



# THWARTING THREATS

## READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Government agencies, private sector business, and non-governmental organizations are all looking for researchers and analysts ready to assess data and develop creative solutions. Ridge College of Intelligence Studies and Applied Science challenges students through its curriculum to conduct competitive intelligence research, analyze risk and provide risk mitigation solutions, work to expose illegal or criminal online activity, develop indications and warnings, provide monitoring capabilities, identify supply-chain risks, create threat assessments, and provide cyber and data science solutions.

Mercyhurst's Ridge College is looking for students who have critical and creative thinking skills, show persistence and resiliency, and have a desire to make this world a better place. Your classwork and internships will challenge you, but your thirst for answers and drive will ensure your success.

Be a part of something bigger at Mercyhurst.

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Innovation Entente Lab (IEL)



# BUILD YOUR NETWORK

"Many degrees at other universities require an incredible amount of theoretical and intangible work, but Mercyhurst's Ridge College provides Intelligence Studies, Cyber Security, Data Science students an opportunity to be exposed to real workplace environments and produce real results. Being able to translate the concepts and ideas we learn in the classroom onto real (and often paid) assignments with credible outcomes is insanely rewarding."

—Brentyn M.

"I would highly encourage any student to get involved as much as possible during your time at Mercyhurst. This is something that I am very happy that I did through the Ridge College. Mercyhurst has helped advance my career as I got to continue to hone in on the skills I have learned through my classwork and internship experiences."

—Patrick O.

"If you have a critical and analytical mind, want to help solve modern issues in our world and know that your work is contributing to something meaningful, a career in Intelligence or Cyber is the path for you. These career paths can seem intimidating at first, but if you really care about the cause and are committed to doing your best work, you will go far in these fields."

—Samantha S.



## Intelligence Studies and Computer Information Sciences Pairs Academics, Real-World Experiences

Explore In-Demand, Competitive Majors in the Ridge College  
of Intelligence Studies and Applied Sciences



**MERCYHURST**  
RIDGE COLLEGE

OF INTELLIGENCE STUDIES AND APPLIED SCIENCES



# EXPERIENCE AND INSIGHT

## Center for Intelligence Research, Analysis, and Training (CIRAT)

CIRAT at Mercyhurst acquires projects contracted by government agencies and national and international companies. Students conduct competitive intelligence research involving risk management and industry analysis.

Students prepare a formal product and report their findings to client representatives after completing a project. Their work with intelligence and computer information-based products is then shared with the client's organization. Students have presented their findings to organizations including the U.S. Department of State, National Security Agency, Abbott, Pfizer, Dell, Johns Hopkins APL, Security Executive Counsel, and law enforcement agencies.

The CIRAT team is comprised of both undergraduate and graduate students pursuing Data Science, Cyber Security, Intelligence Studies, Communications, and Business. The analysts are mentored by experienced faculty and staff within these disciplines who serve as principal investigators on the projects. Students must go through an application process, which includes submitting a resume and participating in an interview with principal investigators, clients, and the Ridge College director of operations. The application process is tailored to mirror that of the professional job market.

## The Innovation Entente Lab (IEL) at Mercyhurst University

The Northwestern Pennsylvania Beehive Innovation Network was founded in Erie in 2014, a cooperative effort of Mercyhurst University, other regional colleges, and local organizations. It provides a range of entrepreneurial services to local businesses and has since taken on more than 400 local projects.

Mercyhurst students engage with clients to provide high-caliber market analysis and competitive business intelligence strategies. The newly renovated IEL is their home base.

Students identify key marketing strategies, potential funding pipelines, and the necessary strategic media options to place entrepreneurs on the path to success.

Students provide many services to local businesses including marketing analysis, social media analysis, funding research, trademark and patent research, and competitor profiles. This relationship is symbiotic, allowing students to gain real-world applied experience while local businesses receive high-end market intelligence.

## Student Clubs and Activities

- Anti-Money Laundering Club
- Cyber Threat Research Analysis Club
- Law Enforcement Intelligence Club
- National Security Club

# A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

## GRADUATE WITH AN EDGE

After four years of gaining applied experience through hands-on projects, close faculty mentorship, and real-world research for global companies, you will not only graduate with a degree from one of the leading Intelligence Studies, Cyber Security, and Data Science programs in the country, but also with a competitive professional edge in the industry.

Mercyhurst students are contracted to work with companies and agencies, while becoming exposed to industry leading vendor tools including, but not limited to:

### Government Sector

- Appalachian Regional Commission
- Defense Intelligence Agency
- Erie City Chamber of Commerce
- Erie City School District
- Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
- Erie Department of Children and Youth Services
- Erie Police Department
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- National Air and Space Intel Center
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
- National Security Agency
- U.S. Air Force

### Private Sector

- U.S. Army
- U.S. Coast Guard
- U.S. Department of State
- Abbott
- Amazon
- Aurora WDC
- Authentic8
- Babel Street
- Blackbird.AI
- Bristol Myers Squibb
- CHB LLC
- Clearpath Global
- Consensus-Cipher
- Dell
- Delta
- ESRI
- Exodus Road
- Federal Resources Corp.
- Fletcher CSI
- ForgeRock

### IBM

- Johns Hopkins APL
- NCI Information Systems
- Nutrien
- Paychex
- Pfizer
- Proactive Worldwide
- Reqfast
- Richter and Co.
- SafeAbroad
- Sedulo Group
- TC LogiQ
- Wabtec
- Zoominfo

### Professionals

- Security and Competitive Intelligence Professionals (SCIP)
- Security Executive Council (SEC)
- ORAU

70% of CIRAT projects originate in the private sector, and 30% are contracted by government agencies.

12% of current Intelligence Studies students have earned security clearances while attending Ridge College, working on CIRAT projects, and/or participating in internships.

To date, over 800 Intelligence Studies, Cyber Security, and Data Science students have garnered real world applied experience through CIRAT projects and external internships.

95% of all students in these fields of study find employment in their field within one year of graduating.



# IS THIS YOUR FUTURE?

## WHERE GRADUATES NOW WORK

### Government Sector

- ATF
- Bureau of Customs & Border Protection
- CIA
- FBI
- INTERPOL (International Criminal Police Organization)
- National Security Agency
- Defense Intelligence Agency
- Municipal Law Enforcement
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
- National Air and Space Intelligence Center
- U.S. Department of State
- U.S. Army

### Private Sector

- Accenture
- Amazon
- Bank of America
- BAE Systems
- Blackbird A.I.
- Booz Allen-Hamilton
- Chautauqua Foundation
- Clear Path Global
- Deloitte & Touche, LLP
- Discovery Resources Inc.
- Eastman Kodak Co.
- Exxon Mobil
- Federal Resources Corp.
- Goldman-Sachs
- IBM
- International Property Services
- Investment Data Corp.
- Johns Hopkins APL
- JP Morgan Chase

- Key Bank
- Low & Associates
- McManis & Monsalve Associates
- Murphy Magonahe
- Northrup Grumman
- Nutrien
- Paychex
- Pfizer
- Philip-Morris
- Proactive Worldwide
- Procter & Gamble
- Richter and Company
- Sterling
- SRA International Inc.
- Target Corp.
- TC LogiQ
- VISA International
- Wells Fargo