

Caudle Thoughts: Masters Homeland Security Curriculum

The curriculum is structured around central policy and management concepts and issues that homeland security officials are and will confront. It stresses the analytical skills that the officials will need to anticipate and manage homeland security challenges specific to their jurisdictions and to partnerships with other organizations.

Core Course Requirements

Each student must take the following 9 courses.

Fundamentals of Homeland Security (Bush 656)

This course provides an overview of the emerging discipline of homeland security. It will cover the theory, practice, challenges, and prospects for preparing and securing the American homeland against many threats—terrorism, natural disasters, and major accidents.

Terrorism in Today's World (Bush 657)

This course provides a comprehensive survey of international terrorism from its origins to the present. It emphasizes how the U.S. government has responded and how it has organized to counter the terrorism threat. It will address major terrorist groups, their philosophy and aims, and the implications for U.S. government action.

Homeland Security Strategic Planning and Budgeting (New Course)

This course provides an introduction to strategic planning and budgeting in the homeland security context. It will cover the underlying fundamental principles and concepts of strategic planning and budgeting and how they are related; homeland security strategy formulation to determine specific organizational goals and expected results; risk management approaches; and planning and budgeting tools.

Homeland Security and Emergency Management (New Course)

This course provides an overview of emergency management, including community vulnerability and risk analysis, emergency response, disaster recovery, preparedness, mitigation, and the future of emergency management.

Role of Intelligence in Security Affairs (Bush 652)

This course examines the current role of the U.S. intelligence community and its role in homeland security. Included will be material on the diverse intelligence disciplines and how the intelligence community operates.

Science and Technology for Homeland Security (New Course)

This course provides an overview of the role of science and technology in homeland security, including national strategies and policies and international issues. Special emphasis will be given to the challenges of weapons of mass destruction and disruption regarding human health and agriculture.

Critical Infrastructure Protection (Bush 614)

This course provides an overview of the nation's strategies for critical infrastructure protection and securing cyberspace, including the challenges of resiliency. The course will stress vulnerability analysis and protection in the specific critical infrastructure protection sectors.

Research Methods and Policy Analysis Approaches (New Course)

This course provides students with the methods and critical thinking skills to conduct graduate-level research. The course will cover qualitative and quantitative methods.

Homeland Security Capstone Project (Bush 685)

This course consists of an individual student research project to complete his or her masters program. Each student will select a topic for in-depth study and completion of a major research paper.

Electives

Each student may select from the following to complete his or her course of study.

Homeland Security and Business (Bush 679)

This course provides an introduction to the impact of homeland security on businesses in the United States. It will examine the principal business functional areas where private sector organizations are affected by homeland security, including terrorist threats.

International Homeland Security (New Course)

This course provides students with an understanding of homeland security and counterterrorism strategies employed by selected democracies around the world and to understand their transferability to United States policy and operations.

Department of Defense in Homeland Security and Defense (New Course)

This course introduces students to homeland defense strategies and policies, organizational structures, and the roles and responsibilities of organizations such as Northern Command, the National Guard, and the Army Reserves.

Homeland Security and the Law (New Course)

[Coverage of homeland security laws]

Other elective possibilities:

- Crisis management (Bush 667 International Crisis Management)
- Risk management (Bush 647 Risk and Public Policy; Urban Planning 616—Analyzing Risks and Hazards and Public Policy)
- Disaster preparation and recovery (Urban Planning 650 Disaster Response Planning; Urban Planning 647 Disaster Recovery and Hazard Mitigation; Urban Planning 649 Organizational and Community Response to Crises and Disasters)