

San Diego State University – Master of Science in Homeland Security

San Diego State University offers a Master of Science in Homeland Security (HSEC). The program provides interdisciplinary graduate study leading to the Master of Science degree in homeland security, even though nearly all the students come from a non-science background. The HSEC Program offers a vibrant and challenging educational environment where scholarly, educational, and research endeavors are applied to real-world challenges generated by man-made and natural incidents on the local, national, and global levels. Program strengths are in Cybersecurity, disaster assistance and humanitarian response, data fusion, visualization, collaboration especially across the border with Mexican Law Enforcement and a host of agencies and businesses, Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources (CIKR), information decision systems, public health, combatting violent extremism, totalitarian and democratic rhetoric, transnational crime, border security and its linkage to trade, and interaction with wildfires, earthquakes, floods, and other disasters including with social media tools. Our faculty are nearly all accomplished professional Practitioners who teach what they do, so there is a deep practical and career focus in the program. Many dozens of Adjunct Faculty from different agencies and companies provide a rich expertise to help with theses, projects, and career entry.

The active participation of graduate students and faculty with community partners is a primary focus of the HSEC Program. Therefore, the program has established a number of collaborative relationships with public, private, and non-profit sector partners on the international, federal, state, and local levels as we require the students to do an Internship (HSEC 695, Practicum), which commonly is a steppingstone to a career. These relationships are evident in both the classroom and through the HSEC Program's global and domestic research initiatives and they allow the homeland security student to engage in a number of service-learning opportunities that make a real-world difference to the safety and security of people and communities around the world.

The HSEC Program provides an intellectually and professionally rewarding educational environment that welcomes students from all backgrounds with a strong desire to engage in interdisciplinary study, critical thinking, and research. The graduate students have a strong sense of community and public service. Graduates have positions in almost every local, California, and Federal agency as well as hundreds of businesses, Non-Governmental Organizations, and government organizations seeking to be part of the solution in complex challenges to society.

The HSEC Program also emphasizes international and comparative approaches to the concept of security. Thus study abroad is required of all students in the program, with the time abroad equal to one three-unit class (about 45 hours), so is easily accomplished especially with our close partnership with nearby Mexico and its agencies. Numerous options for study abroad that balance the time and financial constraints of both full and part-time and working and non-working students are available. Of particular note is the fact that SDSU is a twenty-minute drive from the busiest border crossing in the world and that the HSEC Program is involved in a number of educational and research initiatives with partners in Mexico, so Study Abroad can be simply taking a class at one of our partner universities in Tijuana. Other programs based in Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia truly give the HSEC Program a global reach and

makes study abroad in one's area of interest a practical reality as well as normally one of the highlights of the program.

SDSU HSEC Program alumni are found in the public, private, and non-profit sectors in diverse career fields such as humanitarian assistance, the military, public health, public safety, science and technology, intelligence, emergency management and response, higher education, information decision systems, project management, journalism, public administration, education, research, and politics. Many continue to be an active part of the HSEC Program after graduation, providing networking and job opportunities for current students and fellow alumni.

Students must complete 30 units of coursework in an officially approved course of study as outlined in the five sections below. Students must earn a minimum grade point average of B (3.0) in the Master's program and no less than a "C" in each course. Students may meet the culminating experience requirement through Plan A (thesis) by completing HSEC 799A or through Plan B (thesis project so not published in library) by completing HSEC 790 and presenting the results to generally one of the Program Co-Directors or other faculty.

Core Courses and Internship (15 units)

HSEC 601	Seminar in Homeland Security – 3 units
HSEC 602	Seminar in Science, Technology, and Homeland Security – 3 units
HSEC 603	Seminar in Emergency Preparedness and Response – 3 units
HSEC 604	Seminar in Law, Society, and Homeland Security – 3 units
HSEC 695	Internship (Practicum) – 3 units

Electives

Study Abroad

Plan A or Plan B

Thesis

Capstone Project

Internship is required.

San Diego State University is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

For more information contact:

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Or

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Additional Information: <https://homelandsecurity.sdsu.edu/>

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