

COURSE SYLLABUS

CJ 175 Introduction to Homeland Security



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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Overview of the issues affecting Homeland Security - risk, threat, and vulnerability assessments and the roles of emergency response agencies as well as identifying critical infrastructure. The role of government to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism in the United States and throughout the world. An introduction to the origins of natural and terrorist-caused disasters; local, state, and federal emergency management planning and operations; health infrastructure capabilities; public communication strategies; business concerns; ethical, legal, and constitutional questions; as well as the social and psychological dimensions of disasters.

RATIONALE

This course cultivates an understanding of different cultures and international actions. It promotes an understanding of Western tradition and American historical aspects of emergency management and fosters university level competencies in writing, speaking, reading, analytical reasoning, computer literacy and research. It challenges students to acquire knowledge independently through research of the sciences and promotes the evaluation of moral and ethical decision making. Students will develop competence in determining an approach to vocation.

I. PREREQUISITES

Completion of ENGL 098 with a grade of C or higher or eligibility for ENGL 101.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE

(Textbook)

White, Jonathan R. (2014) *Terrorism & Homeland Security*. 8th Edition. Wadsworth Publishing. Belmont, Ca.

(Additional Required Reading)

Luttrell, Marcus. (2007) *Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10*. Little, Brown and Company. New York, NY.

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Word

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IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Identify proven best practices in preparedness and mitigation of hazards.
- B. Evaluate and argue opposing positions related to critical homeland security issues.
- C. Explain potential terrorist hazards within the United States with appropriate responses to these hazards.
- D. Describe and compare the various structures and homeland security initiatives of local, state, and federal organizations.
- E. Identify groups, organizations, and systems involved in response and recovery.
- F. Discuss a historical evolution of emergency management and statutory changes.
- G. Based on past changes in homeland security policies, systems, and procedures, propose the need for future change and improvement.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings

Each week you will be required to read chapters out of your textbook and required reading.

B. Course Requirements Checklist

As the first activity in this course, please read the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#). After reading the syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will then complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Student Introduction – Discussion Board Post

In the first week, you will post a Discussion Board Post introducing yourself to the class. Include your name, city, employment, career goals, and reason for taking this course.

D. Discussion Board Forums: Threads (4) and Replies (8)

On the assigned weeks, you will post an Initial Thread, in response to the Discussion Board Question. In the same week, you will also post 2 replies to Initial Threads posted by other students. Each post requires the support of scholarly references, which can include textbooks, online peer reviewed articles, journal articles, case studies, professional interviews, etc.

E. Position Paper 1

The purpose of this position paper is to gain support on a particular side of an argument, and explain the rationale for your position. The assigned reading will be used as a basis for the topic. This is a supported argument paper. The information

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provided must be based on a strong foundation of facts. As such, you must provide evidence from credible academic and scholarly sources.

F. Position Paper 2

The purpose of this position paper is to rebut your position in Position Paper 1. You must convince the readers that the evidence and findings of Position Paper 1 are wrong. As such, the information provided must be based on a strong foundation of facts with evidence from credible academic and scholarly sources.

G. Emergency Response Interview

For this assignment, you will interview an individual who works in a sector of the emergency response community. This can include, but will not be limited to, local police departments, fire departments, emergency medical personnel, etc. This interview will give you a first-person perspective on the practical steps that would be taken by members of your own community, should a terrorist attack or natural disaster occur.

H. FEMA ICS Online Course

The purpose of this sub-course course within the CJ 175 Introduction to Homeland Security curriculum is to provide you with real world knowledge and application of the concepts learned from the textbook.

I. Mid-Term and Final Exams

The Mid-Term and Final Exams will cover the required textbook reading from the previous 4 Weeks/Modules, respectively. Each exam will be 25 Questions, Multiple Choice.

J. Emergency Response Field Observation – Extra Credit

Extra Credit will be available for this course for any student who conducts a field observations or “Ride-Along” with a local agency or organization dealing with some aspect of emergency response or Homeland Security.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Scale

ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
- DB Forum Introduction Post	(10)
- Course Requirements Checklist	(10)
- DB Forum 1 Initial Post	50
- DB Forum 1 Replies (2)	25
- DB Forum 2 Initial Post	50
- DB Forum 2 Replies (2)	25
- Position Paper 1	150
- Mid-Term Exam Modules 1-4	100
- DB Forum 3 Initial Post	50
- DB Forum 3 Replies (2)	25
- DB Forum 4 Initial Post	50
- DB Forum 4 Replies (2)	25
- FEMA ICS Course	100
- Emergency Response Interview	100
- Position Paper 2	150
- Final Exam Modules 5-8	100
- Field Observation (Extra Credit)	(100)
TOTAL POINTS	1000
(Extra Credit)	(120)

A = 900–1000 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–59

B. Late Assignments

Late assignments receive a 10% deduction for each day they are late if assignments are not posted by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on the day they are due. Assignments more than 4 days late will not be accepted.

C. Deadline Extensions

Deadline Extensions will only be given when requested prior to the assignment deadline. The majority of criminal justice students in higher education programs are already involved in a criminal justice, emergency response, or military profession. As this is an online course, it is assumed that students are battling busy and rotating work schedules on top of assignments, as are most instructors. Given that, my deadline extension policy is very flexible regarding work related conflicts that are not regularly scheduled obligations (i.e. mandatory overtime, SWAT callouts, court depositions, military orders, etc.) Please communicate about these issues when they arise so that you can be granted the appropriate extension