



Course Syllabus

Course Description

Evaluates the development of American homeland security from various perspectives to include historic, current, legal basis, organizational development, and best practices.

Course Textbook(s)

Alperen, M. J.(2017). *Foundations of homeland security: Law and policy* (2nd ed.). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Additional Required Course Material(s)

See each Unit Study Guide for additional required course material(s).

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Discuss factors that led to the resurgence of terrorism in the United States.
2. Evaluate the United States government's role in homeland security programs.
3. Examine the motivations of terrorist group activities against Americans.
4. Contrast the strengths and weaknesses of American homeland security's counterterrorism policies.
5. Critique the United States' ability to respond to the aftermath of terrorism.
6. Evaluate how terrorism impacts world trends.
7. Determine tactical response options to terrorism based on available resources and jurisdictional procedures.
8. Develop a homeland security strategy to counterterrorism.

Prerequisite(s)

No prerequisite courses are required by CSU for enrollment in this course.

Credits

Upon completion of this course, the students will earn 3 hours of college credit.

Course Structure

1. **Study Guide:** Course units contain a Study Guide that provides students with the learning outcomes, unit lesson, required reading assignments, and supplemental resources.
2. **Learning Outcomes:** Each unit contains Learning Outcomes that specify the measurable skills and knowledge students should gain upon completion of the unit.
3. **Unit Lesson:** Unit Lessons, which are located in the Study Guide, discuss lesson material.
4. **Reading Assignments:** Units contain Reading Assignments from one or more chapters from the textbook and/or outside resources.
5. **Suggested Reading:** Suggested Readings are listed within the Study Guide. Students are encouraged to read the resources listed if the opportunity arises, but they will not be tested on their knowledge of the Suggested Readings.
6. **Discussion Boards:** Students are required to submit Discussion Board posts in Units I-VIII. Discussion Boards

provide students the opportunity for student-to-student and professor-to-student interaction based on relevant course concepts and ideas. Specific information about accessing the Discussion Board rubric is provided below.

7. **Unit Assignments:** Students are required to submit for grading Unit Assignments. Specific information and instructions regarding these assignments are provided below. Grading rubrics are included with each assignment. Specific information about accessing these rubrics is provided below.
8. **Ask the Professor:** This communication forum provides students with an opportunity to ask their professor general questions or questions related to course content.
9. **Student Break Room:** This communication forum allows for casual conversation with other classmates.

CSU Online Library

The CSU Online Library is available to support your courses and programs. The online library includes databases, journals, e-books, and research guides. These resources are always accessible and can be reached through the library web page. To access the library, log into the myCSU Student Portal, and click on "CSU Online Library." You can also access the CSU Online Library from the "My Library" button on the course menu for each course in Blackboard.

The CSU Online Library offers several reference services. E-mail (library@columbiasouthern.edu) and telephone (1.877.268.8046) assistance is available Monday – Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The library's chat reference service, *Ask a Librarian*, is available 24/7; look for the chat box on the online library page.

Librarians can help you develop your research plan or assist you in finding relevant, appropriate, and timely information. Reference requests can include customized keyword search strategies, links to articles, database help, and other services.

Unit Assignments

Unit I Essay

Prior to completing this assignment, make certain to read the Unit I Lesson and the required readings for this unit. You will then write an essay that should discuss the following items:

- the roles social media and the Internet play in helping to increase the terror threat within the United States;
- how previous domestic terror attacks including the attacks at the World Trade Center in 1993, Oklahoma City in 1995, the Khobar Towers in 1996, the *USS Cole*, and the attacks of September 11, 2001, could lead to future terrorist attacks;
- the effect that homeland security and intelligence efforts have had on terrorism since the events of September 11, 2001;
- future trends and patterns that may help shape homeland security programs going forward; and
- the roles of U.S. government agencies and corresponding policies and legislation in driving contemporary American homeland security.

Your paper must be at least three pages in length. Use at least one additional outside source to support your position. All sources used, including the article, must be referenced. Paraphrased and/or quoted materials must have accompanying in-text citations and references in APA style.

Information about accessing the grading rubric for this assignment is provided below.

Unit II Research Paper Topic

Your final course project will be a research paper in which you determine your own tactical response to terrorism at a specific level of government (local, state, tribal, or federal).

The research paper will consist of the following six sections:

- I. introduction of your topic that will be a homeland security program chosen by you at either the local, state, tribal, or federal levels;
- II. U.S. government's role in homeland security programs at the specific level chosen;
- III. motivation of terrorist group activities against Americans;
- IV. strengths and weaknesses of American homeland security's counterterrorism policies at the chosen level;
- V. tactical response options to terrorism at the chosen level using available resources and jurisdictional procedures; and
- VI. conclusion of your paper.

The final project will be constructed in stages. The first stage will be in this unit, the second in Unit III, the third in Unit IV, and the final in Unit VIII. When you reach the final stage in Unit VIII, be sure that you have incorporated any feedback that you have received from your professor in the previous units. This will help to ensure a higher grade on the finished project that you submit in Unit VIII.

For the first stage of this culminating project, you will need to select a specific homeland security program that you wish your research paper to focus on at either the local, state, tribal, or federal (U.S. military) level and compose a research topic based on that program and the U.S. government's role in that program.

Your research topic will consist of the following components:

- a description of terrorism response operations at the local, state, tribal, and federal levels; and
- a description of the homeland security program you chose, its level, and the U.S. government's role in the program.

This assignment should consist of at least two pages and utilize at least two references from the CSU Online Library.

Please be sure to cite and reference your sources using proper APA style.

Information about accessing the grading rubric for this assignment is provided below.

Unit III Annotated Bibliography

For the second stage of your research project, you will write an annotated bibliography that includes at least four scholarly sources that will aid you in your research of your proposed topic. The articles you choose should focus on the following topics:

- counterterrorism agencies at your chosen level of government and
- counterterrorism policies that have been developed since September 11, 2001, at your chosen level of government.

In the summaries that you create for each of your sources, you will identify the agency or agencies discussed in the source and the counterterrorism policy or policies that the agency or agencies follow. In addition, you will discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the policy or policies.

Keep in mind that your summaries should consist of at least 100 to 150 words. The entire assignment should consist of at least two pages. All sources should be cited and referenced properly using APA style.

Click [here](#) to access a presentation that may help as you prepare your annotated bibliography.

Information about accessing the grading rubric for this assignment is provided below.

Unit IV Research Paper Outline

In the third stage of your research paper, you will create an outline to demonstrate the structure of the paper and to ensure that you are on the right track with your research. Your outline should include the following information:

- your thesis statement,
- a listing of all six sections that are required to be covered in your paper along with a brief description of information you have discovered thus far regarding each section, and
- a rough draft of the conclusion of your paper.

Ensure your outline identifies any left-wing, right-wing, or special-interest terror groups that may be encountered at your chosen level of government. In addition, determine ways in which these groups can threaten homeland security at your chosen level.

Your outline must be at least two pages in length. All sources used, including the textbook, must be referenced. Paraphrased and/or quoted materials must have accompanying citations in APA style.

Click [here](#) for an example of this assignment from the CSU Writing Center.

Information about accessing the grading rubric for this assignment is provided below.

Unit V PowerPoint Presentation

You have been asked to present at an emergency management conference. The focus of your presentation will be on the following subjects:

- historical context of emergency management;
- how the National Response Plan, the National Response Framework, and the National Incident Management System all work together to ensure a proper response to disaster events and terrorist attacks; and
- an evaluation of the roles of nongovernmental entities, programs, and initiatives in responding to such events.

Your PowerPoint presentation should consist of at least 10 slides, not counting your title and reference slides. Be sure that all sources are cited and referenced properly using APA style.

This Writing Center document may be helpful to create your PowerPoint presentation and incorporate APA style. Click [here](#) to access the PDF document.

Information about accessing the grading rubric for this assignment is provided below.

Unit VI Essay

After reading the unit lesson and Chapters 3 and 4 of the RAND report found in the required reading for this unit, compose an essay that addresses the following items:

- the meaning of terrorism and how it can impact all aspects of society,
- the threat of international terrorist groups and the ramifications of this threat on future trends related to hard and soft targets, and
- the threat of domestic terrorism and homegrown extremism and the ramifications of this threat on future trends.

Your paper must be at least two pages in length. Use at least one outside source in addition to the RAND report to support your position. All sources used, including the article, must be referenced. Paraphrased and/or quoted materials must have

accompanying in-text citations and references in APA style.

Information about accessing the grading rubric for this assignment is provided below.

Unit VI Article Critique

After reading the Flynn article located in your required reading for this unit, you will create an article critique in which you will summarize the contents of the article and respond to the following questions:

- What is the author's main point?
- Who is the author's intended audience?
- Do the author's arguments support the main point?
- Why is it important to involve U.S. citizens in the development of a homeland security strategy for counterterrorism? How can the U.S. federal government encourage citizens to become a part of the homeland security strategy?

Within your article critique, you will also discuss the importance of considering intelligence; border, immigration, and customs enforcement; transportation security; and cybersecurity and critical infrastructure protection when developing a homeland security strategy for counterterrorism including how U.S. citizens could play a role in these specific areas.

Your article critique should consist of at least three pages and utilize APA style formatting. Please use at least one additional academic source in addition to the assigned article, and be sure that all citations and references utilize proper APA style.

Click [here](#) to access a tutorial developed by the CSU Writing Center, which provides tips on writing an article critique.

Information about accessing the grading rubric for this assignment is provided below.

Unit VIII Research Paper

In the fourth stage of your research paper, you will submit your final draft. Recall that your paper should consist of the following five sections:

Introduction of your topic that will be a homeland security program chosen by you at either the local, state, tribal, or federal levels:

- I. U.S. government's role in homeland security programs at the specific level chosen;
- II. motivation of terrorist group activities against Americans;
- III. strengths and weaknesses of American homeland security's counterterrorism policies at the chosen level;
- IV. tactical response options to terrorism at the chosen level using available resources and jurisdictional procedures; and
- V. conclusion of your paper.

When composing Section V of your paper, be sure to include the following information:

- the role of the National Response Framework and the National Incident Management System in the development of tactical response options to terrorism within a homeland security program at your chosen level,
- the resources available at your chosen jurisdictional level when determining tactical response options to terrorism, and
- how these resources can be used to form a homeland security strategy for your chosen jurisdictional level.

The research paper will need to be at least six pages in length, not counting the title and reference pages. Your paper must be in APA style format and include five scholarly references to support your position surrounding your topic, to answer your research questions, or to support your points about the need for further research on this topic.

Information about accessing the grading rubric for this assignment is provided below.

APA Guidelines

The application of the APA writing style shall be practical, functional, and appropriate to each academic level, with the primary purpose being the documentation (citation) of sources. CSU requires that students use APA style for certain papers and projects. Students should always carefully read and follow assignment directions and review the associated grading rubric when available. Students can find *The CSU Citation Guide* by clicking [here](#). This document includes examples and sample papers and provides information on how to contact the CSU Writing Center.

Grading Rubrics

This course utilizes analytic grading rubrics as tools for your professor in assigning grades for all learning activities. Each rubric serves as a guide that communicates the expectations of the learning activity and describes the criteria for each level of achievement. In addition, a rubric is a reference tool that lists evaluation criteria and can help you organize your efforts to meet the requirements of that learning activity. It is imperative for you to familiarize yourself with these rubrics because these are the primary tools your professor uses for assessing learning activities.

Rubric categories include (1) Discussion Board, (2) Assessment (Written Response), and (3) Assignment. However, it is possible that not all of the listed rubric types will be used in a single course (e.g., some courses may not have Assessments).

The Discussion Board rubric can be found within Unit I's Discussion Board submission instructions.

The Assessment (Written Response) rubric can be found embedded in a link within the directions for each Unit Assessment. However, these rubrics will only be used when written-response questions appear within the Assessment.

Each Assignment type (e.g., article critique, case study, research paper) will have its own rubric. The Assignment rubrics are built into Blackboard, allowing students to review them prior to beginning the Assignment and again once the Assignment has been scored. This rubric can be accessed via the Assignment link located within the unit where it is to be submitted. Students may also access the rubric through the course menu by selecting "Tools" and then "My Grades."

Again, it is vitally important for you to become familiar with these rubrics because their application to your Discussion Boards, Assessments, and Assignments is the method by which your instructor assigns all grades.

Communication Forums

These are non-graded discussion forums that allow you to communicate with your professor and other students. Participation in these discussion forums is encouraged but not required. You can access these forums with the buttons in the Course Menu.

[Click here for instructions on how to subscribe/unsubscribe and post to the Communication Forums.](#)

Ask the Professor

This communication forum provides you with an opportunity to ask your professor general or course content questions. Questions may focus on Blackboard locations of online course components, textbook or course content elaboration, additional guidance on assessment requirements, or general advice from other students.

Questions that are specific in nature, such as inquiries regarding assessment/assignment grades or personal accommodation requests, are NOT to be posted on this forum. If you have questions, comments, or concerns of a non-public nature, please feel free to e-mail your professor. Responses to your post will be addressed or e-mailed by the professor within 48 hours.

Before posting, please ensure that you have read all relevant course documentation, including the syllabus, assessment/assignment instructions, faculty feedback, and other important information.

Student Break Room

This communication forum allows for casual conversation with your classmates. Communication on this forum should always maintain a standard of appropriateness and respect for your fellow classmates. This forum should NOT be used to share assessment answers.

Schedule/Grading

The following pages contain a printable Course Schedule to assist you through this course. By following this schedule, you will be assured that you will complete the course within the time allotted.

Unit I	Introduction to Homeland Security in Post 9/11 America	[Weight: 13%]
Read/View:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit I Study Guide Chapter 1: Introduction-Overview-Background Reading Assignment (1 article): See Study Guide 	
Discuss:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit I Discussion Board 	2%
Submit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit I Essay 	11%

Unit II	Homeland Security and Terrorism Response	[Weight: 11%]
Read/View:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit II Study Guide Chapter 7: The Department of Homeland Security 	
Discuss:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit II Discussion Board 	2%
Submit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit II Research Paper Topic 	9%

Unit III	Domestic Counterterrorism Policy	[Weight: 11%]
Read/View:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit III Study Guide • Chapter 9: National Security Strategy of the United States of America, 2006, 2015 • Chapter 10: National Strategy for Homeland Security, October 2007 • Chapter 11: National Strategy for Combating Terrorism, 2006; National Strategy for Counterterrorism, 2011 • Reading Assignment (1 article): See Study Guide 	
Discuss:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit III Discussion Board 	2%
Submit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit III Annotated Bibliography 	9%

Unit IV	Domestic Terror in the United States	[Weight: 11%]
Read/View:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit IV Study Guide • Chapter 5: Extreme Right-Wing Ideologies, Conservative Secession, and Terrorism 	
Discuss:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit IV Discussion Board 	2%
Submit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit IV Research Paper Outline 	9%

Unit V	Emergency Management	[Weight: 12%]
Read/View:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit V Study Guide • Chapter 8: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) • Chapter 21: National Incident Management System (NIMS) and National Response Framework (NRF) • Chapter 22: Preparedness • Reading Assignment (1 article): See Study Guide 	
Discuss:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit V Discussion Board 	2%
Submit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit V PowerPoint Presentation 	10%

Unit VI	Terrorism	[Weight: 13%]
Read/View:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit VI Study Guide • Reading Assignment (1 article): See Study Guide 	
Discuss:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit VI Discussion Board 	2%
Submit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit VI Essay 	11%

Unit VII	Homeland Security Strategy	[Weight: 14%]
Read/View:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit VII Study Guide • Chapter 12: Border Security • Chapter 14: Cybersecurity Legislation and Critical Infrastructure Vulnerabilities, pp. 233-242 • Chapter 16: Transportation Security, pp. 268-275 • Reading Assignment (1 article): See Study Guide 	
Discuss:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit VII Discussion Board 	2%
Submit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit VII Article Critique 	12%

Unit VIII	Tactical Response Options	[Weight: 15%]
Read/View:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit VIII Study Guide • There is no reading assignment in this unit. 	
Discuss:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit VIII Discussion Board 	2%
Submit:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit VIII Research Paper 	13%