**Edward Jackson**

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**Generalist - but with security courses**

I honestly won't be using the portfolio (not for my career anyways), but that is only because I maintain a well-kept website (it can be access from this [link](http://eddiejackson.net/)). However, for those that do not have a website, a portfolio is a must. Employers like to see what a student or professional is capable of. This includes writing, critical thinking, managing IT projects, using common software applications, and troubleshooting skills. All of these things can be proven with a portfolio. I honestly did not undertake the master's program for career reasons, but for personal reasons. But, towards the end the degree, I have been contemplating teaching; becoming at least a part-time professor. I'm thinking about pursuing a doctorates degree next year.

When it comes to degree selection, I chose "generalist," though I have taken mostly security-related classes; pretty interesting how that worked out. I selected generalist because I like being a well-rounded person, this includes in IT as well. Although I already have a career, and tons of experience, this degree has further deepened my understanding of IT; and, as a generalist, I plan on integrating what I have learned at all levels of my job---even though I did not seek out this program for career reason, it has definitely impacted my job in a positive way. Who knows, I could be teaching in a few years as well.