

D4S Microcredentials: Flexible Learning Across Europe

Focused learning. Academic quality. Industry relevance.

Prof. Dr. Julia von Thienen (German University of Digital Science)
on behalf of Digital4Security

September 14, 2026

What is a microcredential?

Focused learning. Academic credit. Skills you can use.



Welcome to Digital4Security |
Microcredentials ...

📁 2026 fall

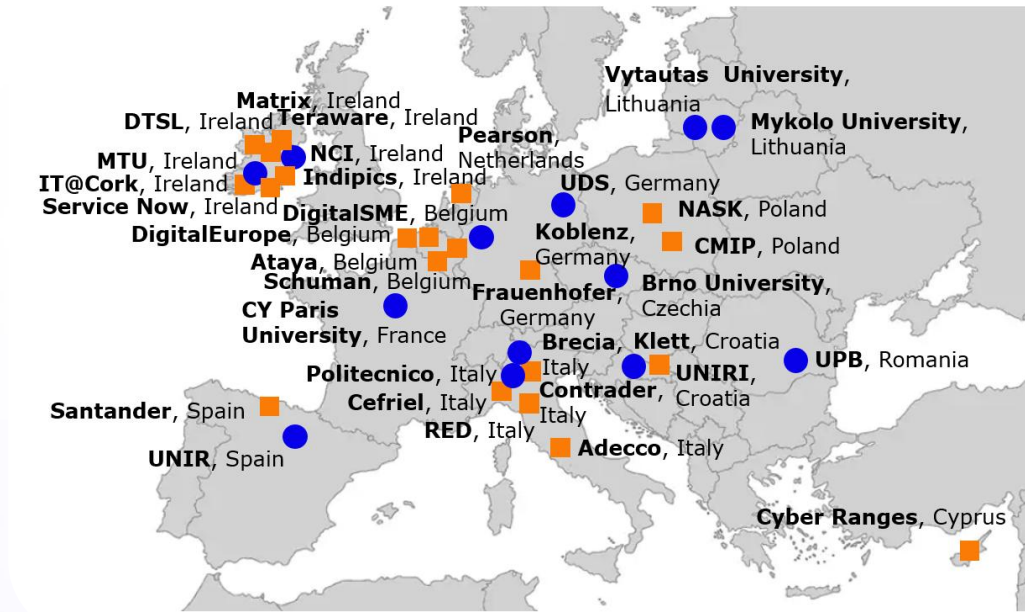
Enter this course

- A **microcredential is a focused, credit-bearing learning offer** in a clearly defined subject area.
- Rather than completing a full degree programme, you can **select the knowledge and competences most relevant to your career goals, or your organisation's needs.**
- Each microcredential has clearly defined **learning outcomes, learning activities, assessments and workload.**

Why D4S?

Europe becomes your campus.

*Learn across institutions. Learn from specialists.
Stay connected to industry.*



- **Learn from the experts – wherever they are.**
Rather than studying with just one institution, D4S connects you with **experts across Europe in their respective fields** – with courses delivered by **13 European higher education institutions**, each contributing their particular areas of expertise.
- Courses are **co-designed and quality-assured with industry partners**, helping to ensure that what you learn is not only academically sound, but also **relevant to the market**.
- **Combine academic achievement with professional recognition.**
Complete **three D4S microcredentials** and become eligible for **one industry certification free of charge** – an opportunity to demonstrate both **academic achievement and professional readiness**.

How does a D4S microcredential work?

Academic quality. Flexible learning. Designed around working life.

- D4S microcredentials are typically set at **EQF Level 7 (Master's level)** and taught by highly qualified cybersecurity experts from leading European higher education institutions – yet **no Bachelor's degree is required to participate**.
- Courses are designed for participants from **diverse professional backgrounds**, including IT, management, law, compliance, education, and others.
- Learning is **assessed**, and successful completion earns **ECTS credits and an official certificate** documenting what you have achieved.



D4S Microcredentials – Open for Registration

www.digital4security.eu/microcredentials

View Our Available Microcredentials

Choose microcredentials that best suit your area of interest starting in October 2026

ASIIN-certified	AI and Emerging Topics in Cybersecurity	Automation of Security Tasks and Data Analytics	ASIIN-certified
ASIIN-certified	Business Resilience, Incident Management and Threat Response	Communication Design for Cybersecurity	ASIIN-certified
Nationally certified	Cyber Range Scenario Design	Cybersecurity Auditing	ASIIN-certified
ASIIN-certified	Cybersecurity Education & Training Delivery I	Cybersecurity Law	Nationally certified
ASIIN-certified	Cybersecurity Law & Data Sovereignty	Industrial Cybersecurity: Governance, Risks and OT systems	Nationally certified
Nationally certified	Modern Approaches to Cybersecurity Education	Research Methods	ASIIN-certified
Nationally certified	Secure data handling	Technological Foundations for CS & Security Controls	ASIIN-certified

Many are ASIIN-certified; others are nationally certified and may follow different ECTS structures and calendars, while offering similar content and delivery formats.

How do the ASIIN-certified microcredentials work?

Academic quality. Flexible learning. Designed around working life.

- 5 ECTS credits = approx. **125 hours of learning over 12 weeks** (around 10 hours per week).
- Study is fully **online, flexible and self-paced**, with asynchronous learning complemented by **live sessions**, where attendance is typically optional.



Topics Available as ASIIN-Certified Microcredentials

Awarded by the German University of Digital Science. Delivered by the D4S European Network.

Communication
Design for
Cybersecurity
(UDS, 5 ECTS)

AI & Emerging Topics
in Cybersecurity
(UDS, 5 ECTS)

Law, Compliance,
Governance, Policy,
and Ethics
(UNIBS, 5 ECTS)

Automation of
Security Tasks and
Data Analytics
(UNIRI, 5 ECTS)

Cybersecurity
Economics
& Supply Chain
(MRU, 5 ECTS)

Cybersecurity Law &
Data Sovereignty
(BUT, 5 ECTS)

Business Resilience,
Incident Management
& Threat Response
(MTU, 5 ECTS)

Threat Intelligence
(UPB, 5 ECTS)

Research Methods
(UNI KO, 5 ECTS)

CISO and Crisis
Communication
(VMU & ATAYA,
5 ECTS)

Cybersecurity
Education &
Training Delivery I
(BUT, 5 ECTS)

Cybersecurity
Education &
Training Delivery II
(UPB, 5 ECTS)

Cybersecurity Culture,
Strategy & Leadership
(VMU & ATAYA,
5 ECTS)

Security Operations
(CY CERGY, 5 ECTS)

Risk Management
of Cyber-Physical
Systems
(POLIMI & CEFRIEL,
5 ECTS)

Machine and
Deep Learning
in Cybersecurity
(UNIRI, 5 ECTS)

Digital Forensics,
Chain of Custody
and eDiscovery
(UPB & NCI, 5 ECTS)

Cybersecurity in
Industry - Security of
OT & CPS
(POLIMI, 5 ECTS)

Enterprise Architecture,
Infrastructure Design
& Cloud Computing
(UPB & NCI, 5 ECTS)

Technological
Foundations in CS &
Security Controls
(UPB, 5 ECTS)

Cybersecurity
Auditing
(VMU & ATAYA,
5 ECTS)

Each available for €350.

Academic credits, assessment & certification

Your learning is assessed, recognised and documented.

- **Earn academic credit.** Each ASIIN-certified microcredential carries **5 ECTS credits**, representing approximately **125 hours of learning**.
- **Demonstrate what you have learned.** Assessments are aligned with the defined learning outcomes and may include **projects, presentations, quizzes or other assignments**.
- **Build your achievement step by step.** Assessment can combine activities throughout the module with a final assessment – so learning and applying new skills go hand in hand.
- **Receive an official certificate.** Upon successful completion, the certificate documents the **microcredential, achieved learning outcomes, ECTS credits and qualification level**.
- **Take your achievement forward.** ECTS credits provide a recognised European framework for documenting academic learning and **may be recognised towards further study**.



ASIIN-Certified Microcredentials: Typical Timeline

Microcredential Weeks												Weeks across the Next Term											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

- First two weeks of the term:** Pre-Weeks; preparation phase, emphasizing optional materials – use this time to build any prerequisite knowledge where needed.
- Middle eight weeks of the term:** Main learning phase with weekly topic input and activities – complete the required components on time.
- Final two weeks of the term:** Post-Weeks; no new content – focus on final submissions and exams.
- First two weeks of the subsequent term:** Typical time window for repeat examinations.

Learning that fits around your life

Build new skills without putting your professional or personal life on hold.



- **Learn when and where it works for you.** Core learning is available asynchronously – there is no need to be in a classroom at a fixed time or place.
- **Fit learning into the time you have.** Short learning inputs can be completed before work, during a lunch break, in the evening – or whenever your schedule allows.
- **Choose how you learn.** Many educators provide core content in multiple formats, such as video, audio, slides and text – including options suited to learning while commuting or walking.
- **Stay connected without losing flexibility.** Live sessions provide opportunities to meet educators, ask questions and discuss professional applications, while attendance is typically optional.
- **Plan with confidence.** A clear weekly rhythm and transparent deadlines help you integrate learning into professional and personal routines.

Ready to get started?

Key dates, participation requirements & practical information



- **Next application deadline: 25 September 2026** for microcredentials starting in **October 2026**.
- **More opportunities throughout the year:** new ASIIN-certified microcredentials launch in **January, April and October** – explore upcoming offers and choose the right time and topic for you.
- **No Bachelor's degree required.** You need sufficient **English proficiency**, reliable **internet access** and a **computer** suitable for online learning.
- **Check your chosen microcredential:** some learning offers may specify **prerequisite knowledge**, so review the individual module information before applying.
- **Apply online:** select your microcredential and complete the application through the **Digital4Security application portal**. Visit: www.digital4security.eu/microcredentials

Explore the offers → Choose your microcredential → Apply → Start learning

Choose what D4S can do for you

For individual learners:

Build your own learning pathway.

- Select microcredentials that match your **career goals, interests and skills needs**.
- Develop specialised cybersecurity expertise **one focused learning experience at a time**.
- Combine academic learning with **industry recognition** – complete three D4S microcredentials and become eligible for **one industry certification free of charge**.
- **Build a portfolio of certificates** documenting the knowledge, skills and qualifications you have gained.



Explore the portfolio → Build your pathway → Start learning

Choose what D4S can do for you

For organisations:

Turn microcredentials into a workforce upskilling strategy.

- Select learning offers that address your organisation's **specific skills gaps and development priorities**.
- Build **targeted learning pathways for teams or groups of employees**, without requiring a full degree programme.
- **Get in touch to explore tailored solutions and available discounts** for organisations enrolling multiple employees: **service@digital4security.eu**



Explore the portfolio → Build your pathway → Start learning

Why now?

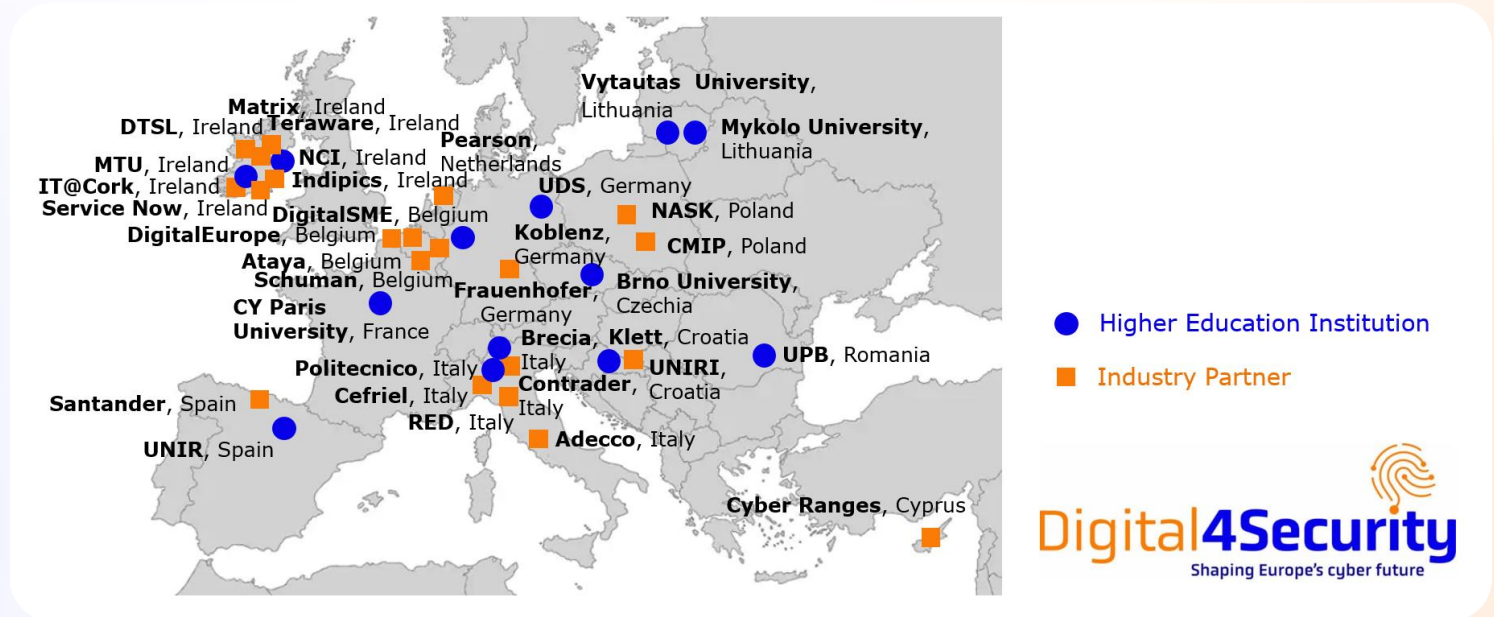
D4S is a ca. €20 million European initiative – selected through a highly competitive EU funding call.

A recognised consortium selected to upskill Europe. D4S brings together leading academic and industry partners in cybersecurity management and data sovereignty from across Europe.

50% EU co-funding – for a limited time. During the funded project period, the EU covers 50% of the project costs, enabling learners and organisations to access D4S learning offers at exceptionally favourable rates.

D4S learning offers are designed to remain available on the European education market – but **EU co-funding is only available until 30 September 2027.**

Learners from **around the world** are welcome to participate.



Learn what matters to you – one focused step at a time.

**Learn from experts across Europe.
Build skills you can use.
Take your next step with D4S.**

Explore D4S Microcredentials:
www.digital4security.eu/microcredentials

Questions?
We would be delighted to hear from you.
service@digital4security.eu

