

Fall 2021



South Portland, Maine 04106

Criminal Justice Department

Title: Introduction to Homeland Security

Catalog Number: CJUS- 106-01

Credit Hours: 3

Total Contact Hours: 45

Instructor: Bruce M. Merrill

Class Schedule: Tuesday-Thursday

3:00 PM - 4:15 PM, Howe 105

Contact Information: Phone: 741-5551

Email: bmerrill@smccme.edu

Office Location: 101 Howe Hall

Hours: Flexible and by appointment

Course Syllabus

Course Description:

An introduction to the public and private sector dimensions of the theory and practice of homeland security at the national, regional, state and local levels. An overview of the administrative, legislative and operational elements of homeland security programs and processes including a review of homeland security history, policies and programs is provided. Topics include the threat of terrorism and countermeasures, including intelligence, investigation, and policies that support U.S. homeland security objectives.

Course Objectives:

After successfully completing the course, the student will be able to:

- Outline the essential characteristics of national and international acts of terrorism.
- Construct a historical timeline reflecting significant terrorist threats and events in the United States and globally.
- Demonstrate effective and clear verbal communication skills to convey factual information in order to coordinate and facilitate communication among various law enforcement agencies.
- Compose an historical timeline reflecting methods and outcomes used by national and international law enforcement and military agencies to counter and combat terrorism.
- Classify the roles, functions of, and interdependency between local, federal and international law enforcement and military agencies to counter and combat terrorism.

- Differentiate between ethical and unethical attitudes and actions regarding the execution of homeland security practices.
- Identify the characteristics, ideologies, motives and behaviors of various extremist and terrorist groups that foster and support terrorist criminal activities.
- Examine and interpret forensic evidence to reconstruct crime and terrorism.
- Craft effective strategies to generate useful information for local, national and international law enforcement agencies.
- Solve problems as an individual in a coordinated team setting.
- Write clear, concise and accurate reports to provide factual information, accurate data analysis and sound recommendations.

Text: *A Practical Introduction to Homeland Security - Home and Abroad*, Newsome and Jarmon, Rowman and Littlefield, Publishers, Second Edition (2020) , ISBN 978-1-53-8125656

During the course of the semester you may also be given handouts and/or assignments from various on-line sites.

Reading Assignments:

Students will be required to read the materials as outlined below **BEFORE** the assigned class and be prepared to engage in in-depth discussions of the materials during class. You should take notes on the materials as you are reading, as it will help you better understand the materials and prepare for class. Again, please be sure to have the reading completed **BEFORE** class. **Do not wait until half-way through the semester to purchase your book or begin the reading. You will not be successful.**

<u>Class</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
1	08/31 - T	Introduction
2	09/02 - Th	Ch. 1
3	09/07 - T	Ch. 2
4	09/09 - Th	Ch. 2
5	09/14 - T	Ch. 3
6	09/16 -Th	Ch. 3
7	09/21 -T	Quiz #1 - Chs. 1-2
8	09/23 -Th	Ch. 4
9	09/28 -T	Ch. 4
10	09/30 -Th	Ch. 5
11	10/05 -T	Ch. 5

12	10/07 -Th	Quiz #2 - Chs. 3-4
13	10/12 -T	Ch. 6
14	10/14 -Th	Ch. 6
15	10/19-T	Quiz #3 - Chs. 5-6
16	10/21 -Th	Ch. 7
17	10/26 -T	Ch. 7
18	10/28-Th	Ch. 8
19	11/02-T	Ch. 8
20	11/04-Th	Mid-Term Exam - Chs. 1-8
21	11/09 -T	Ch. 9
22	11/11-Th	Ch. 10
23	11/16-T	Ch. 10
24	11/18-Th	Quiz #4 - Chs. 9-10
25	11/23 -T	Ch. 11
26	11/25-Th	NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING RECESS
27	11/30-T	Ch. 12
28	12/02-Th	Ch.13
29	12/07-T	Presentation of Final Project/Paper
30	12/09-Th	Presentation of Final Project/Paper
31	12/14-T	Presentation of Final Project/Paper
32	12/16-Th	Presentation of Final Project/Paper

This schedule is flexible and will change to meet the needs of the class.

Student Evaluation, Grading and Attendance:

Course Grades

	A	93-100	A-	90-92.9	
B+	87-89.9	B	83-86.9	B-	80-82.9
C+	77-79.9	C	73-76.9	C-	70-72.9
D+	67-69.9	D	63-66.9		
F	0-62.99				

“I” Grade: A **temporary** grade of “I” may be given when a student has, *due to extraordinary circumstances*, failed to complete all required course work by the end of the semester. This assumes that the student has made a consistent and persistent effort up to the point the “circumstances” occurred and that most course work has been completed. The remaining work must be completed and a new grade submitted **by the mid-point of the semester following receipt of the “I” grade. An “I” grade which is not changed during this period automatically becomes a permanent “F” grade.**

Your final grade for this course will be based on the following:

Your final grade in this course will be based upon the following: **class participation (15%)**; **quizzes (25%)**; and the **mid-term (25%)** and **final project/paper (35% each)**.

All students should be prepared to spend a minimum of two hours on out of class preparation for each hour of classroom instruction. This preparation will include, but not be limited to, review of lecture notes, completion of reading assignments, studying of course materials and completion of class projects/papers, as assigned.

Dates for Quizzes and Exams will be as set forth above. Quizzes and Exams will be based upon the material in the book **and** additional material covered in class. **No make-up quizzes or exams will be given, for any reason.**

Written Assignments (Including Final Project) must be typed and are due at the beginning of the next class after being assigned. Students will type their name and date the assignment was assigned on the first line. The second line will identify the specific assignment. Assignments will be graded and returned to the student. **Spelling and grammar counts!** Please be sure to follow the page limitations for each assignment. **Late submissions and submissions not meeting the guidelines will not be accepted.**

Final Project Presentations (35%)

Final Project Presentations will be assigned on October 14th and will be due on December 2nd. For this project, students will be required, in teams as assigned by the instructor, to develop a plan for mitigation of a possible terrorist threat to the infrastructure and transportation systems in or around Portland, Maine. Team presentations of the final proposal will take place during the final four classes, with **all team members taking part in the oral presentation.** Each team member **must** participate in both the design and development of the plan, as well as the presentation of the plan in class. **Final Projects must be submitted in both hard copy and PowerPoint presentation formats. The grade for this project will be assigned to the team, as a whole.** Again, spelling and grammar counts!

Attendance

In order to meet the course goals and objectives, **students must attend classes.** An attendance sheet will be distributed at the beginning of each class and it is the responsibility of the student to make sure that s/he has signed the attendance sheet during each class.

More than three (3) absences from class, **regardless of the reason(s)**, will result in a two (2)-point deduction from a student's final grade.

Missing **three (3) consecutive classes** will result in a **Last Day Attended** notification to Student Enrollment (unless prior authorization is obtained). This will result in the student receiving an AF (Administrative Failure) grade for the course (See below).

Tardiness

Being late to class three (3) times (defined as arriving after the instructor has begun lecturing), **regardless of the reason(s)**, will constitute one (1) absence.

Students arriving late will enter the classroom **through the rear door** so as **not to disturb the rest of the class**. If a student must leave class early, the same rear door should be used.

Add-Drop Policy

Students who drop a course during the one-week “add/drop” period in the fall and spring semesters and the first three days of summer sessions receive a 100% refund of the tuition and associated fees for that course. Please note any course that meets for less than the traditional semester length, *i.e.*, 15 weeks, has a pro-rated add/drop period. There is no refund for non-attendance.

Withdrawal Policy

A student may withdraw from a course only during the semester in which s/he is registered for that course. The withdrawal period is the second through twelfth week of the fall and spring semesters and the second through ninth week of twelve-week summer courses. **The last day to withdraw from this class for the Fall 2021 Semester is Monday, November 22nd, before 5:00 p.m.** This period is pro-rated for shorter-length courses. To withdraw from a course, a student must complete and submit the appropriate course withdrawal form, available at the Enrollment Service Center (no phone calls, please). The designation “W” will appear on the transcript after a student has officially withdrawn. A course withdrawal is an uncompleted course and may adversely affect financial aid eligibility. Failure to attend or ceasing to attend class does not constitute withdrawal from the course. There is no refund associated with a withdrawal.

Administrative Failures (AF)

An Administrative Failure (a final grade of AF) identifies students who have stopped attending class and who have had no contact with the faculty member for a period in excess of one week. A student may be administratively failed after missing one more consecutive class meeting than the number of class meetings per week (for this course, which meets twice a week, that would be the third consecutive class missed). At their discretion, faculty may reinstate students who resume attending classes after their grade has been assigned.

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Statement

Southern Maine Community College is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please call (207) 741-5798. If you have a disabling condition and wish to request accommodations in order to have reasonable access to the

programs and services offered by SMCC, you must register with the Disability Services Coordinator, Sandra Lynham, who can be reached at (207) 741-5923. Further information about services for students with disabilities and the accommodation process is available upon request at this number. Course policies about online testing are modified to suit each individual's accommodations.

Other Important Information:

The Learning Commons

The library, tutoring and writing centers, and open study spaces are located on the second floor of the South Portland's Campus Center will be fully available online during the Fall 2021 semester . Here you can find free academic support through individual and online tutoring, information, literacy/research librarians, and professional academic strategy/planning mentoring. While the physical space of the Learning Commons will be available, they can also work with you to set up Zoom classrooms for small group study. Services are available by appointment or drop-in assistance. There are many desktop and laptop computers , as well as printers, reserve textbooks, and other academic tools available for use within the Learning Commons. Services are available by appointment or as drop-in assistance. To access services, visit My Learning in My Maine Guide. Students consistently report that the Learning Commons is an inviting and friendly place to seek academic support or study. Those who make use of the Learning Commons regularly have been shown to be more likely to succeed--take advantage of this exceptional resource for this, or any of your classes.

End-of-Course Evaluations

Students complete evaluations for each course attended at SMCC. Evaluations are submitted online and can be accessed through the student portal. Evaluations are submitted online and can be accessed through the student portal site. Students can access the course evaluation report beginning one week before the end of classes. The deadline for submission of evaluations occurs Monday at 5:00 p.m. following the last day of class. Students will receive an e-mail to their student e-mail account when course evaluations are available.

Classes with Face-to-Face Component

While this Syllabus represents current plans for this Semester, there may be changes during the course of the Semester in response to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. Depending on the progression of the virus, it is possible that the College may have to suspend face-to-face instruction for part of the semester. If we must stop face-to-face instruction anytime during the semester, your instructor will contact you via your SMCC e-mail or to the Brightspace course homepage to discuss next steps for the course.

Plagiarism Statement

Adherence to ethical academic standards is obligatory. **Cheating is a serious offense**, whether it consists of taking credit for work done by another person or doing work for which another person will receive credit. **Taking and using the ideas or writings of another person without clearly and fully crediting the source is plagiarism and violates the academic code as well as the Student Code of Conduct.** If it is suspected that a student in any course in which s/he is enrolled has knowingly committed such a violation (as defined in the Maine Community College System Policy on Student Grade Appeals and Academic Misconduct), the faculty member should refer the matter to the College's Disciplinary Officer and appropriate action will be taken under the MCCS Student Code of Conduct. Sanctions may include suspension from the course and a failing grade in the course. If a student seeks to challenge an instructor's determination, the student should submit a Grade Appeal. Grade Appeal forms are available in the Advising Office on the South Portland Campus.

SMCC Pay-for-Print Policy

Each semester students receive a \$20.00 printing credit. The balance resets at the end of the semester and any remaining credits are removed. The college's pay-for-print system monitors printing on all printers (including those in general access labs, library printers, Tutoring Services, Campus Center Lounge and technology labs). Be sure to log OUT of the system when you've finished your printing, to prevent unauthorized access to your account. Students can check the number of pages that they have printed by using the Printing Balance tool available on SMCC computers (located on the lower right corner of the screen, near the clock). Departments with work study students who need to print documents for the department should contact the Help Desk at 741-5696 to have a special account set up. To find ways to reduce your printing charges, please go to the IT Help tab on My SMCC. If you have questions about the pay-for-printing policy or your printing charges, please contact the Help Desk at (207) 741-5696, or send an e-mail to helpdesk@smcc.edu.

Print jobs are eligible for a refund in the event of a mechanical or electronic error on the part of the printer, print server, or software used to submit the job. Jobs are not eligible for a refund in cases where the job was not set up correctly, was submitted multiple times, or the student is not satisfied with the result. To request a refund, please bring the offending print to the IT Department in the basement of Ross Technology Center. Refunds will be granted in the form of a credit to the student's account.

Non-Discrimination Statement

Southern Maine Community College (College) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation and/or preference, disability, or age or marital, parental or veteran's status in its programs and activities.

Course Policies:

Computers:

The use of laptop computers is only permitted for note taking and quizzes and exams. Students will **not** use the Internet during class unless directed to do so by the instructor. **Students found to be in violation of this policy will be prohibited from using the computer in class. The instructor will periodically check laptop note taking.**

Cell phones:

Cell phones will be turned off or the ringer silenced during class. Any student wishing to use a cell phone must exit the classroom to do so. **Texting during class is prohibited. Cell phones must be turned off (not just silenced) during quizzes and exams.** During quizzes and tests, the professor reserves the right to request that all students put their cell phones on the front desk to avoid distractions or use during the test.

Food/Beverages:

Beverages are permitted; **eating of food is not permitted.** Please properly dispose of your beverage container when you are finished. If you spill it, wipe it up.

Student Code of Conduct:

All students are expected to be aware of and conform to the Student Code of Conduct. The Code can be found in the Student Handbook: The Compass.

Key to Success!!!

All students are encouraged to periodically review and reflect on the “Keys to Academic Success”.

Keys to Academic Success!!!

- I will attend class regularly and arrive to class on time.
- I will treat others with courtesy, respect and how I would like to be treated.
- I will bring all required materials to class (i.e. notebooks, workbook, Textbook, assignments due)
- I will be attentive in class.
- I will participate in whole class and group discussions.
- I will complete my assignments on time.
- I will ask questions when I do not understand the material.
- I will take notes in class.
- I will study for quizzes and examinations.
- I will be honest (avoiding plagiarism, cheating)
- I will reflect on how I could make improvements to my learning.

- I will seek out my advisor if I am having difficulty with my course(s).
- I will recognize this course syllabus as a contract that I must abide by to ensure my academic success.