Theodore Garcia

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EDUCATION

De La Salle University — Manila, Philippines
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, major in Network and Information Security — 2024 – 2028 (expected)

- Dean's Lister, Terms 1–6 (every term to date)
- DOST Merit Scholar, Department of Science and Technology undergraduate scholarship

Elizabeth Seton School — Las Piñas City, Philippines
Senior High School, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) strand

- Ranked in the top 20% of the STEM batch; Excellence Award (With Honors) and Annual Excellence Award (With Honors)

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified: ISC2 Certified in Cybersecurity (CC); AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner; AWS Certified AI Practitioner

Skill badges: IBM SkillsBuild: GRC and Data Privacy; Vulnerability Management; System and Network Security; Cloud Security

Working toward: CompTIA Security+; AWS Certified Security Specialty; ISO/IEC 27001 Lead Auditor or Lead Implementer (PECB); ISACA CISA or CRISC

PROJECTS

DarkHole V2 Penetration Test — Team project
Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration Testing (Nmap, Nessus, Burp Suite, sqlmap) — Jul – Aug 2026

- Performed a black-box internal test of a Linux host and its PHP web application under a defined scope and rules of engagement.
- Validated scanner output by hand and chained five weaknesses (exposed .git repository, hardcoded credentials, SQL injection, cron command injection, password reuse with sudo) into full root access.
- Co-authored a 39-page findings report: 13 findings (2 Critical, 5 High) with CVSS 3.1 vectors and prioritized remediation.

AuditBridge, Compliance Mapping and Risk Register Engine — Personal project
Python — In progress

- Collects findings from CIS configuration checks, Nmap service scans and read-only web checks in a lab, with severity and evidence.
- Maps each finding to ISO/IEC 27001, NIST SP 800-53, PCI DSS, SOC 2, OWASP and CIS controls, with the rationale documented.
- Scores risk on an explainable 5×5 likelihood and impact scale; exports risk registers (CSV/XLSX), compliance report cards and an HTML heat map.

Project Sinag, Filipino Sunshine Powerhouse Realty — Client project
TypeScript, Node.js, Express, MySQL, React, Tailwind CSS — Oct 2026 – present

- Building, with a seven-person Scrum team, a web app replacing a brokerage's Excel files: listings, inquiries, viewings, referrals, commissions.
- Set up the architecture, MySQL migrations, CI (111 API tests per pull request) and the Scrum process; wrote the log-in, role checks, audit log, event bus and consent modules.
- Security: bcrypt; HttpOnly, SameSite, HTTPS-only session cookies with a 30-minute idle timeout and a new ID at log-in; a lockout after 5 failures that treats unknown e-mails the same, so no response reveals which accounts exist.
- Data Privacy Act (RA 10173): versioned privacy notices, consent saved in the same transaction as each form, anonymizing withdrawal, and e-mails kept only as SHA-256 fingerprints in events and audit logs.

Galicious Secret Scanner — Team project
Python, Flask, SARIF 2.1.0

- Co-developed a scanner that finds leaked credentials in folders and GitHub repositories, including secrets deleted from the latest commit but still in Git history.
- Combines regex signatures with a Shannon-entropy check and an opt-in validity test against AWS STS, GitHub, Stripe and Slack; every output is redacted.
- Tested against VulnRepo, a purpose-built repository with history-only secrets and decoys that must not be flagged.

PinoyFlex — Team project
React, Vite, Node.js, Express, MongoDB Atlas — 2026

- Full-stack fitness community app built by a five-person team: posts, comments, follows, workout logs, badges, notifications and user reports with admin moderation; deployed on Render.
- Security: bcrypt password hashing; httpOnly, SameSite and production-only Secure session cookies; role-based access control with suspended accounts; rate limiting on login and the API; generic login errors that don't reveal which usernames exist.

Pablings Payroll — Client project
Electron, SheetJS

- Built a local-first Windows payroll app for a working barbershop that turns the weekly Google Sheet export into commissions, allowances, late deductions and net pay, then exports payslips in the shop's layout.
- Kept employee pay data on the owner's machine, with no cloud service and no database.

Prompt-a-thon Practice App Personal project
Node.js, Express, Claude API
- Built a starter app for the LSCS Prompt-a-thon that streams Claude API replies to a chat UI with a live-editable system prompt.
- Added a mock mode that runs without an API key, and kept keys in an ignored .env file.

VoIP over SIP/RTP Course project
Java, UDP
- Built a Java voice-call client: SIP/SDP signaling over UDP, RTP audio and RTCP sender reports every 5 seconds.
- Supported file, one-way and two-way call modes with clean teardown between calls.

CatBot Course project
Python, reinforcement learning
- Built a tabular Q-learning agent that catches cats with different movement styles on an 8×8 grid, evaluated over 20 games against 5 graded cats plus unseen behaviors.

UiPath Automation Personal project
Robotic process automation, UiPath Studio
- Built an automation workflow in UiPath Studio, with a recorded demo of it running.

COMPETITIONS AND WRITEUPS

Packet Capture: Beyond the Network CTF, CyberPH and MQ CyberSec Club
14th of 164 teams (top 9%) Oct 2026
- Solved OSINT, web exploitation, digital and network forensics and steganography challenges; published 16 step-by-step writeups (github.com/theoithinkk/CTFwriteups).

K17 CTF 2026, UNSW Security Society Online
Team SlayTheFlagII: 152nd of 682 teams (top 23%) Sep 2026
- Solved cryptography, digital forensics, reverse engineering, web exploitation, OSINT and miscellaneous challenges.

ISO 2026 CTF: Uncharted Knowledge, Information Security Organization, DLSU Manila, Philippines
2nd place Sep 2026
- Solved cryptography, OS and Linux, digital forensics, web, metadata analysis, OSINT and steganography challenges.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Information Security Organization, De La Salle University Manila, Philippines
Research and Training Officer Sep 2026 – present
- Keep members current on the threat landscape by tracking cybersecurity news and briefing the organization on what matters and why.
- Design CTF challenges and lead technical training sessions that turn security concepts into hands-on skills.

La Salle Computer Society Manila, Philippines
Associate Vice President for Academics Sep 2025 – Sep 2026
- Directed pre-event operations for 10+ academic events: technical talks, exam reviews, publications and coding competitions.
- Coordinated scheduling, documentation and stakeholder communication with faculty and partner departments.

Junior Officer, Research and Development Oct 2024 – Sep 2025
- Helped plan and run the Research and Development committee's events.

DLSU SPRINT Manila, Philippines
Associate Vice President for Human Resource Development Sep 2025 – Sep 2026
- Led member engagement for 30+ members of an invite-only leadership organization through 3+ team-building and development initiatives.

Computer Studies Government, De La Salle University Manila, Philippines
Executive for Internal Relations Sep 2024 – Oct 2025
- Point of contact between the student government, 10+ student organizations and the Dean's Office; ran internal communications.

DLSU ACM Student Chapter Manila, Philippines
Associate for Activities Oct 2024 – Oct 2025
- Ran the chapter's general assemblies and lab orientations for members.

RESEARCH

Senior high research: Outstanding Research Award, Elizabeth Seton School; oral presenter, PAREF Southridge Research Congress

SKILLS

GRC and privacy: ISO/IEC 27001, NIST SP 800-53, CIS Benchmarks, PCI DSS, SOC 2, RA 10173 (Data Privacy Act), 5×5 risk scoring, risk registers, control mapping, policy and SOP drafting

Cloud and AI: AWS core services, AWS IAM, shared responsibility model, GitHub Actions, Claude API

Offensive security: Burp Suite, Nmap (NSE), Nessus, sqlmap, Nikto, Kali Linux, OWASP Top 10, CVSS 3.1

Languages: Python, JavaScript, Java, C, SQL, PHP, Rust, Bash, HTML, CSS

Tools and frameworks: Linux, Git, GitHub, Flask, Node.js, Express, Electron, Google Apps Script, Microsoft 365, Excel