

Career Path: National Security

National (Homeland) Security - a main component of a homeland security specialist's job description is to protect local, state and federal infrastructure in the event of disaster or terrorist attack. Homeland security specialists might also be trained in other primary fields, including law enforcement or emergency medical services.

The duties of a homeland security specialist involve developing programs that are intended to respond to emergencies, such as natural disasters, hazardous materials spills or terrorist attacks on the country. They might interact and coordinate with other homeland security specialists at local, state or federal levels to develop, maintain or enhance emergency and terrorism response programs.

Education: Bachelor's degree - preferably in homeland security, emergency management or a similar discipline. Some homeland security specialists have completed training as a police or security officer or were in the military. Certificate and associate degree programs also exist in emergency management, homeland security or similar emergency response disciplines.

Possible career options: Emergency Management Directors; Emergency Medical Technicians, firefighters, border patrol agents, airport security, counterterrorist agents, coast guard, CIA agent, US Customs, crime prevention agents, park rangers, TSA agents, ICE.

Recommended Courses:

If a student is interested in national security the following elective courses are recommended. These courses enhance a student's knowledge of the national security field and develop the necessary skills for success.

JUS2225 Criminal Investigations

Introduces criminal investigation procedures. This course explores the historical development of criminal investigations; how investigation processes relate to the various functions of law enforcement; the collection, organization and preservation of evidence; and the constitutional limitations of criminal investigation.

Prerequisite: JUS1100

JUS3302 Homeland Security

Introduces the emerging issues of Homeland Security and potential terrorist threats. Course topics include the history of terrorism, the National Security Act, the events of September 11th, and overall public safety challenges. Prerequisite: JUS1100

JUS3314 Introduction to Intelligence

Considers the intelligence function within the context of the Patriot Act. Topics include the use of informants, issues in police interrogation practices, Miranda warnings, electronic eavesdropping and surveillance, and the civil rights implications of electronic evidence.

Prerequisite: JUS1100

JUS3315 Terrorism

Examines the history and causes of terrorism. This course concentrates on the structure and function of major terrorist groups and the response of democratic governments in combating terrorism. Includes an investigation of terrorist activities, legal viewpoints, and media responsibility. Prerequisite: JUS1100

The elective courses recommended to take for their liberal arts or free electives include:

BUS2210 Business Intelligence and Analytics

Introduces students to the fast-growing field of business intelligence and analytics. Provides a general understanding of quantitative methods, analytical software, and data analysis to help students comprehend and analyze contemporary business issues and problems. The emphasis is placed on critical thinking and quantitative reasoning skills.

CIS2201 Advanced Spreadsheets

Provides students with experience using spreadsheet applications, such as Microsoft Excel. Topics include building complex worksheets; importing and exporting data; using mathematical, financial, and statistical functions; developing macros; consolidating spreadsheets; creating templates; and utilizing "what if" analyses.

Prerequisite: CIS1115

SOC3310 Intercultural Communication

Introduces the various cultural influences on communication. Emphasizes the obstacles and portals to effective communication. Students study the communication styles of different cultural groups and learn to apply cultural perspectives to their daily interactions in business and in their private lives.

SOC3360 Law and Society

Introduces students to basic concepts in law and examines the impact that major court decisions have on culture and subculture. Students will explore how the law ultimately shapes conduct, ideals, and justice in American society, as well as how the law shapes the everyday lives of its citizens.

Career Paths are not minors or concentrations and will not be noted on a student's transcript or diploma. Career Paths are suggested electives to fill elective credits.