How long does it take to complete courses for these programs?
As a full-time student, you can earn a certificate of achievement (basic) in as little as one semester, while the advanced certificate takes most students three semesters to complete.

Depending on your schedule, you can earn your Associate of Science in Networking and Security degree in as little as two years.

What if I only want to brush up my job skills?
Great! You might consider taking some refresher courses. The Networking and Security curriculum has two certificates that you can choose from. The basic certificate can be completed in as little as one semester and is perfect for people wanting to brush up on the latest networking skills. The advanced certificate will take a little longer as you need to complete 31-32 units. This certificate does not require you to complete general education units.

I have access to a computer. How do I obtain copies of the software needed?
Your computer should have the software needed for you to succeed in this program. As a student of LMC, you will have access to educational discounts on a range of software. Students who do not have access to a computer are encouraged to use computers located in the Computer Lab. This lab has all of the software installed that is needed for the degree you are working towards.

Is there help available?
Yes. The Computer Lab provides computers loaded with the software you need to work on your assignments, and staff support if you hit a snag or need some encouragement. We're here for you and want to make sure you succeed.

When and what types of classes are offered?
There are both in-person and online courses. In-person classes are offered both day and evenings. Most of the courses also have "hands-on" labs.

How much experience or education do I need to start a degree or certificate?
Classes begin at the introductory level and continue to the more advanced levels.

Want to know more?
Visit www.lomependos.edu/computerscience, or contact Department Chair Clayton Smith at csmith@losmedanos.edu or 925-473-7792.

Want to become an LMC student?
Visit www.lomependos.edu/registration to apply and more.

Consult with a Los Medanos College counselor to develop your education plan.

Sonia Vijd
- Computer Science student

"The Computer Security and Networking program is providing me with the skills and in-depth knowledge of troubleshooting & fixing networking issues. The program's instructors are very helpful and make sure that I thoroughly understand the subject. LMC's computer lab staff has provided me with wonderful support. I plan to earn an Associate of Science in Networking and Security in fall 2015. This degree will allow me to obtain a position as a "help desk technician" where I would support various computer users throughout a company."
The Curriculum
This list is provided as a sample guide showing what a full-time student's schedule may look like. There is no guarantee that all classes will be offered each semester or that space will be available.

Certificate of Achievement (Basic)
Required courses
- COMSC-010 Introduction to Computer Networking . (2 units)
- COMSC-011 Intro to Networking Operating Systems . (2 units)
- COMSC-012 Intro to Network Security . (2 units)
- COMSC-040 Intro to Computers . (4 units)
- COMSC-080 Survey of Operating Systems . (3 units)
- COMSC-120 Intro to Computer Forensics . (3 units)

TOTAL UNITS FOR THIS CERTIFICATE 16

Certificate of Achievement (Advanced)
First Semester (15-16 units)
- COMSC-019 Introduction to Computer Networking . (2 units)
- COMSC-037 Help Desk-Customer Technical Support . (3 units)
- COMSC-040 Intro to Computers . (4 units)

Second Semester (16 units)
- COMSC-011 Intro to Networking Operating Systems . (2 units)
- COMSC-012 Intro to Network Security . (2 units)
- COMSC-041 Programming with VB.NET . (3 units)
- COMSC-120 Intro to Computer Forensics . (3 units)

Third Semester (12 units)
- COMSC-044 C++, Part I . (3 units)
- COMSC-080 Survey of Operating Systems . (3 units)
- COMSC-121 Comp Forensics Investigations & Analysis . (3 units)
- COMSC-123 Introduction to Computer Ethics . (3 units)

TOTAL UNITS FOR THIS CERTIFICATE 31-32

Networking and Security
Everywhere around us, the security of our computer resources is of great concern. Be a part of the solution! LMC's Computer Science Department offers a number of options to help you prepare for a career in this dynamic, high-demand industry in the Bay Area. In addition to developing your technical skills, our programs provide you with new job skills, better career choices and better wages.

Careers in Networking & Security
The Networking and Security Basic and Advanced Certificate of Achievement programs will prepare students for jobs in computer forensics and/or networking. These jobs require excellent technical skills and the ability to investigate and solve problems or crimes. Most organizations require network specialists. Given the rise in computer crimes, viruses, and computer hacking, the need for computer forensics professionals has increased in the government and in the private sector. Possible careers include network and security support, security specialist, network administrator, and software quality assurance tester. The Associate of Science Degree in Networking and Security develops your technical skills while enhancing your professional skill to increase your career opportunities and potential to advance to higher level positions.

Networking & Security Salary Averages in California:
- Network and Computer Systems Administrator: $24.44-$58.13/hour
- Information Security Analysis: $30.31-$67.78/hour

Information gathered from onetonline.org, which is sponsored by the Department of Labor, 2014

Certificate of Achievement
The Certificate of Achievement (Basic) requires completion of 16 units of coursework listed to the left.

The Certificate of Achievement (Advanced) requires completion of 31-32 units of coursework listed to the left.

Associate of Science
The Associate of Science in Networking and Security (AS) requires a minimum total of 60 degree-applicable units. This includes completion of 31-32 major units (see left list) as well as 18-19 General Education (GE) units, and 9-11 degree-applicable elective units. To complete the AS degree, consult the LMC Catalog for General Education Requirements and elective options, www.losmedanos.edu/catalog.