

Syllabus for HLS-510

PROTECTING THE HOMELAND: BALANCING SECURITY AND LIBERTY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The terrorist attacks on New York City and Washington on 9/11/01 made Americans feel more vulnerable than ever before. The Congress hastily enacted the USA PATRIOT Act, which permitted a number of extraordinary and unprecedented intrusions on civil liberties without judicial oversight. Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq ensued, and the government and the public began to question and examine the country's intelligence mechanisms and security procedures. A new Department of Homeland Security, which included new units like the Transportation Safety Agency, was established. This course will look at these developments and some of those that they have engendered, such as the detention and torture of "enemy combatants" in Iraq and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and consider whether the nation's security needs justify the consequent restrictions on our freedoms.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing this course, you should be able to:

1. assess the expansion of the role of law enforcement into intelligence-gathering as a result of public concerns about terrorism;
2. evaluate this expansion in terms of both the crime-control and due-process models of policing;
3. assess the ability of law enforcement to meet the challenges of greater cooperation with intelligence and other government agencies in the fight against terrorism;
4. evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of the re-organization of government agencies under the Department of Homeland Security;
5. evaluate the methods and effectiveness of expanded surveillance powers given to law enforcement after 9/11 when employed for traditional crime control (i.e., crimes other than terrorism);
6. analyze constitutional and other legal issues raised by increased surveillance authority given by the Federal Intelligence Surveillance Act, the Anti-terrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 and the USA PATRIOT Act;
7. analyze legal, ethical and policy implications of racial profiling as a means of combating terrorism;
8. analyze policy and ethical issues surrounding the re-organization of the Immigration and Naturalization Service into the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency and consequent changes in the treatment of immigrants, non-immigrants and illegal aliens;
9. analyze the due-process concerns in the detention of "enemy combatants" and others in connection with the fight against terrorism;
10. analyze, in terms of international law and ethics, the use of torture to obtain intelligence in the fight against terrorism;

11. analyze the ways in which the need for intelligence about terrorist assignments drives public policy in the United States today;
12. write in clear and concise language;
13. document sources in proper APA style.

COURSE MATERIALS

You will need the following materials to do the work of the course. The required textbook is available from the College's textbook supplier, [MBS Direct](#).

Required Textbook

- Jonathan R. White, *Defending the Homeland: Domestic Intelligence, Law Enforcement, and Security* (Belmont CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning, 2004).

ISBN-13: 978-0534621698

- Brigitte L. Nacos, *Terrorism and Counterterrorism* (New York NY: Longman, 2010).

ISBN-13: 978-0205743278

- M. Katherine Darmer, Robert M. Baird, and Stuart E. Rosenbaum, eds., *Civil Liberties vs. National Security in a Post 9/11 World* (Amherst NY: Prometheus Books, 2004).

ISBN-13: 978-1591022343

COURSE STRUCTURE

Protecting the Homeland: Balancing Security and Liberty is a three-credit online course, consisting of five (5) modules. Modules include an overview, study materials, and activities. Module titles are listed below.

- **Module 1: Investigators or Spies?**
- **Module 2: Surveillance in a Post-9/11 World**
- **Module 3: Immigration/Profiling/Border Security**
- **Module 4: Detention**
- **Module 5: Interrogation, Torture and Intelligence**

Consult the course Calendar for assignment due dates.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

For your formal work in the course, you are required to participate in online discussion forums and complete written assignments. See below for more details.

Consult the course Calendar for assignment due dates.

Online Discussion Forums

Please see the course materials for online participation guidelines. Be prepared to spend a lot of time in the discussion board area of the classroom engaging with your mentor and classmates.

Written Assignments

Prepare your written assignments using whatever word processing program you have on your computer. Include your name at the top of the paper, as well as the course name and code and the semester and year in which you are enrolled.

Before submitting your first assignment, check with your mentor to determine whether your word processing software is compatible with your mentor's software. If so, you can submit your work as you prepared it. If not, save your assignment as a rich-text (.rtf) file, using the Save As command of your software program. Rich text retains basic formatting and can be read by any other word processing program.

GRADING AND EVALUATION

Your grade in the course will be determined as follows:

- **Online discussions (5)**—25 percent
- **Written assignments (5)**—75 percent

All assignments will receive a numerical grade of 0–100. You will receive a score of 0 for any work not submitted. Your final grade in the course will be a letter grade. Letter grade equivalents for numerical grades are as follows:

A	=	93–100
A–	=	90–92
B+	=	88–89
B	=	83–87
B–	=	80–82
C+	=	78–79
C	=	73–77
C–	=	70–72
D	=	60–69
F	=	Below 60

To receive credit for the course, you must earn a letter grade of D or higher on the weighted average of all assigned course work (e.g., exams, assignments, discussion postings, etc.).

(**Note:** Graduate students must maintain a B average to remain in good academic standing.)

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

First Steps to Success

To succeed in this course, take the following first steps:

- Read carefully the entire Syllabus, making sure that all aspects of the course are clear to you and that you have all the materials required for the course.
- Take the time to read the entire Online Student Handbook. The Handbook answers many questions about how to proceed through the course, how to schedule exams, and how to get the most from your educational experience at Thomas Edison State College.
- Arrange to take your examination(s) by following the instructions in this Syllabus and the Online Student Handbook.
- Familiarize yourself with the learning management systems environment—how to navigate it and what the various course areas contain. If you know what to expect as you navigate the course, you can better pace yourself and complete the work on time.
- If you are not familiar with Web-based learning be sure to review the processes for posting responses online and submitting assignments before class begins.

Study Tips

Consider the following study tips for success:

- To stay on track throughout the course, begin each week by consulting the course Calendar. The Calendar provides an overview of the course and indicates due dates for submitting assignments, posting discussions, and scheduling and taking examinations.
- Check Announcements regularly for new course information.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students at Thomas Edison State College are expected to exhibit the highest level of academic citizenship. In particular, students are expected to read and follow all policies, procedures, and program information guidelines contained in publications; pursue their learning goals with honesty and integrity; demonstrate that they are progressing satisfactorily and in a timely fashion by meeting course deadlines and following outlined procedures; observe a code of mutual respect in dealing with mentors, staff, and other students; behave in a manner consistent with the standards and codes of the profession in which they are practicing; keep official records updated regarding changes in name, address, telephone number, or e-mail address; and meet financial obligations in a timely manner. Students not practicing good academic citizenship may be subject to disciplinary action including suspension, dismissal, or financial holds on records.

Academic Dishonesty

Thomas Edison State College expects all of its students to approach their education with academic integrity—the pursuit of scholarly activity free from fraud and deception. All mentors and administrative staff members at the College insist on strict standards of academic honesty in all courses. Academic dishonesty undermines this objective. Academic dishonesty takes the following forms:

- Cheating
- Plagiarizing (including copying and pasting from the Internet without using quotation marks and without acknowledging sources)
- Fabricating information or citations
- Facilitating acts of dishonesty by others
- Unauthorized access to examinations or the use of unauthorized materials during exam administration
- Submitting the work of another person or work previously used without informing the mentor
- Tampering with the academic work of other students

Academic dishonesty will result in disciplinary action and possible dismissal from the College. Students who submit papers that are found to be plagiarized will receive an F on the plagiarized assignment, may receive a grade of F for the course, and may face dismissal from the College.

A student who is charged with academic dishonesty will be given oral or written notice of the charge. If a mentor or College official believes the infraction is serious enough to warrant referral of the case to the academic dean, or if the mentor awards a final grade of F in the course because of the infraction, the student and the mentor will be afforded formal due process.

If a student is found cheating or using unauthorized materials on an examination, he or she will automatically receive a grade of F on that examination. Students who believe they have been falsely accused of academic dishonesty should seek redress through informal discussions with the mentor, through the office of the dean, or through an executive officer of Thomas Edison State College.

Plagiarism

Using someone else's work as your own is plagiarism. Although it may seem like simple dishonesty, plagiarism is against the law. Thomas Edison State College takes a strong stance against plagiarism, and students found to be plagiarizing will be severely penalized. If you copy phrases, sentences, paragraphs, or whole documents word-for-word—or if you paraphrase by changing a word here and there—without identifying the author, then you are plagiarizing. Please keep in mind that this type of identification applies to Internet sources as well as to print-based sources. Copying and pasting from the Internet, without using quotation marks and without acknowledging sources, constitutes plagiarism. (For information about how to cite Internet sources, see Online Student Handbook > Academic Standards > "Citing Sources.")

Accidentally copying the words and ideas of another writer does not excuse the charge of plagiarism. It is easy to jot down notes and ideas from many sources and then write your own paper without knowing which words are your own and which are someone else's. It is more difficult to keep track of each and every source. However, the conscientious writer who wishes to avoid plagiarizing never fails to keep careful track of sources.

Always be aware that if you write without acknowledging the sources of your ideas, you run the risk of being charged with plagiarism.

Clearly, plagiarism, no matter the degree of intent to deceive, defeats the purpose of education. If you plagiarize deliberately, you are not educating yourself, and you are wasting your time on courses meant to improve your skills. If you plagiarize through carelessness, you are deceiving yourself.