Founded in 1946, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC) is a research intensive university in Charlotte, NC. UNCC offers 92 Bachelor’s, 59 Master’s, and 19 Doctoral degree programs to over 25,000 students.  

The College of Computing and Informatics, one of seven colleges at UNCC, includes the Computer Science, Software and Information Systems, and Bioinformatics and Genomics departments. The Software and Information Systems Department is responsible for information technology (IT) research and education, emphasizing designing and deploying IT infrastructures that deliver integrated, secure, reliable, and easy-to-use services. The National Security Agency recognizes the department’s Information Security and Privacy program as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education. Students earn a certificate from the Information Security and Privacy program that requires 12 hours of course work in one of the following topics—

- Information Security and Privacy
- Vulnerability Assessment and System Assurance
- Computer Forensics
- Access Control and Security Architecture
- Information Infrastructure Protection
- Applied Cryptography

Through the Federal Cyber Corps Scholarship for Service, UNCC also offers the Carolina Cyber Defender Scholarship Program, which provides up to 2 years tuition, fees, books, and salary for students seeking a degree in information assurance. The scholarship is in exchange for a match of 1-to-1 years of employment in an information assurance position at a government agency or laboratory after graduation. Since 2001, the Carolina Cyber Defender Scholarship Program has provided approximately 100 full scholarships.

The Software and Information Systems Department also houses the Cyber Defense and Network Assurability (CyberDNA) Center. “The CyberDNA offers a unique environment to facilitate joint research and development programs (consortia, seminars, and workshops) with the industry, financial institutions, utility service providers, and government agencies. The main objective of CyberDNA is to enable assurable and usable security and privacy for a smart, open society by making cyber defense provable, enforceable, measurable, and automated. CyberDNA has a unique vision and approach among other national centers including promoting automated analytics and synthesis of designing, configuration, and evaluation of mission-oriented security systems; offering leap-ahead research by integrating multidisciplinary research from security, networking, reliability, risk management, economical, behavioral, and physical world communities; and developing deployable tools to facilitate technology transfer and workforce education and preparation.” CyberDNA is led by Dr. Ehab Al-Shaer and includes faculty from different colleges and external collaborators who cover a wide range of security expertise.

References
1. http://publicrelations.uncc.edu/information-media-kit
4. http://www.arc.uncc.edu/