Saint John's University - Doctor of Professional Studies in Homeland Security

Today’s security professionals face a myriad of threats and hazards unimaginable just two short decades ago. This dilemma is compounded by advancements in technology and an increasingly complex threat environment from a wide array of natural, man-made, and technological threats and hazards to people, property, the global economy, critical infrastructure, and computer systems, to name just a few. These threats have taken on a global nature with great interconnectivity, interdependency, and an increasing flow of goods, people, and services across borders.

Security professionals charged with analyzing risk and implementing well-considered policies face exceptional challenges in dealing with this complex security environment. In addition, decision-making must comply with their nation’s unique legal, political, and social framework. An understanding of the global dynamics undergirding these issues requires a multidisciplinary approach that explores this reality. This reality has created a demand for a new generation of highly educated leaders in both the private and public sectors of the Homeland Security Enterprise, as well as academics who will teach the next generation of security professionals and conduct innovative research in the field.

You can gain the knowledge, skills, and credentials to meet these needs, and conduct research more effectively; think both analytically and critically; build and manage teams; and make decisions and apply knowledge to effectively solve real-world security challenges through the Doctor of Professional Studies program in Homeland Security (DPS) at St. John’s University---one of the first nonprofit educational institutions offering doctoral-level studies specifically in homeland security.

Offered by St. John’s College of Professional Studies, this innovative 78-credit program is designed to qualify candidates to fill mid- to high-level executive positions in government, law enforcement, the public and private security industries, nongovernmental organizations, and academia. Students will research and explore the practice of such collaborative efforts; gain an understanding of the range of local, national, international and organizational security issues faced by public and private actors and entities within the Homeland Security Enterprise; apply this knowledge to issues of policy- and decision-making, organizational design, leadership, and administrative practices; and focus heavily on the practice of emergency and disaster preparedness, including response, recovery, mitigation, and resilience efforts. The program will focus not just on Homeland Security efforts in the United States but also draw on lessons learned from abroad.

**Required Core Courses: 25 credits**
HLS 101: Homeland Security Enterprise (4 credits)
HLS 102: Intelligence for Homeland Security: Organizational and Policy Challenges (3 credits)
HLS 103: Critical Infrastructure: Vulnerability Analysis and Protection (3 credits)
HLS 104: Disaster Management I: Preparedness and Response (4 credits)
HLS 105: Disaster Management II Operational Continuity and Recovery (4 credits)
HLS 106: Ethical Leadership: Principles and Practices (3 credits)
HLS 107: Theories and Concepts of Security (4 credits)

**Required Research Courses: 14 credits**
HLS 401: Introduction to Research Methods (3 credits)
HLS 402: Advanced Research Methods I (4 credits)
HLS 403: Advanced Research Methods II (3 credits)
HLS 404: Statistical Analysis in Research (4 credits)

**7 Elective Courses: 21 credits (3 credits per class)**
HLS 300: Selective Topics in Homeland Security Cooperation and Coordination
HLS 303 (Cross Referenced with HCL 301.8): Issues in Global Security
HLS 305 (Cross Referenced with HCL 301.5): Seminar in Global Terrorism
HLS 301 (Cross Reference with HCL 101): Police and Homeland Security Leadership
HLS 302 (Cross Reference with HCL 103): U.S. Constitution and Homeland Protection
HLS 304 (Cross Reference with HCL 201): Policy Formation and Analysis
HLS 306: Migration and Border Security
MGT 280: Organization Development
MGT 232: Organizational Behavior

**Six Internship credits:**
The DPS requires the completion of six-credit hours of internship experience directly related to the field of Homeland Security under faculty supervision. Students who have significant relevant work experience within the industry will not be required to complete an internship. The waiver of this requirement must be supported with an experiential learning portfolio submitted by the student and is at the discretion of the program director or his or her designee.

**Qualifying Examination:**
Upon successful completion of the required core courses and prior to starting their doctoral dissertation, students are required to pass a comprehensive examination by demonstrating a mastery of the learning objectives of all core courses.

**Dissertation Research: 12 credits (3 credits per class)**
HLS 501: Dissertation Research I
HLS 502: Dissertation Research II
HLS 503: Dissertation Research III
HLS 504: Dissertation Research IV
**Dissertation:**
The degree of Doctor of Professional Studies shall be conferred upon completion and successful defense of the dissertation before the candidate’s dissertation committee.

The candidate’s dissertation must make a significant contribution to the practice of the profession. It requires both a theoretical construct and an applied research approach reflecting a higher level of thinking. The dissertation also must have some practical application (e.g. a dissertation could evaluate a security agency or propose the development of a new security program).

**Additional Requirements:**
Students must maintain a minimum G.P.A. of 3.0 throughout the program.

St. John’s University is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

For more information contact:

Dr. Keith Cozine  
Assistant Professor of Homeland Security  
St. John’s University – College of Professional Studies  
8000 Utopia Parkway  
Queens, NY 11439  
Phone: (718) 990-1852  
Email: cozinek@stjohns.edu

Additional Information: [https://www.stjohns.edu/academics/programs/homeland-security-doctor-professional-studies](https://www.stjohns.edu/academics/programs/homeland-security-doctor-professional-studies)

Updated: 12/2/2019

“Please note: Some of the Web sites linked to in this document are not federal government Web sites, and may not necessarily operate under the same laws, regulations, and policies as federal Web sites.”