Monitoring, Assessment, and Evidence Management

Maintain current control assessments and supporting evidence throughout the system lifecycle.

Module 5: Security Metrics, Analysis, and Risk Reporting

Convert monitoring data into meaningful security metrics, analysis, and risk reporting for decision-makers.

Module 6: Findings, POA&Ms, and Risk-Based Response

Manage identified weaknesses through Plans of Action and Milestones and prioritize corrective actions based on risk.

Module 7: Ongoing Authorization and ISCM Program Evaluation

Explore how continuous monitoring supports ongoing authorization and evaluate the effectiveness of an ISCM program.

Module 8: Building a Continuous Monitoring Program Capstone

Design an end-to-end continuous monitoring program that integrates strategy, data collection, assessment, reporting, and risk response.