

Master of Science in PSS - Course Descriptions:

SECU 600- National Security (3 credit hours)

This course provides students with a broad perspective of National Security. It lays the foundation for one of the three key areas in the field of Professional Security Studies, focusing on the importance and impact that National Security has on the public and corporate America.

SECU 605- Corporate Security (3 credit hours)

This course exposes students to a systematic approach used to monitor low-probability, high-impact events that could adversely impact a company's strategic plans and/or tactical execution. Students will examine the traditional and alternative approaches to the indications and warning process, to include effective security planning and implementation.

SECU 610- Cyber Security (3 credit hours)

This course provides an overview of cyber security. It exposes the dimensions of our network, information-based society; reviews the impact of information security on institutions, privacy, business and government risks; the development of legislation; and examines the dimensions of networks, protocols, operating systems and associated applications.

SECU 615-Research Methods I (3 credit hours)

Research Methods is an introduction to the use of primary sources, including the review of various methodologies and techniques of research design. Students will gain experience in the development of research proposals and in the use and verification of different types of empirical evidence.

SECU 620-Research Methods II (3 credit hours)

This course is a continuation of Research Methods I (Sec 615). Students will be exposed to inferential statistical methodology, which they can incorporate into their research design. *Pre-requisite: SECU 615-Research Methods I.*

SECU 625- Counterintelligence (3 credits hours)

This course provides an overview of the history and evolution of counterintelligence, covering areas that include passive and active measures, principles and processes, ethics, and evaluation of successes and failures. Students will develop a comprehensive knowledge of uses and practices of counterintelligence with respect to homeland and national security interests.

SECU 630- Domestic Terrorism and Extremist Groups (3 credit hours)

This course traces the history, emergence, and growth of paramilitary, hate and terrorist groups within the United States. Students will assess the motivations of various groups, their capabilities, and activities within the context of security issues, political activism and the law.

SECU 635- Contemporary Counterterrorism (3 credit hours)

This course examines the evolution of intelligence and counterterrorism while analyzing U.S. and international policies for combating terrorism, terrorist tactics worldwide, and the scope of terrorism in the twenty-first century. Terrorism and national security,

political solutions, and alternatives to current counterterrorism policy will also be examined.

SECU 640- Critical Incident Command and Response (3 credit hours)

This course outlines for practitioners the management of critical incidents. Students explore issues relating to the on-scene command structure, emergency command center, or field command post. It also reviews the responsibilities of the Incident Commander, as case scenarios are developed and a command structure is implemented, overseeing an entire operation.

SECU 645- Corporate Threat Definition and Vulnerability Analysis (3 credit hours)

This course defines the full spectrum of threats to a corporate structure, evaluating the capabilities in place to address the threat, and most importantly, for identifying vulnerabilities. Students will learn processes to conduct surveys and assessments related to corporate threats posed by political, societal, and economic unrest.

SECU 650- Organizational Crisis Management (3 credit hours)

This course examines Organizational Crisis Management. The importance to an organization of having a crisis management plan is emphasized, as well as planning for crises, developing levels of preparation, identifying factors that need to be managed, forecasting potential crisis situations, and examining key elements of a crisis management plan.

Pre-requisite: SECU 640- Critical Incident Command and Response

SECU 655- Topics in Computer Security (3 credit hours)

Content varies depending on faculty interests, research developments, and student demand, as current topics of advanced research in computer security are examined. Representative topics include but are not limited to formal models for computer security, multilevel data models, multilevel database management system architectures, etc.

SECU 660- Security and Privacy of Information and Information Systems (3 credit hours)

Students will develop knowledge and skills for security of information and information systems. This course examines concepts and auditing security at all levels and systems platforms; presents techniques for assessing risk associated with accidental and intentional breaches of security; and studies associated issues of ethics of information and privacy considerations.

SECU 665- Information Security Strategy and Policy Development (3 credit hours)

Policy, planning and implementation in building a comprehensive information risk management program is examined. Students will develop knowledge of hacking and weaknesses exploited; an overview of the legal framework of network security; formulation of site security policy; countermeasures to secure computers; and integrating security components into an organizational program.

SECU 670- Thesis I (3 Credits):

This course represents a student's initial thesis enrollment. The objective of this course is to guide students towards the successful completion of a thesis proposal that will enable them to complete their study.

Prerequisite: Completion of course work.

SECU 675- Thesis II (3 Credits):

This course represents a student's continuing thesis enrollment. The student continues to enroll in this course until the proposal is developed and either near completion, if not completed, and approved by the thesis committee.

Prerequisite: Completion of Thesis I (SECU 670)

SECU 680- Specialized Field Project: Security Studies (6 credit hours)

This course provides an opportunity for students to choose a specialized field research project in lieu of a thesis or comprehensive exam. Students must complete 24 credits of study before applying. Participation must be approved by the Dean of the College of Professional Studies and a faculty committee.