American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School of Security and Global Studies
INTL402
Intelligence Analysis
Credit Hours: 3
Length of Course: 8 Weeks
Prerequisite: NONE

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Course Description (Catalog)

INTL402 Intelligence Analysis (3 hours)

This course builds upon the foundations of critical analysis taught in INTL 401, expanding the student's repertoire of analytical techniques. Students explore creative analysis techniques, including hypothesis generation, red-teaming, and adversarial collaboration. Students focus on intelligence as a service to decision makers, including principles of customer-focused writing and techniques for analytic problems designed to provide tactical, operational, or strategic support.
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Course Scope

As a 400-level course, this course provides a higher level of knowledge building on the material taught at the 300 level. The purpose and scope of this course is to enable the student to build a deeper understanding of the discipline.

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Course Objectives

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

CO-1: Apply Academic and Intelligence Research Processes.

CO-2: Explain Analysis of Competing Hypotheses.

CO-3: Examine Content Analysis, Comparative Analysis Procedures and Rational Choice Theory.

CO-4: Assess Predictive Analysis Procedures.

CO-5: Evaluate the analyst - policymaker relationship with a focus on the US National Intelligence Estimates.

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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
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other required responses due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET. The assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

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Course Resources

- **Required Course Textbook:** The **required** text for this course is


  Please visit [http://apus.libguides.com/er.php](http://apus.libguides.com/er.php) and search by the course number (ex: LITR210) to access your required resources.

- **External websites and other assigned reading found in the Lessons area of the classroom.**

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

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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 2 or more classmates’ original posts by Sunday 11:55 pm ET. Forum posts are graded on timeliness, relevance, knowledge of the weekly readings, and the quality of original ideas.

**Progress assignments** – Specific instructions for the 3 progress assignments can be found in the Assignments tab of the classroom.

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### Week 1: Intelligence Research Methods

**Learning Outcomes:**
CO-1: Apply academic and intelligence research process

**Assignments:** Complete all required forums

**Required Readings:**


Research Methods in Intelligence Studies (Word document).

Turabian Quick Guide (Word document).

### Week 2: Analysis of Competing Hypotheses

**Learning Outcomes:**
CO-2: Explain analysis of competing hypotheses

**Assignments:** Complete all required forums and progress assignment #1

**Required Readings:**

Analysis of Competing Hypotheses (Word document).

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**Week 3: Content Analysis**

**Learning Outcomes:**
CO-3: Examine content analysis, comparative analysis procedures and rational choice theory

**Assignments:** Complete all required forums

**Required Readings:**


**Week 4: Comparative Analysis**

**Learning Outcomes:**
CO-3: Examine content analysis, comparative analysis procedures and rational choice theory

**Assignments:** Complete all required forums

**Required Readings:**
Week 5: Rational Choice Analysis

Learning Outcomes:
CO-3: Examine content analysis, comparative analysis procedures and rational choice theory

Assignments: Complete all required forums and progress assignment #2

Required Readings:


Week 6: Predictive Analysis

Learning Outcomes:
CO-4: Assess predictive analysis procedures

Assignments: Complete all required forums

Required Readings:

Week 7: Analyst-Policymaker Relations

Learning Outcomes:
CO-5: Evaluate the analyst-policymaker relationship with a focus on US National Intelligence Estimates (NIE)

Assignments: Complete all required forums

Required Readings:


_____. 2013. "Sherman Kent’s Final Thoughts on Analyst-Policymaker Relations." Sherman Kent Center for Intelligence Analysis Occasional Papers: 2, no. 3.
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Week 8: Comparative Analysis

Learning Outcomes:
CO-5: Evaluate the analyst-policymaker relationship with a focus on US National Intelligence Estimates (NIE)

Assignments: Complete all required forums and progress assignment #3

Required Readings:


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Policies
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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 Turabian/Chicago Style as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University.

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.

Deductions:
- Late forum posts can be penalized up to 5 points per day
- Late assignments can be penalized up to 5 points per day

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:** Tutor.com offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours* of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Visit the APUS library for more information.

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

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