

**Law Enforcement and Homeland Security  
CRIM 462 – Spring 2021**

Monday: 7:20 PM - 10:00 PM

Location: Virtual

Instructor: John McCartney (e-mail address: jmccar5@gmu.edu)

**Office Hours:**

Virtual via Microsoft Teams or phone call

**Textbooks:**

Introduction to Homeland Security: Policy, Organization and Administration, Second Edition. Willard M. Oliver, Nancy E. Marion, Joshua B. Hill  
ISBN: 978-1284154634

**Equipment:**

A laptop or desktop computer with Internet connectivity is required in order to access the Blackboard application.

**Course Objectives:**

This course will examine the effects that the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks had on law enforcement organizations in the United States and will explore the evolving relationship between the military, federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in the post-9/11 era.

We will work to understand the complex infrastructure of the Department of Homeland Security and the role that Homeland Security plays at the local, state and federal levels. Through active class participation, students will be expected to contribute to discussions on a variety of topics that are intended to examine the effectiveness of DHS and what can be done to improve the Department and its ability to support all aspects of national security for the homeland.

There will be a variety of guest speakers who are experts in the field of homeland security who will provide examples of local, state and federal response to issues affecting the security of the United States. The professor is an active US Government officer and will provide context and real-life scenarios for the purpose of discussion.

**Course Format**

Classes will consist of weekly synchronous sessions on Blackboard with lectures and group discussions. The course will also utilize small work groups, student presentations and expert guest speakers. This course will promote an informal yet respectful atmosphere where students will feel free to share ideas and critical thinking relative to the course topics. Students are expected to arrive on time and to contribute to an atmosphere of identifying and solving real world issues.

**Grading:**

25% Mid-term Exam

25% Final Exam

25% Group Presentation

25% Class Participation

A 100-90

B 89-80

C 79-70

D 69-60

F 59 and below

**Readings and assignments:**

Reading assignments are for outside the classroom. Students must be prepared to discuss the designated chapter(s) and other readings at the beginning of each class. Through open, back and forth communication, students will be encouraged to participate in classroom discussions, reviewing assigned readings and sharing opinions as to the author's opinions and conclusions. The level of participation will form the student's class participation grade.

Students will be required to complete the readings and any assignments before coming to class to enable an active exchange of ideas. Assignments will be completed through Blackboard and submitted during the open window between weekly class sessions. Exams will include material covered in class, including lectures, videos, guest speakers, and discussions.

**Group Presentations**

During the fifth week of the course, students will be separated into groups, where they will be given a scenario and tasked to work together towards a common goal. This is indicative of any law enforcement success, (the ability to share ideas, integrate efforts, identify potential solutions and develop an action plan to execute on the shared vision). At the end of the course, each group will teach-back a topic relative to the course to the class.

**Exams:**

The midterm and final exams will be closed book and will use a combination of structured response formats (such as multiple choice, true/false, matching, fill-in-the-blanks, etc.) and unstructured response formats (such as short answer or essay). The final exam will focus on material covered since the midterm exam. Schedule permitting, some time may be reserved during the last class before each exam for a review session. The instructor will answer questions to clarify the reading material, as long as the questions demonstrate that the students have actually read the material and attempted to understand it on their own.

The exams are to be taken by the students without any assistance. Any evidence that a student used another person as a resource, whether that other person was in the classroom or accessed electronically, will result in a referral to the honor committee as a violation. If the exams are closed book, then the same is true for any evidence that a student used any unauthorized hardcopy or electronic resource during the exam.

Make-ups will only be given under exceptional circumstances. If a student knows in advance that they will have to miss an exam, they will notify me ASAP so we can discuss a make-up. If you miss an exam without notifying me in advance, then you need to contact me ASAP to schedule a make-up. All make-ups must be completed within 3 business days (excluding weekends and holiday breaks) of the original exam date.

If the student can provide written documentation from a professional (doctor, police, etc.) that demonstrates a compelling reason for missing the exam, and the reason was beyond their control, there will be no penalty applied for taking a make-up. Circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please remember the Mason policy about employment not taking priority over academic responsibilities (referenced above). If the student cannot provide such documentation, there will be a 10- point reduction from their exam score for taking a make-up (cf. pg. 35, University Catalog).

### **Campus Resources:**

The Writing Center, University Libraries, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and the Office of Disability Services are available to assist students. Links to the University Catalog and the University Policies website for all other university academic and non-academic policies may also be included in the links below.

General University Information / Weather: [www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu)

The Writing Center: <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>

Counseling and Psychological Services: [caps.gmu.edu](http://caps.gmu.edu)

English Language Institute: <http://eli.gmu.edu>

Learning Services: <http://learningservices.gmu.edu/>

University Catalog: <http://catalog.gmu.edu/>

University Policies: <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/all-policies/>

### **Accommodations for students with disabilities:**

If you are a student with a disability and need academic accommodations, please see the instructor or contact Disability Services at 703-993-2474 or email at [ods.gmu.edu](mailto:ods@gmu.edu). All academic accommodations should be identified at the beginning of the semester and must be arranged through Disability Services.

### **Honor Code Policy:**

All students are expected to be familiar with the University's Honor Code:

*Student members of the George Mason University community  
pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal, or lie in matters related  
to academic work.*

Students are expected to abide by the requirements of the University regarding academic integrity, to include lying, cheating or stealing. (See "Honor System and Code" in the George Mason University Catalog. Students who present false information will be treated in accordance with the University's policies.

## **Class Schedule – Spring 2021**

	<b>In Class Activities</b>	<b>Preparation for Next Class</b>
Week #1 – January 25 <sup>th</sup>	Introduction to Course Overview of Syllabus/Course Responsibilities and Assignments Student Introductions	Intro to Homeland Security <b>Chapter 1 and Chapter 2</b> – Complete reading before Wednesday’ class. Complete <b>Chapter 1 and 2</b> review questions via Blackboard.
Week #2 – February 1 <sup>st</sup>	Discuss <b>Chapter 1 and 2: A History of Homeland Security/Homeland Security Defined.</b> Be prepared to discuss chapter material and Review Questions.	Intro to Homeland Security <b>Chapter 3 and 4</b> – Complete reading before Wednesday’s class. Complete <b>Chapter 3 and 4</b> review questions via Blackboard.
Week #3 – February 8 <sup>th</sup>	Discuss <b>Chapter 3 and 4: Modern Terrorism and Natural Disasters/Development of Modern Homeland Security pre-9/11 to the present.</b> Be prepared to discuss chapter material and Review Questions.	Intro to Homeland Security <b>Chapter 5 and 6</b> – Complete reading before Wednesday’s class. Complete <b>Chapter 5 and 6</b> review questions via Blackboard.
Week #4 – February 15 <sup>th</sup>	Discuss <b>Chapter 5 and 6: Department of Homeland Security/Homeland Security Community.</b> Be prepared to discuss chapter material and Review Questions.  <b>Guest Speaker</b>	Intro to Homeland Security <b>Chapter 7 and 8</b> – Complete reading before Wednesday’s class. Complete <b>Chapter 7 and 8</b> review questions via Blackboard.
Week #5 – February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Discuss <b>Chapter 7 and 8: Antiterrorism and Counterterrorism/National Strategy for Homeland Security.</b> Be prepared to discuss chapter material and Review Questions.  <b>Group Assignment – Port Security and State and Local Fusion Centers – Integration in Action</b>	Intro to Homeland Security <b>Chapter 9 and 10</b> – Complete reading before Wednesday’s class. Complete <b>Chapter 9 and 10</b> review questions via Blackboard.
Week #6 – March 1 <sup>st</sup>	Discuss <b>Chapter 9 and 10: Homeland Security Threats and the Homeland Security Cycle.</b> Be prepared to discuss chapter material and Review Questions.	<b>Prepare for Midterm</b>

<b>Week #7 – March 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Midterm</b>	Intro to Homeland Security <b>Chapter 11 and 12</b> – Complete reading before Wednesday’s class. Complete <b>Chapter 11 and 12</b> review questions via Blackboard.
Week #8 – March 15 <sup>th</sup>	Discuss <b>Chapter 11 and 12</b> : NIMS and ICS and Political Responses to Homeland Security. Be prepared to discuss chapter material and Review Questions.  <b>Guest Speaker</b>	Intro to Homeland Security <b>Chapter 13 and 14</b> – Complete reading before Wednesday’s class. Complete <b>Chapter 13 and 14</b> review questions via Blackboard.
Week #9 – March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Discuss <b>Chapter 13 and 14</b> : Legal Responses to Homeland Security and Homeland Security Technology and Communications Issues. Be prepared to discuss chapter material and Review Questions.	Intro to Homeland Security <b>Chapter 15</b> – Complete reading before Wednesday’s class. Complete <b>Chapter 15</b> review questions via Blackboard.
Week #10 – March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Discuss <b>Chapter 15</b> : Domain Security and the Future of Homeland Security. Be prepared to discuss chapter material and Review Questions.	<b>Finalize Group Presentations</b>
Week #11 – April 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Group Assignment Presentations – Port Security and State and Local Fusion Centers – Integration in Action</b>	Read assigned authorities’ documents
Week #12 – April 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Discussion</b> : Operating Across Authorities: Working with Title 50 and Non-Title 50 Partners.	
Week #13 – April 19 <sup>th</sup>	Guest Speaker	
Week #14 – April 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Review for Final Examination</b>	One on one instructor question/ answer sessions for final exam
<b>Week #15 – May 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Final Examination</b>  <b>* The final exam will be the same format as the midterm exam</b>	