American Public University System
The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School of Security and Global Studies
HLSS508
Privacy and Civil Liberties in Homeland Security
Credit Hours: 3
Length of Course: 8 Weeks
Prerequisite: NONE

Course Description (Catalog)

This course offers an examination of the challenges associated with balancing civil liberties and securing the homeland. Students will examine critical infrastructure protection, the use of technology, and the need to carry out intelligence gathering in secrecy around the context of civil liberties and civil rights. Recommendations to improve existing homeland security programs and their overall effectiveness to meet emergent future challenges while balancing civil liberties will be discussed.

Course Scope

As part of the core requirement, this course introduces the student to critical elements of the discipline. Students will participate in weekly Discussion Forums that correlate to weekly readings. Students will write an analytical research paper and will write a comprehensive final assignment.

Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

CO-1: Differentiate between civil rights and civil liberties.
CO-2: Assess the challenges of balancing civil liberties and security.
CO-3: Evaluate the impact of security laws, programs, and activities on civil liberties within the United States.
CO-4: Analyze safeguards in place to protect civil rights and civil liberties.
CO-5: Critique the homeland security enterprise's capability to meet emergent future challenges while balancing civil liberties.

Course Delivery Method

This course, delivered via distance learning, will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course resources

and access to an online learning management system will be available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET and include all written assignments, examinations, and research papers submitted for grading. Weekly Forum questions (accomplished in groups in a Forum) require an initial response by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET, with all other required responses due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET. The assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

Course Resources

There is not an assigned text for this course. The readings consist of selected e-book chapters and journal articles. See Selected Bibliography at the end of the syllabus for Weekly Readings.

Please visit http://apus.libguides.com/er.php and search by the course number (ex: HLSS508) to access your required resources.

Evaluation Procedures

Forum discussions – 20 percent

Each week, a discussion question is provided and posts should reflect an assimilation of the readings. Students are required to provide a substantive initial post by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET and respond to two or more classmates by Sunday 11:55 pm ET. Forum posts are graded on timeliness, relevance, knowledge of the weekly readings, and the quality of original ideas.

Research Question and Literature Review – 25 percent
The components of this assignment include a research question, a purpose statement, and a literature view of at least 10 sources, two of which must be peer-reviewed. The specific research question should relate to a general topic in the course. 5-9 pages.

Research Paper – 25 percent
Adding to the 5-9 Research Question and Literature Review assignment, the research paper should be at least 3-8 additional pages of analysis of your topic, not including the cover page, the reference list, and any appendices.

Final Assignment – 30 percent
This assignment is a take-home essay assignment of four questions, 2-3 pages each, to test knowledge and assimilation of the course objectives. The exclusive use of required texts and readings from this course is mandatory.

Grade Instruments	Percentage
Forum Discussions (8)	20
Research Question	25
Research Paper	25
Final Assignment	30
Total	100

8 – Week Course Outline

Week	Topic(s)	Course Obj(s)	Assignment(s)
1	Constitutional Impact on Homeland Security	1, 2	Intro Forum Week 1 Forum
2	Emergency Management and Response	2, 3	Week 2 Forum
3	Critical Infrastructure Protection	2, 3, 4	Week 3 Forum Research Question and Literature Review
4	Transportation Security	2, 3, 4	Week 4 Forum
5	Immigration & Border Security	2, 3, 4	Week 5 Forum
6	Intelligence Collection & Civil Liberties	2, 3, 4, 5	Week 6 Forum Research Paper
7	Terrorism and Detention of Suspected Terrorists	2, 3, 4, 5	Week 7 Forum
8	Cyber Security and Technology	2, 3, 4, 5	Week 8 Forum Final Assignment

Policies

Please see the Student Handbook to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

Drop/Withdrawal Policy
Plagiarism Policy
Extension Process and Policy
Disability Accommodations

Citation and Reference Style

Attention Please: Students will follow the APA Style as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework for this course.

See https://www.apus.edu/apus-library/resources-services/Writing/writing-center/apa-style-guide-info.html

Late Assignments

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and "flaming." Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper "Netiquette" must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.

- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and <u>especially</u> satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add "emoticons" to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to **librarian@apus.edu**.

- *Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:* The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- *Electronic Books:* You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- *Electronic Journals:* The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- *Tutor.***com**: AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutor.com connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

Request a Library Guide for your course (http://apus.libguides.com/index.php)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.

- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOCI111), or class name.

If a guide you need is not available yet, please email the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu.

Selected Bibliography

Symposium: Academic Freedom and Political Correctness in Wartime

News Coverage of Patriot Act Focuses on Individual Liberty

Crisis Bureaucracy: Homeland Security and the Political Design of Legal Mandates

National Security Federalism in the Age of Terror

Balancing Civil Liberties against National Security? A Critique of Counterterrorism Rhetoric

The Center for Disease Control's Public Health Response to the threat of bioterrorism

Biological Warfare and Bioterrorism: A Historical Review

Defending Civil Liberties at the Border

Border Security Technologies

Privacy at Borders and Checkpoints

Immigration, Civil Liberties, and National/Homeland Security

Lobbying for Migration Policies in the Area of Liberty, Security and Justice