American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School of Security and Global Studies
HLSS 302
Introduction to Homeland Security and Defense
Credit Hours: 3
Length of Course: 8 Weeks
Prerequisite: COLL100

Course Description (Catalog)

This course offers a broad overview of the key operational and policy areas the United States government employs to best ensure the security of the nation. Students will explore and discover central themes that frame the government’s homeland security operations which emerged after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Course Scope

As a 300-level course, this course provides a higher level of knowledge building on the material taught at the 100 and 200 levels. The purpose and scope of this course is to enable the student to build a deeper understanding of the discipline.

Course Objectives

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

CO-1 – Describe homeland security as defined in the U.S. national security strategies and policies.
CO-2 – Assess U.S. critical infrastructure protection programs.
CO-3 – Examine risk management in homeland security operations.
CO-4 – Examine the capabilities and limitations of intelligence to support homeland security efforts.
CO-5 – Critique the homeland security system’s capability to meet forecast and emergent future challenges.

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.

Please visit [http://apus.libguides.com/er.php](http://apus.libguides.com/er.php) and search by the course number (ex: HLSS302) to access your required resources.

Weekly Lesson Notes and videos or audio files are found in the "Lessons" area of the classroom.

**Evaluation Procedures**

**Forum discussions – 25 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 (2) 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.

**Midterm assignment - 30 percent**

This assignment is a take-home essay assignment of two (2) questions, to test knowledge and assimilation of the course objectives. The exclusive use of required texts and readings from this course is mandatory.

**Progress assignment - 15 percent**

Specialized Exercise. Four- five (4-5) pages including research and analysis.

**Final assignment – 30 percent**
STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

This assignment is a take-home essay assignment of two (2) questions, to test knowledge and assimilation of the course objectives. The exclusive use of required texts and readings from this course is mandatory.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Instruments</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forum Discussions (8)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Assignment</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress Assignment</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Assignment</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8 – Week Course Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic(s)</th>
<th>Course Objective(s)</th>
<th>Reading(s)</th>
<th>Assignment(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | Introduction to HLS/HLSD       | CO-1                | U.S. Department of Homeland Security - *Quadrennial homeland security review report: A strategic framework for a secure homeland. Chapters 1, 3 and Appendix A*  
Thomas Goss - “Who’s in Charge?” New challenges in homeland defense and homeland security”.  
**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Congressional Research Service - *Homeland Security: Roles and Missions for United States Northern Command*  
Timothy Lowenberg – “The role of the National Guard in homeland defense and homeland security”.
John Brinkerhoff – “The Posse Comitatus Act and homeland security”.
|      | **CO-1**                                                              | **Week Two Forum Discussion**                                          |
Pg. 8-11  
U. S. President - *National Strategy for Counterterrorism.*  
U. S. President - *National Security Strategy.*  
Pg 1-22, 51-52  
Pg 1-7, 10-11  
Pq 19-36  
Congressional Research Service - *Homeland Security: Roles and Missions for United States Northern Command*  
Timothy Lowenberg – “The role of the National Guard in homeland defense and homeland security”.
John Brinkerhoff – “The Posse Comitatus Act and homeland security”.
<p>|      | <strong>CO-1</strong>                                                              | <strong>Week Three Forum Discussion</strong>                                          |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Homeland security threats</strong></td>
<td><strong>CO-2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office of the Director of National Intelligence - <em>The National Intelligence Strategy of the United States.</em> Pages 3-4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John A. Lynn,II – “Fear and outrage as terrorists' goals”.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph Foxell – “How is the terrorist threat changing?”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Honorable Matthew G. Olsen, Director National Counterterrorism Center. <em>Understanding the Homeland Threat Landscape.</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Week Four Forum Discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>CO</th>
<th>References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
U. S. President - *The comprehensive national cybersecurity initiative*.  
*Pick two additional sector specific plans and review the Executive summary of those plans that provides an overview of that sectors profile and vulnerability reduction goals.* |
Benjamin H. Friedman – "Managing fear: The politics of homeland security". |
| 7    | Homeland  | CO-4 | Stephanie C. Blum - *The Department of Homeland* |

Week Five  
Forum Discussion  
Midterm Assignment

Week Six  
Forum Discussion  
Progress Assignment

Week Seven  
Forum
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office of the Director of National Intelligence - <em>U.S. national intelligence: An overview-2011. Pg 7-10</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Office of Intelligence and Analysis - <em>Office of Intelligence and Analysis Strategic Plan: Fiscal Year 2011 – Fiscal Year 2018. Pg. 4-7</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jerry H. Ratcliff – “Intelligence-led policing”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Congressional Digest. 2004. “PATRIOT Act overview”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Congressional Research Service - <em>USA PATRIOT Act: Background and comparison of House and Senate-approved reauthorization and related legislative action.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Roger L. Kemp – “Homeland security in America: Past, present, and future”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Darrell M. West - <em>A vision for homeland security in the year</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.
STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

| 2025. |
| Highlights |

### 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 [http://www.apus.edu/content/dam/online-library/resources-services/Fuson_2012_APA.pdf](http://www.apus.edu/content/dam/online-library/resources-services/Fuson_2012_APA.pdf)

### 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 especially 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.
STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.


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


