



Best Practices & Special Issues in Homeland Security

MSA 575

Southwestern College Professional Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. Course Catalog Description

Learners in this course will examine the current ability of national, state, and local agencies to respond to terrorism. Lessons learned and best practices from past emergencies and terrorist events are reviewed to identify preparedness and mitigation methods. Individual and local government preparedness, response, and practices are covered.

II. Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials

All required and supplementary materials are included in the course.

III. Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes describe the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that learners gain as the result of a particular learning experience. Southwestern College Professional Studies has learning outcomes specific to each course and each [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) program of study, as well as [institution-wide outcomes](#) related to the mission and vision of the college. Outcomes can help learners and instructors focus on the big picture of the learning experience and can help inform potential employers about a graduate's knowledge and skills.

Upon successfully completing this course, the learner will be able to:

1. Describe various government best practices in homeland security.
2. Explain the role of mitigation in homeland security.
3. Develop a community preparedness plan.
4. Formulate and discuss a local government response plan.
5. Develop a community recovery plan.
6. Assess the future of homeland security as it relates to local and county government.

At the end of the course, learners may vary in their ability to achieve these outcomes. You are more likely to achieve these outcomes only if you attend class and/or online activities as required by the syllabus, complete the requirements for all assignments to the best of your ability, participate actively in class activities and group work as directed, and study diligently for exams.

IV. Course Policies

Students are expected to read and abide by the course policies located in the instructor-specific syllabus in the blackboard course.

V. Course Requirements:

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Discussions	6	450	45%
CRP Framework Peer Evaluations	1	125	12.5%
Community Response Plan Framework	1	150	15%
Critical Analysis Research Paper	1	275	27.5%
Total Points		1000	100%

VI. Course at a Glance:

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in the Introductions discussion • Read the Congressional Research Service's Federal Emergency Management: A Brief Introduction • View Homeland Security at the State Level, Lessons Learned • View The Building of the Homeland Security Enterprise • Read Changing Homeland Security: What is Homeland Security? • Read EMS and Homeland Security • Read Homeland Security in Real-Time: The Power of the Public and Mobile Technology • Attend the Course Introduction Collaborate Session [time/date TBA] 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1 Discussion
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read National Mitigation Framework • Read Community Response to the Threat of Terrorism • Read Standing Together: An Emergency Planning Guide for America's Communities • Read FEMA: Local Mitigation Plan Statement of Work • Read the Community Response Plan Assignment (CRP) and the Critical Analysis Research Paper Assignment • Attend the CRP & Research Paper Collaborate Session [time/date TBA] • Submit your proposed Critical Analysis Research Paper topic <p><i>Suggested</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Integration of Social Determinants of Community Preparedness and Resiliency in 21st Century Emergency Management Planning • Read How to Quantify Deterrence and Reduce Critical Infrastructure Risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 2 Discussion

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read FEMA: Whole Community Approach to Emergency Management: Principles, Themes, and Pathways for Action • Read Public-Private Partnerships in Homeland Security: Opportunities and Challenges • Read Building Resilient Communities: A Preliminary Framework for Assessment • Read Hurricane Katrina as a Predictable Surprise • Draft your CRP • Begin working on your Critical Analysis Research Paper <p><i>Suggested</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Protecting Our Critical Infrastructure: The Role of Community Volunteers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 3 Discussion • CRP Framework Peer Evaluations
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read FEMA: National Response Framework • Read Federalism, Homeland Security and National Preparedness: A Case Study in the Development of Public Policy (• Read Emergency Management Response to Hurricane Katrina: As Told by the First Responders— A Case Study of What Went Wrong and Recommendations for the Future • Read Lessons Learned from the Boston Marathon Bombings: Preparing For and Responding to the Attack - HEARING BEFORE THECOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS UNITED STATES SENATE -2013 • Revise your CRP • Continue working on your Critical Analysis Research Paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 4 Discussion • Community Response Plan
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read FEMA: National Disaster Recovery Framework • Read Lessons We Don't Learn: A Study of the Lessons of Disasters, Why We Repeat Them, and How We Can Learn Them • Continue working on your Critical Analysis Research Paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 5 Discussion

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View C-Span Video: Security vs. Privacy • Read Security vs. Privacy • Read Electronic Privacy Information Center • Read CRS Report for Congress: The Domestic Terrorist Threat: Background and Issues for Congress • Read Social Media in Emergency Management: A Quick Look • Complete your Critical Analysis Research Paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 6 Discussion • Critical Analysis Research Paper

VII. Other Policies and Requirements

Follow this link to the Southwestern College Professional Studies [Standard Syllabus](#) in Blackboard. You may be required to log in.