



# Northwestern State University

## Department of Criminal Justice

### Master of Science in Homeland Security

#### Academic Course Descriptions:

1. **HS 5000 International Terrorism, Transnational Organized Crime and Covert Operations (3 Hours) (New Course) (Required for Options A/B)** An analysis and understanding of the theories and causes of contemporary international terrorism, the association with transnational organized crime, identifying various United States interventive actions or covert operations.
2. **HS 5050 Homeland Security (3 Hours) (Required for students with non-homeland security related degree – Elective for student with homeland security related undergrad degree)** A study of the interrelatedness of Homeland Security and the Public Safety sector.
3. **HS 5100 Venue and Event Security (3 hours)(Elective for Options A/B)** A comprehensive examination and analysis of event and venue security from the varied perspectives of event stakeholders; application of principles of Homeland Security within local jurisdiction protocols; event matrix construction/ and assessment of social, institutional and political implications of mass gatherings and events.
4. **HS 5150 Domestic Terrorism Prevention and Analysis (3 Hours)(Required for Options A/B)** An examination of extant domestic terror groups and the collaborative prevention, mitigation, and management of their criminal activities.
5. **HS 5200 Research Design and Methods in Homeland Security (3 Hours)(Required for Options A/B)** A study of scientific social inquiry through research design, combining qualitative and quantitative research methods and also emphasize the importance of policy analysis and program evaluation. This course is designed to provide a thesis orientation, will encourage students to do substantial reading and consideration of thesis topics, development of the research question or hypothesis, and which methods the student will use to answer the question. Students may also consider possible thesis advisors and will be encouraged to test and discuss their ideas in this pre-thesis course.
6. **HS 5300 Constitutional Issues and Global Security (3 Hours) (Required for Option A – Elective for Option B)** An analysis of court decisions that interpret Constitutional conduct relative to Global Security.
7. **HS 5350 Executive Leadership, Diplomacy and Ethics in Homeland Security (3 Hours) (Required for Options A/B)** An intensive study of administrative leadership theory and decision-making through an understanding of moral behavior, diplomatic and ethical competencies.
8. **HS 5400 Network Security and Cyberterrorism (3 Hours) (Required for Options A/B)** The globalization of digital communications has led to an international complacency regarding network security. This global medium has brought criminal predators and cyberterrorists directly into our homes, businesses, critical government infrastructures and significant top secret network security systems. This course investigates contemporary issues and threats to network security and state-of-the art countermeasures available to the criminal investigation community.
9. **HS 5500 Counter-Terrorism, Intelligence Analysis, and Advanced Criminal Investigations (3 Hours)(Required for Option A/B)** This course is strongly influenced by the 9/11 Commission's counter-terrorism response related to offense, defense, and ideology and will emphasize investigative, law enforcement, and intelligence theories, issues, problems, failures, and successes relative to global security, the war on international and domestic terrorism, and homeland security. The course will culminate with a strong focus and close review of concrete, cutting-edge counterterrorism strategies.

10. **HS 5550 Advanced Cyberforensics and Cyberwarfare Issues (3 Hours)(Required for Option A-Elective for Option B)** An intense examination and analysis of advanced critical issues of computer crime and the strong potential for global attacks and criminal subterfuge regarding political terrorism and industrial espionage. Emphasis will be placed on such advanced computer forensic science capabilities as target hardening and software, tools for data duplication, recovery, and analysis, and development of pre-search or on-scene computer investigative techniques. Applications of First and Fourth Amendment issues will also be discussed.
11. **HS 5600 Managing Chaotic Organizations (3 Hours)(Required for Options A/B)** This course will involve leading complex, chaotic organizations and the study of managing proactively for incidents of international and domestic terrorism. It will analyze a multitude of transnational issues that have global implications and world-wide impact. The class will provide state-of-the-art theoretical perspectives and methods of analysis for the managerial and administrative tools required to deal with emerging threats to international security.
12. **HS 5650 International Security and Globalization (3 Hours)(Required for Option A – Elective for Option B)** Technological changes have made it possible to create a world that is increasingly interconnected and aware. This phenomenon has had a multitude of effects on the ideas of sovereignty, nation, state borders, and security. This class will explore these effects and the changing role of state and non-state actors in global security.
13. **HS 5700 Peace Studies, Conflict Transformation, and Global Security (3 Hours) (Required for Options A/B).** Global security, international and domestic terrorism, genocide, ethnopolitical conflict, and inordinate human rights concerns are worldwide problems and trends that are mandating creative problem-solving and peaceful negotiations. This course examines intractable global conflicts and the application of strong, proactive security policies, participatory international negotiation, peacemaking and peace building efforts, to reach a more stable world-order.
14. **HS 5750 Homeland Security Policy Seminar (3 Hours)(Required for Options A/B).** This course is designed to develop an advanced understanding of the nature and scope, causes and consequences of national homeland security issues and the critical thinking and strategic development of effective policies to deal with international terrorism and counterterrorism.
15. **HS 5800 Special Problems or Readings in Homeland Security (3 Hours)(Special Elective).** This class involves directed individual study of a problem related to Homeland Security, resulting in a substantial position paper or project presented to the faculty or overseeing professor. In addition, this course may be utilized to allow either extant faculty or distinguished visiting faculty the opportunity to conduct advanced teaching or seminars that may be the result of new research or evolving topics related to what the 9/11 Commission called the ideological “Battle of Ideas.”
16. **HS 5850 Transformational Learning Project, Practicum, or Teaching Experience in Homeland Security (3 Hours)(Required for Option A)**  
The Homeland Security Master Degree has been designed to culminate with a Transformational Reflective Learning Exercise (TRLE). The goal is to develop learners who purposely question their own learned, socialized, perspectives, beliefs, thoughts, feelings, opinions, and assumptions, to achieve educational, personal, and intellectual growth. A distinction is made between informational learning (skill acquisition and increased knowledge), and significant transformational learning (increases knowledge and leads to visceral, deep, ubiquitous change or evolution in the graduate student’s understanding, perspective, and assumptions). The course will instill transformation in learning from the concrete to an abstract type of thinking and learning. The HS faculty will encourage continual critical thinking and analysis, whereby the student fully accepts interactive, participative kinds and methods of instruction, with a learning environment that encourages practices, personal reflection, and self-exploration of concepts, theories, and ideas. Students will explore classical formalities, clar-

ity of verbal and written communication, insightful and enlightened goal development, utilizing critical self-reflection, group work, and critical thinking. The TRLE will be applied to the application of written projects, practicum/internship placements, or a semester assignment as a university instructor to conclude the degree. The TRLE will also be applied to those who plan a Thesis conclusion to their MS in Homeland Security.

**Course Catalog Description:** This course will provide the opportunity for graduate students in Homeland Security to:

1). Select an approved project, teaching class, internship site, or be recommended to the site by the faculty. This class will not substitute for traditional coursework and will follow the University's normal scheduling. All placements/projects should be planned and initiated months in advance of actual implementation by application to the advisor and administrator of graduate studies in Homeland Security. The internship, project, teaching experience will conclude with a substantial project results paper.

2). The student culminating the MS in Homeland Security, as directed by the advisor and administrator for Homeland Security graduate studies, will be guided to prepare for and successfully complete (pass/fail) the required culminating comprehensive examination (two attempts allowed) as prepared by the HS faculty. Graduates will also complete the final exit interview questionnaire and assessment exercise prior to the awarding of the Masters Degree.

17. **HS 5900 Graduate Seminar for Thesis Research and Writing Methods in Homeland Security (3 Hours)(Required for Option B).** The thesis process is intensive. The faculty in Homeland Security will encourage students to begin formulating their thesis ideas early in the program while they are enrolled in the research design course. Faculty will urge graduate students to consider each course taken as a potential chapter for their thesis. As the last course (Option B) in the HS Program, (and approved advancement to candidacy application), graduate students should begin the course having considered potential ideas, having clear research questions or hypotheses, why their concept is salient and how they plan to answer the questions. With their prior extensive preparation, students can complete their thesis with this final course but can utilize an additional semester if required.