

IT SECURITY IN BANKING & FINANCE

“Delivering IT Projects Successfully Through Structured Planning, Control, and Leadership”

Schedule

Date	Venue	Fees (Face-to-Face)
08 - 12 Feb 2026	Manama, Bahrain	USD 3495 per delegate

Introduction

As financial services digitize rapidly, the sector faces heightened exposure to cyber threats and regulatory scrutiny. Cyberattacks on banking systems not only threaten financial loss but also undermine trust, compliance, and operational continuity. IT security is no longer just a technical concern—it is a critical strategic priority.

This intensive five-day course equips IT, cybersecurity, and compliance professionals in the financial sector with the skills and knowledge needed to protect core banking systems, digital channels, customer data, and operational infrastructure. Participants will explore threat landscapes, defense strategies, risk management frameworks, and regulatory standards relevant to banking and finance.

Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand cybersecurity risks and threat vectors specific to banking environments
- Implement technical, operational, and administrative controls for secure banking systems
- Manage IT security governance in line with international standards and frameworks (ISO 27001, NIST)
- Design incident response, recovery, and continuity protocols for financial institutions
- Navigate regulatory requirements including GDPR, PCI DSS, and regional data protection laws

Why Attend

- Learn how to defend digital banking infrastructure against emerging cyber threats
- Develop a structured approach to IT risk identification, assessment, and mitigation
- Improve organizational resilience and response capability in case of attacks
- Align cybersecurity efforts with compliance mandates and customer trust requirements
- Enhance your leadership role in driving secure digital transformation initiatives

Target Audience

This program is designed for:

- IT and cybersecurity managers in financial institutions
- Risk and compliance officers in banking environments
- Information security auditors and system administrators
- Digital banking transformation leaders
- Professionals responsible for regulatory compliance and business continuity

Individual Benefits

Key competencies that will be developed include:

- Risk-based cybersecurity planning
- Implementation of layered defense strategies
- IT governance and compliance integration
- Incident detection and response capabilities
- Familiarity with banking-focused cybersecurity regulations

Organizational Benefits

Upon completing the training course, participants will demonstrate:

- Improved cybersecurity posture and incident preparedness
- Reduced operational and financial risk from cyberattacks
- Increased confidence from regulators, partners, and customers
- Streamlined compliance with financial security standards
- Alignment between business goals and IT security investments

Instructional Methodology

The course follows a blended learning approach combining theory with practice:

- Strategy Briefings - Security concepts, frameworks, and risk mitigation for banking systems
- Case Studies - Analysis of real-world breaches in financial institutions
- Workshops - Threat identification, vulnerability assessment, and control implementation
- Peer Exchange - Discussions on regulatory practices and incident response plans
- Tools - Templates for risk registers, compliance checklists, and incident reports

MAWA EVENTS

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Course Outline

Detailed 5-Day Course Outline

Training Hours: 07:30 AM – 3:30 PM **Daily Format:** 3–4 Learning Modules | Coffee breaks: 09:30 & 11:15 | Lunch Buffet: 01:00 – 02:00

Day 1: Banking Threat Landscape and Security Foundations

- Module 1: Introduction to IT Security in Banking (07:30 – 09:30) • Unique risks in financial systems • Cybercrime trends targeting banks and fintechs • Key security principles (confidentiality, integrity, availability)
- Module 2: Cyber Threat Vectors in Finance (09:45 – 11:15) • Insider threats, phishing, malware, and APTs • Digital banking channels: web, mobile, APIs • Third-party and supply chain risks
- Module 3: Case Study – High-Impact Banking Breach (11:30 – 01:00) • Analyze real incident causes and response failures
- Module 4: Workshop – Threat Mapping Exercise (02:00 – 03:30) • Map vulnerabilities across a banking IT environment

Day 2: Technical and Administrative Security Controls

- Module 1: Network and Endpoint Protection (07:30 – 09:30) • Firewalls, IDS/IPS, endpoint detection & response • Segmentation and monitoring strategies
- Module 2: Access Management and Identity Security (09:45 – 11:15) • Role-based access, MFA, and identity governance • Securing privileged user access and sessions
- Module 3: Data Protection and Encryption (11:30 – 01:00) • Protecting financial and personal data • Data classification, masking, and key management
- Module 4: Workshop – Security Architecture Review (02:00 – 03:30) • Evaluate and improve a sample bank's security posture

Day 3: Risk Management and Regulatory Compliance

- Module 1: IT Risk Management Frameworks (07:30 – 09:30) • ISO 27001, NIST, FFIEC Cybersecurity Assessment Tool • Risk identification, assessment, and treatment plans
- Module 2: Security Policies and Governance (09:45 – 11:15) • Developing policies for acceptable use, access, and data handling • Creating accountability and escalation structures
- Module 3: Financial Sector Regulations and Standards (11:30 – 01:00) • Overview: GDPR, PCI DSS, SWIFT CSP, Basel III (cyber relevance) • Audit readiness and compliance documentation
- Module 4: Workshop – Policy Gap Assessment (02:00 – 03:30) • Evaluate an IT policy framework for regulatory gaps

Day 4: Incident Response and Business Continuity

- Module 1: Cybersecurity Incident Response (07:30 – 09:30) • Detection, containment, recovery, and communication • Building an effective incident response team
- Module 2: Forensics and Post-Incident Review (09:45 – 11:15) • Chain of custody, investigation tools, and lessons learned • Reporting to regulators and affected parties
- Module 3: Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery (11:30 – 01:00) • Planning for downtime, failovers, and data recovery • Integrating security with continuity plans
- Module 4: Workshop – Simulated Incident Response Drill (02:00 – 03:30) • Team-based response to a cyberattack scenario

Day 5: Security Metrics, Culture, and Future Trends

- Module 1: Metrics and Continuous Monitoring (07:30 – 09:30) • Key risk indicators (KRIs) and performance metrics • Security dashboards and reporting frameworks
- Module 2: Building a Security-Aware Culture (09:45 – 11:15) • Staff awareness, phishing training, gamification • Managing human error and insider risks
- Module 3: Trends in Financial Cybersecurity (11:30 – 01:00) • AI-driven fraud detection, blockchain, secure DevOps • Cybersecurity in open banking and digital identity

- Module 4: Certification and Wrap-Up (02:00 – 03:30) • Final review, participant Q&A, action planning • Certificate distribution and group photo

Certification

Participants will receive a Certificate of Completion in IT Security in Banking & Finance, validating their expertise in securing digital financial systems, managing cyber risks, and ensuring compliance within the highly regulated financial sector.

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