Step 1: log in to the Cyber Range

Open a Chrome browser – not all browsers work but Chrome seems to always work

In the address bar type:
    sandbox02.cech.uc.edu/vcac
and hit the return key

The page shown to the right is displayed

Type the user name and password you use for logging into UC sites, as shown for the example ‘franco’, and click ‘Sign In’
Step 2: Switch to the Deployments Screen

This is the screen you get if you are logged in – choose Deployments (circled in red)
Step 3: Choose the Cyber Defense Exercise Deployment

At least one deployment shows up: choose the Cyber Defense Exercise (circled in red)

Note: there are two resources – one is the contest OS and the other is a Kali OS
Step 4: Open (in this case) FrancoCDX Component

Click the top ...CDX00... component (circled in red) to enable a menu.

Note there are two resources, contest OS and Kali, but the order is not certain.
In this example the top resource is Kali and the bottom resource is the contest OS.
Step 5: Open the ...CDX... menu
Click the gear icon that has materialized (circled in red) to show the menu
Step 6: Connect to the Kali OS

Click ‘connect to remote console’ (circled in red) to bring up Kali – if you get a blocked popup warning change settings to allow popups – do not forget to change back after the session.
Step 7: Kali login screen
The password is kali
Step 8: Kali desktop
You know what to do
Step 9: Return to the deployments section and this time choose the OS.

Click the bottom ...CDX00... component (circled in red) to enable a menu.

Note there are two resources, contest OS and Kali, but the order is not certain.

In this example the top resource is Kali and the bottom resource is the contest OS.
Step 10: Click the gear
Click the gear icon that has materialized (circled in red) to show the menu
Step 11: Connect to the OS

Click ‘connect to remote console’ (circled in red) to bring up the OS – if you get a blocked popup warning change settings to allow popups – do not forget to change back after the session.
Step 12: Contest OS desktop
The username is student, the password is student, the machine name is cyber-box
Step 13: Important

Please note that it may be possible that the secure shell server (sshd) is running. Please check if it is using ‘nmap localhost’.

If it is running immediately stop it with ‘sudo service ssh stop’.

Then, with a stopped secure shell server change your password.

At this point the secure shell server can be restarted with ‘sudo service ssh start’.

The reason for this is that everyone is issued a VM with username = student and password = student so if you fail to change your password before starting sshd, you will soon have company and maybe your guest will change your password for you in which case you will not be able to log in.

Note: you may create a new account and delete the ‘student’ account but that will be tricky for someone who is not well acquainted with Linux as the new account will have to be set up to be the admin account – it takes just one thing to go wrong and you are dead.