

# The Lack of Incident Response Curriculum in the CAE Community: Call to Action

CAE in Cybersecurity Community Symposium  
June 9, 2022



## Hub & Spoke Project

*:: “Research and Deliverables on Utilizing an Academic Hub and Spoke Model to Create a National Network of Cybersecurity Institutes”*



## Hub & Spoke Project (con't)

- :: Included 3 partners: Auburn Univ., Purdue Univ., Univ. of Tulsa
- :: Network of 2/4-year schools (Hubs and Spokes)
- :: IR and ICS security-related education and training (initially)
- :: Emphasis on underserved populations

## Hub & Spoke Project (con't)

:: **Project Deliverables:** Various reference documents, including degree & certificate templates mapped to various curriculum & workforce frameworks and IR-related work roles

## Hub & Spoke Project (con't)

305

## Hub & Spoke Project (con't)

77

## Hub & Spoke Project (con't)

22

## Hub & Spoke Project (con't)

10



# What shapes IR in workforce development?

## :: Frameworks

National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE)

NIST Cybersecurity Framework

Skills Framework for the Information Age (SFA)

ACM: Cybersecurity Curriculum 2017, Computing Curricula 2020

## :: Certifications

CISSP, CREST, EC CSA

## :: Bodies of Knowledge

CyBok, SANS Incident Handler's Handbook

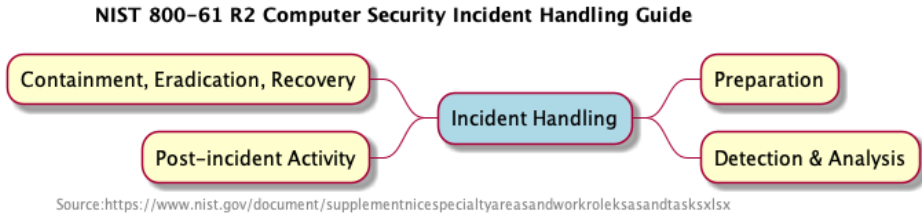
## :: Assessment

CMMC, O-ISM3, Incident Management Capability Assessment

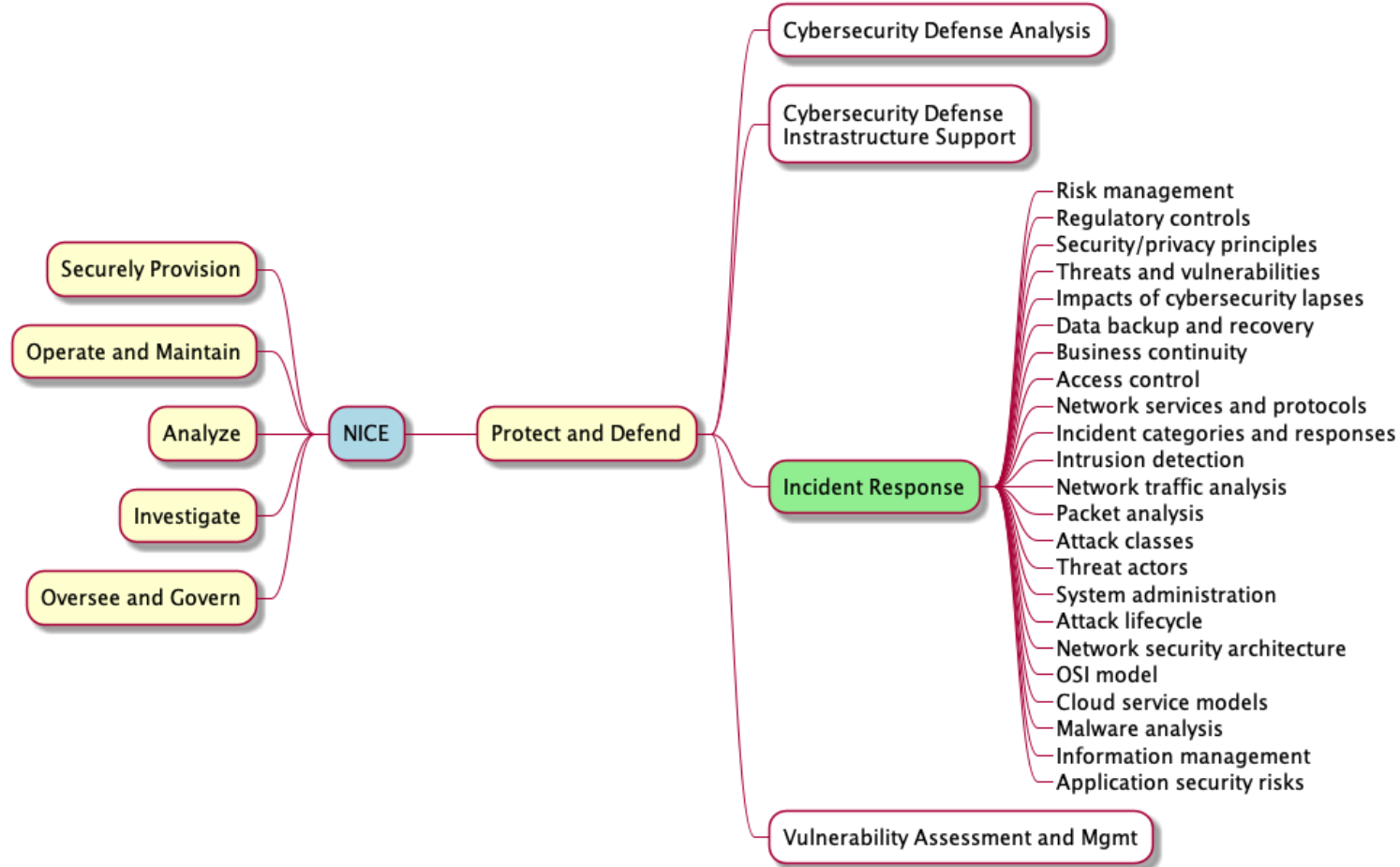
## :: Standards

NIST 800-61 R2: Computer Security Incident Handling Guide

## NICE Incident Response



VS



Legend:  
 ▶ Boxed nodes: categories  
 ▶ Unboxed nodes: knowledge elements

Source: <https://www.nist.gov/document/supplementnicespecialtyareasandworkroleksasandtasksxlsx>

## Observations on the state of IR

:: Inconsistent use of the term *cyber incident response* points to an under-developed integration of technical vs non-technical knowledge requirements of cybersecurity.

incident response tends to associate with technical

incident management tends to associate with non-technical

:: The output of workforce development efforts does not synch effectively with workforce needs.

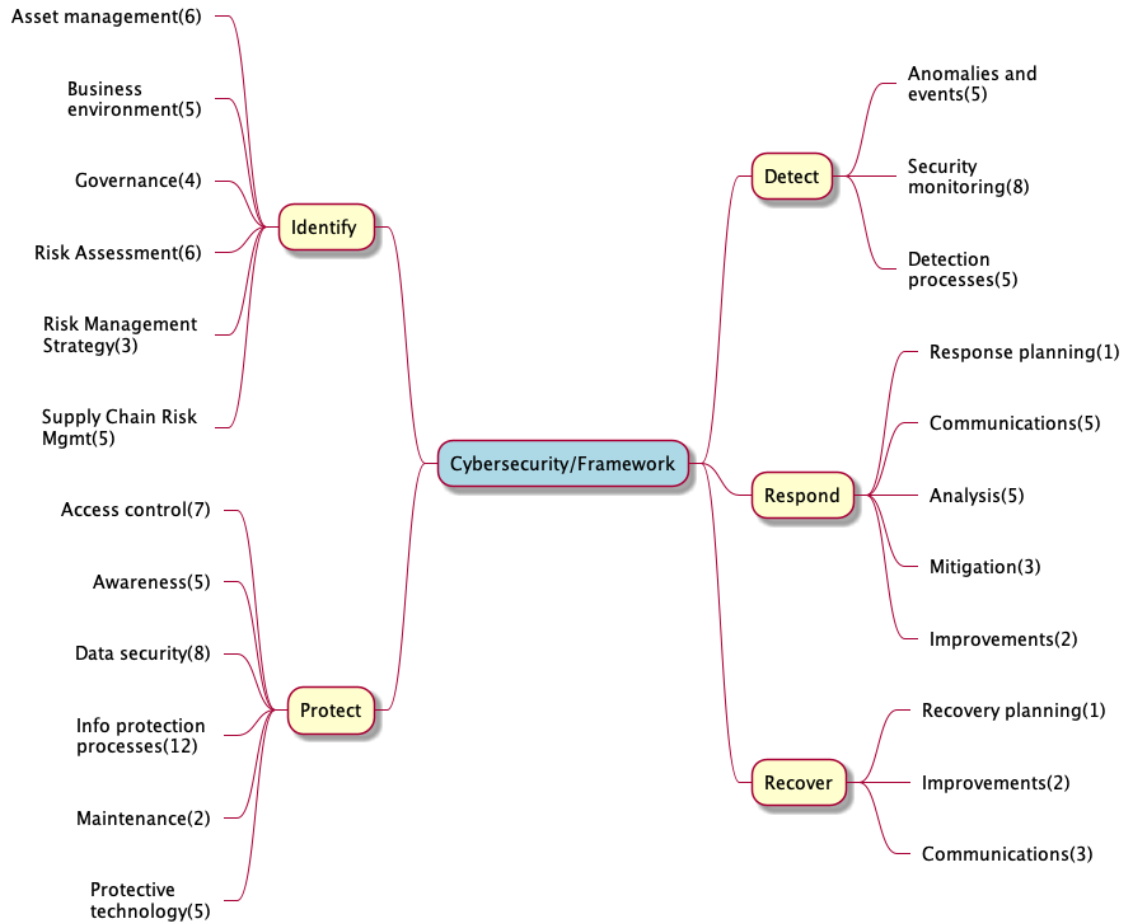
## IR considerations

:: We envision developing a cyber incident handling body-of-knowledge (CIH BoK) that identifies concepts and relationships among concepts:

- Express the CIH BoK as an ontological list of topics showing close and supporting concepts.
- Provide dimensionality to topics based on career progression: apprentice, journeyman, specialist, master.
- Provide depth to topics based on domain: e.g., IT, OT, IoT.
- Develop curricular material for topics, to sample teaching material; pre-requisite skills and knowledge; and post-requisite learning outcomes.

# :: The NIST Cybersecurity Framework could possibly offer the richest starting point for a CIH Bok

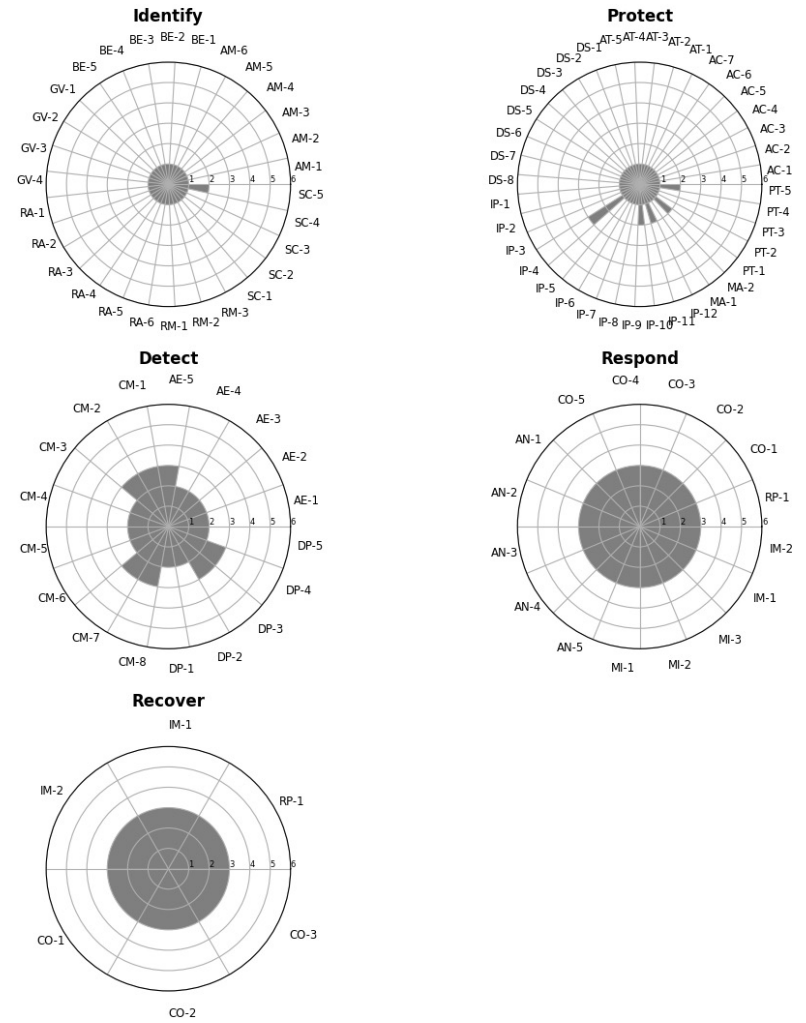
NIST Cybersecurity Framework



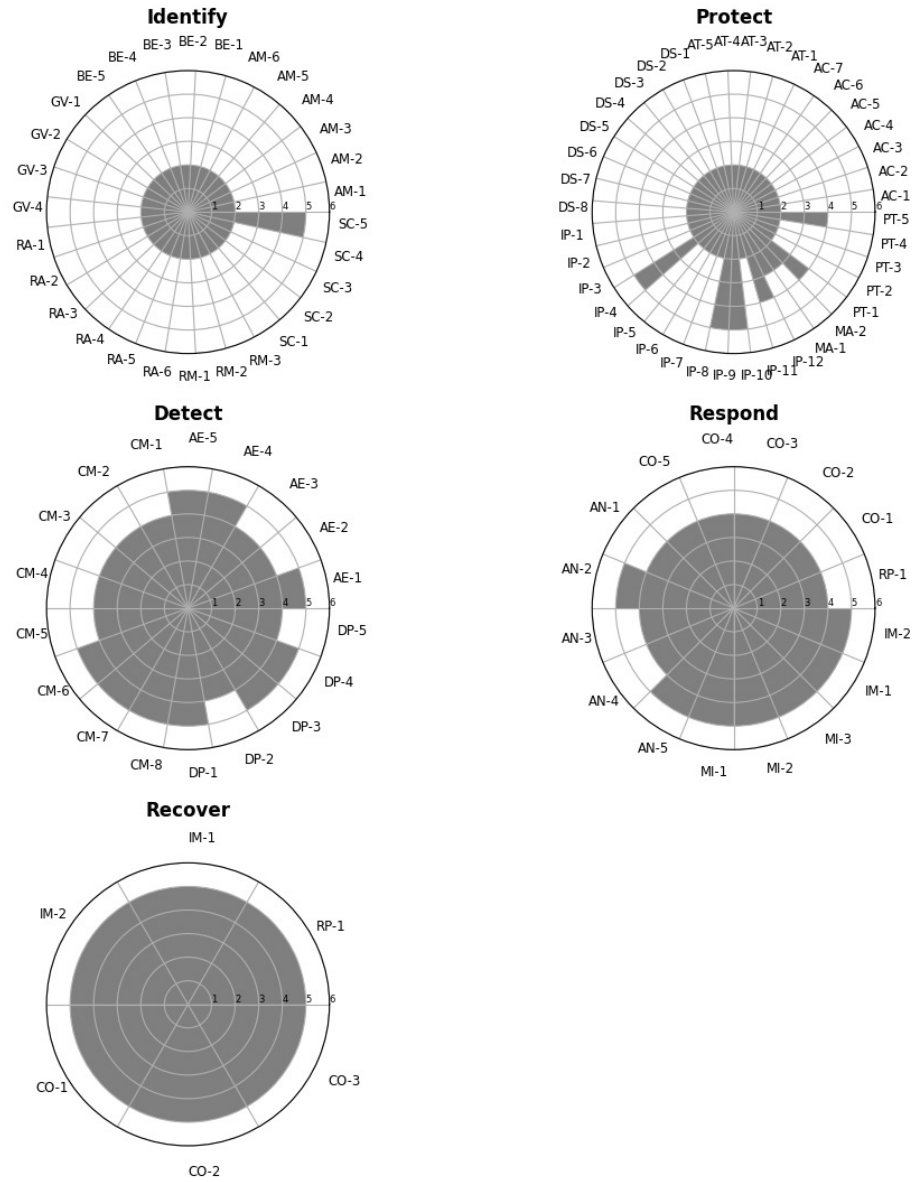
Legend:  
 ▶ Boxed nodes: Functions  
 ▶ Unboxed nodes: Categories  
 ▶ Parentheses: Number of Subcategories

Source: <https://www.nist.gov/cyberframework>

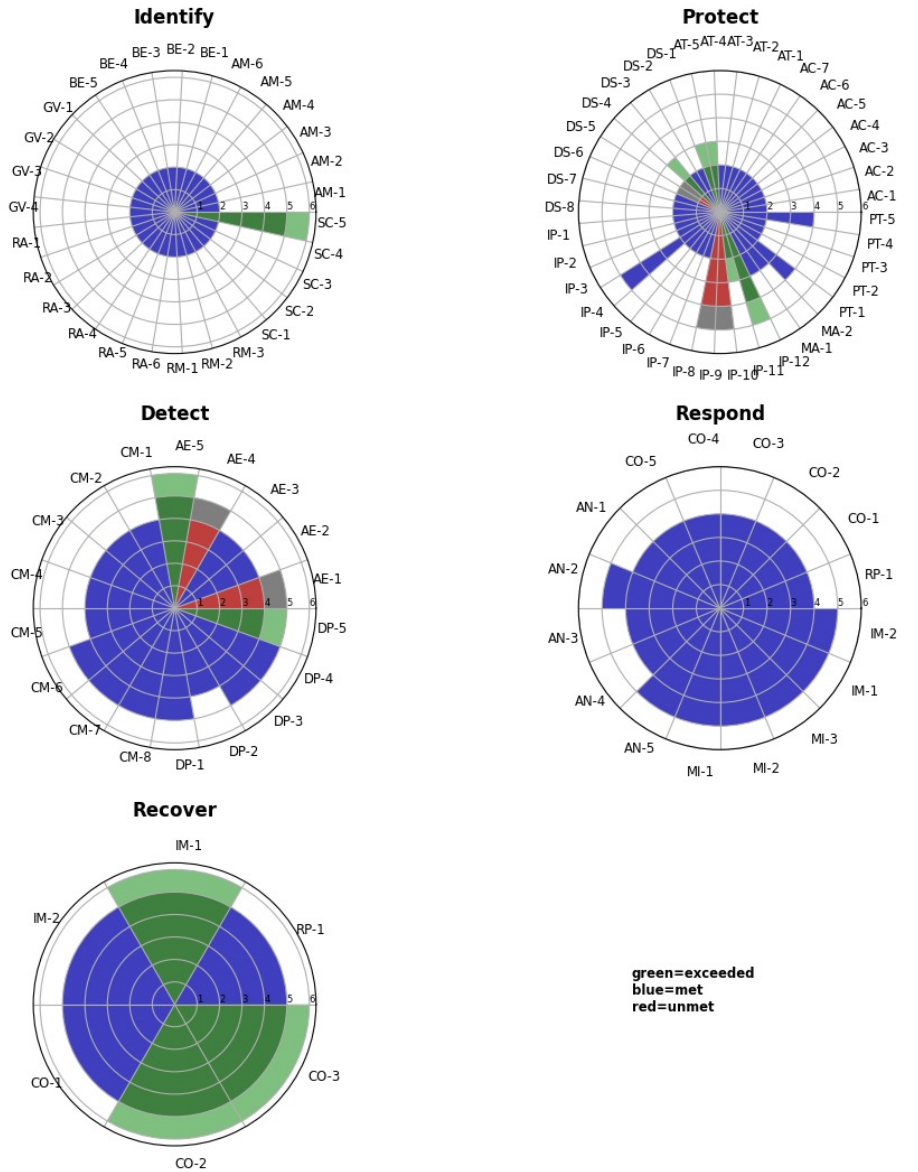
Cyber Framework -- Apprentice



Cyber Framework -- Specialist



Cyber Framework -- Specialist Assessed



## Call to Action

### :: Interested Schools:

- > Looking to adopt & adapt their curriculum to focus on IR, or
- > Create new IR degrees & certificate programs

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