

CRIM310- Introduction to the Intelligence Community

Fall 2022

Instructor: Dr. Amie Bowman

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Course Meetings: This course includes both synchronous and asynchronous content. Synchronous meetings will be on Mondays from 1:30–4:15pm. Weeks 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 14, and 15 are synchronous and meet in the Blackboard Ultra tool on Blackboard. Weeks 5, 10, 12, and 13 are asynchronous and involve either projects or discussion posts. Weeks 3 and 8 are holidays; class will not meet. Weeks in this class run from Monday to Sunday. All graded activities (with the exception of the discussion posts and class presentation) are due on Sunday by 11:59pm at the end of the week they are assigned.

Office Hours: 9–11am Fridays or by appointment

Important Dates

Students are responsible for verifying their enrollment in this class. Schedule adjustments should be made by the deadlines published in the Schedule of Classes. (Deadlines each semester are published in the Schedule of Classes available from the Registrar's Website at <https://registrar.gmu.edu>). After the last day to drop a class, withdrawing from this class requires the approval of the dean and is only allowed for nonacademic reasons. Undergraduate students may choose to exercise a selective withdrawal. See the Schedule of Classes for selective withdrawal procedures.

These guidelines were developed by the Curriculum Committee and ratified by the College Faculty on December 1, 2008.

Class Start	Last Day to Free Drop/Add	Deadline: Withdrawal with Tuition Loss	Last Day of Class	Final Exam
8/23/2022	8/29/2022	9/6/2022	11/28/2022	12/12/2022

Course Description

CRIM310 Introduction to the Intelligence Community introduces students to the structure, function, and process of the intelligence community including the basic skills in writing, research, and presentation used in intelligence analysis.

Required Course Materials

Sharing of instructor-created materials, particularly materials relevant to assignments or exams, to public online "study" sites is considered a violation of Mason's Honor Code. For more information, see the Office of Academic Integrity's [summary of information about online study sites](#).

George, R. Z. (2020). *Intelligence in the national security enterprise: An introduction*. Georgetown University Press.

****STUDENTS WILL NEED THE TEXTBOOK ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS****

Honor Code

The integrity of the University community is affected by the individual choices made by each of us. Mason has an Honor Code with clear guidelines regarding academic integrity. Three fundamental and rather simple principles to follow at all times are that:

- (1) all work submitted be your own;
- (2) when using the work or ideas of others, including fellow students, give full credit through accurate citations; and
- (3) if you are uncertain about the ground rules on a particular assignment, ask for clarification.

No grade is important enough to justify academic misconduct. Plagiarism means using the exact words, opinions, or factual information from another person (*including a fellow student*) without giving the person credit. Writers give credit through accepted documentation styles, such as parenthetical citation, footnotes, or endnotes. Paraphrased material must also be cited using the appropriate format for this class. A simple listing of books or articles is not sufficient. Plagiarism is the equivalent of intellectual robbery and cannot be tolerated in the academic setting. If you have any doubts about what constitutes plagiarism, please see me and consult oai.gmu.edu for more detailed information.

Disability Statement

Disability Services at George Mason University is committed to upholding the letter and spirit of the laws that ensure equal treatment of people with disabilities. Under the administration of University Life, Disability Services implements and coordinates reasonable accommodations and disability-related services that afford equal access to university programs and activities. Students can begin the registration process with Disability Services at any time during their enrollment at George Mason University. If you are seeking accommodations, please visit <http://ds.gmu.edu/> for detailed information about the Disability Services registration process. Disability Services is located in Student Union Building I (SUB I), Suite 2500. Email: ods@gmu.edu | Phone: (703) 993-2474.

Technical Requirements

All course materials posted to Blackboard or other course site are private to this class; by federal law, any materials that identify specific students (via their name, voice, or image) must not be shared with anyone not enrolled in this class.

- Videorecordings -- whether made by instructors or students -- of class meetings that include audio, visual, or textual information from other students are private and must not be shared outside the class
- Live video conference meetings (e.g. Ultra or Zoom) that include audio, textual, or visual information from other students must be viewed privately and not shared with others in your household or recorded and shared outside the class
- Activities and assignments in this course will regularly use the Blackboard learning system, available at <https://mymason.gmu.edu>. Students are required to have regular, reliable access to a computer with an updated operating system (recommended: Windows 10 or Mac OSX 10.13 or higher) and a stable broadband Internet connection (cable modem, DSL, satellite broadband, etc., with a consistent 1.5 Mbps [megabits per second] download speed or higher. You can check your speed settings using the speed test on this website.)
- Activities and assignments in this course will regularly use web-conferencing software (Blackboard Collaborate Ultra / Zoom). In addition to the requirements above, students are required to have a device with a functional microphone. In an emergency, students can connect through a telephone call, but video connection is the expected norm.

Course Communication Mechanisms

- If the campus closes, or if a class meeting needs to be canceled or adjusted due to weather or other concern, students should check Blackboard [or other instruction as appropriate] for updates on how to continue learning and for information about any changes to events or assignments.
- Students must use their Mason email account to receive important University information, including communications related to this class. I will not respond to messages sent from or send messages to a non-Mason email address.

Course Objectives/Learning Goals

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Define the term “intelligence” and assess how it differs from information, knowledge, and opinion
2. Identify the features and functions of each of the parts of the intelligence cycle and evaluate how each part influences the other
3. Identify the agencies of the US intelligence community and define their primary responsibilities

4. Identify and define the most common intelligence collection methods
5. Understand the relationship between intelligence and policy

Grading

This course has a total of 2000 points possible. This course includes 4 quizzes, 2 discussion forums, 1 annotated bibliography, 1 individual paper, 1 group project, and a final exam.

A	B	C	D	F
2000–1800 Points	1600–1799 Points	1400–1599 Points	1200–1399 Points	< 1199 Points

Course Schedule

	Topic	Pre-Reading	In Class	Due at the end of the Week
Week 1	Introductions	George (2020) Chapter 1	Course Overview; Initial Group Setup; What is Intelligence?	N/A
Week 2	The Intelligence Cycle	George (2020) Chapters 2 and 5; https://www.intelligence.gov/how-the-ic-works	Stages of the Intelligence Cycle	Quiz 1- Intelligence and the intelligence cycle
Week 3	Labor Day- No Class			
Week 4	The INTs	George (2020) Chapter 2	Major Intelligence Collection Methods	Quiz 2- The INTs
Week 5	Agencies of the USIC	George (2020) Chapters 3 and 4;	Asynchronous Week	Discussion Forum1- Agency Presentations Video
Week 6	IC Integration	Post 911 Integration; ODNI Threat Assessment	How the IC Works Together	Quiz 3- Agencies of the IC
Week 7	Intel/Policy Relationship	George (2020) Chapters 5 and 10	how the IC and Policy community work together	Annotated Bibliography
Week 8	Fall Break- No Class			
Week 9	Group Work	Confrontation or Collaboration; https://www.cfr.org/background/national-intelligence-estimates	Group Work- by analysis topic	Agency assignment: Submit a 1–2 page paper explaining: a) how your assigned organization contributes to the Intelligence Community, b) who your agency's primary policy customers are, and c) what your role is in the NIE project
Week 10	NIEs	George (2020) Chapter 6;	asynchronous week	Discussion Forum2- NIE Evaluation
Week 11	PDBs	Rethinking the PDB; Book of Secrets Review	History of PDB; practice writing BLUFs	Quiz 4- BLUFs
Week 12	time to work on papers	none	asynchronous week	Individual Papers Due
Week 13	Group Work	none	asynchronous week: Group Work- by country team	Group Worksheet- top three issues
Week 14	Presentations	none	NIE Presentation	NIE Presentations Due
Week 15	Final Exam Prep	none	Final Exam Prep Game	N/A
Week 16	Final Exam			

Assignment Details

Assignment Title	Due Date(s)	Point Value	Medium/Format
Quizzes	11:59 pm Sunday nights	4 quizzes, 50 points each= 200 points	Multiple choice
Discussion Forums	18–24 September 2022; 24–30 October 2022	100 points each, total 200 points	Video/Written

Annotated Bibliography	9 October 2022	50 points	Written
Agency Assignment (week 8)	23 October 2022	100 points	Written
Individual Paper	7 November 2022	600 points	Written
Group Worksheet	14 November 2022	50 points	Worksheet
Group NIE Presentation	21 November 2022	400 points	Oral Presentation with PowerPoint Slides
Final Exam	12 December 2022	400 points	Multiple choice

Quizzes

All quizzes are due no later than 11:59pm US eastern time the day before class.

Late Work

I will only accept late work under extraordinary circumstances. However, if a student comes to me before the due date for a specific assignment and explains their need for an extension or accommodation, I will do my best to work with that student.

Assignment Details and Grading Rubrics

Students must use Times 12-point font and follow APA v. 7 guidelines for all written submissions in this class. Examples of APA for students are available in the Course Materials section of the course shell on Blackboard. Submissions should be written in 3rd person and use active voice. See the assignment directions files for additional details on each assignment.