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CJ 515-01W Homeland Security
Course Syllabus: Fall 2023
Meets 11/06/2023 through 12/08/2022

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Stephen Verrill
Virtual Office Hours: Daily Weekdays by Email. Telephone by Appointment.
University Email Address: Stephen.Verrill@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Required Text

Martin, G. (2017). *Understanding homeland security* (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE.

ISBN (Not Part of APA Citation):
9781071893951, 1071893955 (Print)
9781071893975, 1071893971 (e-Text)

Additional Resources

To be announced.

Course Description

CJ 515 - Homeland Security

Hours: 3

Homeland Security - An introduction to various aspects of terrorism and homeland security as both affect the United States today. Much of the focus will be the problems and challenges stemming from 9/11 that create today's world situation. To understand what is going on currently we will examine the historical context of terrorism, national security, emergency management and civil liberties.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the legal challenges that accompany efforts to secure the homeland against major twenty-first threats such as terrorism and cyber-terrorism.
2. Explain the practical challenges that accompany efforts to secure the homeland against major twenty-first threats such as terrorism and cyber-terrorism.
3. Explain the ethical challenges that accompany efforts to secure the homeland against major twenty-first threats such as terrorism and cyber-terrorism.
4. Discuss threat assessment, crisis response, and incident prevention as it relates to terrorism and cyber-terrorism.
5. Explain the need to reconcile governmental strategies for disrupting attacks on the homeland with the imperative of protecting civil liberties.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

The course is delivered online through the MyLeo platform. Microsoft Office tools are used to submit activity attachments. Attachments, when required, must be in Word .doc or .docx format.

Instructional Methods

The course is delivered online.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

This course is fast-paced and it may require more work within a week than initially expected. Five-week online courses require that you do the amount of work normally conducted over a full semester within a compressed period of time. Doing so successfully requires specific attention and commitment. Students are expected to read all assigned material. It is also expected that students will submit all deliverables on time. This course starts on a Monday and ends on a Friday. Week 5 activity due dates are not aligned with weekly due dates found in the earlier sections. After submitting an attachment in the online courseroom, please check the submission for Word formatting and to make sure the submission took. If there is no submission there for you, there is no submission there for me. If it is not in Word .doc or .docx, I may not be able to open it. A submission that is not attached or not capable of being opened is the same as no submission. It will be graded zero. Regarding Discussion Forums, submissions must be in the textbox rather than as an attachment. Attachments in the Discussion Forum are too hard to follow and are not appropriate for that venue. I have provided an example of a correctly written APA 6th style reference through the way I wrote the textbook information in this Syllabus. The ISBN is for course purposes and is not part of the reference. The textbook needs to be used as the first student resource for all substantive information and needs to be correctly cited and referenced in discussion forums, assignments, and exams. It is not acceptable to discuss information in this course in discussion forums, assignments, or exams without building off the assigned textbook. This course cannot be successfully completed without using the assigned textbook.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be determined in the following manner:

A = 900-1000 Points

B = 800-899 Points

C = 700-799 Points

D = 600-699 Points

F = 0-599 Points

The course grading scheme is points based, rather than proportion or percentage based, thus final grades will not be rounded. A level threshold is either reached or it is not. For example, 895 points is 895 points. It is five points shy of the next threshold. It is not 89.5 percent and therefore does not round up to 90% or 900 points. The same

principle applies to 896, 897, 898, and 899, as well as all the other various combinations within the listed points scheme.

Grade Point Distribution

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Chapter Summary Essay (13%): | 130 Points |
| Discussion Board Initial and Peer Response Essays (13%): | 130 Points |
| Research Paper Topic Selection Assignment (4%): | 40 Points |
| Final Exam (40%): | 400 Points |
| Research Paper (30%): | <u>300 Points</u> |
| Total (100%): | <u><u>1000 Points</u></u> |

Assessments

1. Chapter Summary Essay: The Chapter Summary Essay represents your understanding of the assigned instructional material. You will submit in the online courseroom one essay for each textbook chapter or other assigned instructional material. Instructional material forms the basis for discussion board posts and course assignments, and they must be completed prior to any other activity in the course during the designated week. Chapter Summary Essays are due by Wednesday 11:59 pm central during Weeks 1-4. Each week comprises multiple chapters. Essays must be a minimum of 250 words and must follow APA 6th or 7th style for in-text citations and references. The textbook must be used, cited, and referenced. You may use and cite additional references as needed, but bear in mind the essay is designed for you to relate your understanding of the assigned readings before you start writing the discussion board posts. Failure to use and cite the textbook may result in a zero grade for this deliverable. Please see the General Grading Rubric prior to submission. Please see the listed section for information regarding the course Late Work policy. Please see the online courseroom submission area for further instructions. Please format your attachment in Word .doc or .docx. Please double check that what you intended to attach is indeed attached, and that it is in the required format. If an extension reads anything other than .doc or .docx, I may not be able to open it. A submission that is not attached or not capable of being opened is treated the same as not being submitted.

2. Discussion Board Initial Essays and Peer Response Essays:

You will write and submit one Initial Post and two Peer Posts for each chapter in the textbook. Discussion Board Initial Posts follow Chapter Summary Essays and they are due by Friday 11:59 pm central of each module, during Weeks 1-4. Each week comprises multiple chapters or other assigned instructional material readings. Timely submission is expected in order to meet objectives of participation, allowing the course

professor and peer students an opportunity to read your work, ask questions or ask for clarification, when needed, and to otherwise engage in a dialogue with you. Discussion Board essays must be a minimum of 150 words and must follow APA 6th or 7th style for in-text citations and references. The textbook must be used, cited and referenced in each post. In addition to citing the textbook and other relevant course instructional material, you must find, read, and cite at least two additional scholarly articles to support your essay. Said another way, each post requires at least three citations and corresponding references. The additional sources cannot be ones found in the courseroom. Please see the Grading Rubric prior to submission for further information. Please see the listed section for information regarding the course Late Work policy. Please see Discussion Forum for further instructions. Please submit your Discussion Forum posts in the Discussion Box, rather than as an attachment.

Discussion Board Peer Response essays are due by Sunday 11:59 pm central of each module during Weeks 1-4. You must respond to at least two student initial posts in a manner that moves the discussion forward. Simple agreement posts will not be graded. Timely submission is expected in order to meet objectives of participation, allowing the course professor and peer students an opportunity to read your work, ask questions or ask for clarification, when needed, and to otherwise engage in a dialogue with you. Participation by definition cannot occur when a window for such has passed. A course module starts on Monday and ends on Sunday, except for Week 5 which ends on Friday. Discussion Board Peer Response posts will not be accepted or graded after a module has closed. Discussion Board Initial posts and Peer Response posts are graded together, representing participation. Discussion essays are worth a total of 300 points (30%) toward the course grade. Discussion Board Peer Response essays must be a minimum of 50 words and must follow APA 6th or 7th style for in-text citations and references. For each Discussion Board Peer response posted in the courseroom, you must find, read, and cite at least one additional scholarly article to support your peer response essay that was not used in the initial peer post. The additional source cannot be from instructional material in the courseroom. It is likely you will also have to read and cite the sources used in the initial peer post, as well as the textbook or other assigned readings. Please see the Grading Rubric prior to submission for further information. Please see the listed section for information regarding the course Late Work policy. Please see the Discussion Forum for further instructions. Please submit your Discussion Forum posts in the Discussion Box, rather than as an attachment.

3. Research Paper Topic Selection:

The Research Paper Topic Selection assignments is due Week 1 by Sunday 11:59 pm central. Please use the Research Paper description to identify and propose a suitable topic. The Research Paper Topic Selection assignment will be graded as Acceptable or Not Acceptable. The Research Paper Topic Selection assignment must follow APA 6th or 7th style for in-text citations and references. Please double check that what you intended to attach is indeed attached, and that it is in the required format. If an extension reads anything other than .doc or .docx, I may not be able to open it. A submission that is not attached or not capable of being opened is the same as not being

submitted. Please see the Research Paper instructions prior to submission. Please see the course section for further information regarding the Late Work policy.

4. Research Paper:

This course requires a research paper. The Research Paper is due in the online courseroom in Module 5 by Monday 11:59 pm central. You will prepare an 8-12 page research paper that provides you with an opportunity to more fully explore course issues, examining a narrow aspect of the course material in an in-depth and focused way. For the paper, you will obtain at least five outside scholarly articles for a substantive topic discussed in the textbook. Please use the textbook Index to inform selection of your topic. The paper should examine your selected topic in-depth, aligning the examination with the student learning outcomes identified in the syllabus. If your intended topic does not relate well to the stated student learning objectives, then it is not an acceptable topic. A suitable topic will align with the stated course outcomes. The paper must follow APA 6th or 7th style for in-text citations and references (pick one and be consistent with its use). The paper must follow the APA Publication Manual in respect to double-spacing and 12-point font, as well as inclusion of title page, abstract, level one, two, and three headings, in-text citations, and a reference section. The paper must contain a minimum of 8 pages of content, which does not include front matter (Title Page and Abstract) or back matter (Reference section or appendices). The paper should not exceed 12 pages, as the idea is to present your deep understanding of the material in an efficient manner. Papers that do not meet the minimum 8-page count will not meet minimum standards for this assignment. In order to meet the minimum 8-page count, content that starts on page 1, is double-spaced with 12-point font, will end somewhere on page 9 or later. A paper that ends on page 8 of content is a 7+ page paper, not an 8+ page paper. Papers that exceed 12 pages of content may be penalized. A Table of Contents is not appropriate for this assignment. There are many ways to approach the idea of level one, two, and three headings, which will vary from paper to paper. The paper being written in this course is called a *literature review paper* compared in contrast to another type of paper, called a *scientific paper*. As a general scheme for a *scientific paper*, it is common to think of the level one headings as Abstract, Introduction, Literature Review, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, and References. The general scheme for a *literature review paper* differs a little. Here is the required format for this paper in regard to level 1 headings: Title Page, Abstract, Introduction, Literature Review, Discussion, Conclusion, and References. Level two headings within those sections will be derived from the content you are presenting, usually representing the main idea of your subsection. Level three headings are not always needed. When they are used, level three headings divide level two headed material into smaller, more digestible areas of focus. The paper must be saved as a Word document and submitted in the online courseroom. The Research Paper is due in Week 7 by Monday at 11:59 pm central. Please see the Grading Rubric prior to submission for further information. Please see the listed section for information regarding the course Late Work policy. Please format your attachment in Word .doc or .docx. Please double check that what you intended to attach is indeed attached, and that it is in the required format. If an extension reads anything other than .doc or .docx, I

may not be able to open it. A submission that is not attached or not capable of being opened is the same as not being submitted.

5. Final Exam:

There is one Final Exam in the Course. The Final Exam is due in the online courseroom in Week 5 by Monday 11:59 pm central. The questions are published in advance throughout the entire course in the courseroom. Please see the Grading Rubric prior to submission for further information. Please see the Course Requirements section for information regarding the Late Work policy. Please see the online courseroom submission area for further instructions.

General Grading Rubric

| Percent Allocation | Accomplished | Proficient | Needs Improvement |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|
| 10% | Student followed all assigned directions. 100% | Student followed assigned directions with minor errors. 80% | Student followed assigned directions with major errors or did not follow assigned directions. 0% |
| 40% | Attention to content is exemplary. Attention is complete and thorough, with nothing missing or nothing incorrect. 100% | Attention to content is above average. May have minor elements missing or incorrect. 80% | Attention to content is below average. May have major elements missing or incorrect. 60% |
| 40% | Student provides exemplary critical analysis. 100% | Student provides some critical analysis. 80% | Student provides minimal or no critical analysis. 60% |
| 10% | APA style contains no errors. 100% | APA style contains minor errors. 80% | APA style contains major errors. 0% |

Other scores are possible from the Rubric, but common scores look something like this:

| | |
|--|------|
| Exceptional – No Content or APA Style Errors | 100% |
| Exceptional – No Content Errors with Minor APA Style Errors | 95% |
| Good – No Content Errors with Major APA Style Errors | 89% |
| Good –Slight Errors/Above Average Submission | 85% |
| Average – Minor Errors | 75% |
| Below Average – Substantial Errors/Minimal Expectations Met | 60% |
| Failure – Egregious Errors/Minimal Expectations Not Met | 55% |
| Not Submitted | 0 |

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Regular attendance is essential. Each module comprises instructional tasks and homework activities that are completed throughout the module, each building upon and depending upon the other. All work is expected to be completed and submitted on time, within the specified module.

All written work should demonstrate graduate level writing without spelling, grammar and formatting errors. All Essays, Assignments, Exams, and the Research Paper should be proofread and corrected prior to submission. This may take several on-your-own draft revisions to accomplish. Points will be deducted for grammar and spelling errors.

All course essays and written papers must adhere to the guidelines described in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA), 6th edition or 7th edition. Please pick on edition and be consistent with it, rather than intermixing the two. All citations and references must adhere to APA 6th or 7th style or points will be deducted for improper use of APA format or no use at all. The APA publication manual can be purchased on-line from such companies as Amazon.com and elsewhere. In-text citation and a corresponding reference section line item is required in academic writing for all statements of fact, either to show who is being paraphrased (attribution citation) or to show the source used to draw your own independent conclusion (evidence citation), as well as being required for direct quotes, something that should be used sparingly, if at all, in graduate level writing. Using APA style properly is simply a matter of obtaining the APA Publication Manual and matching in-text citations or reference section line items against the examples. If they do not match exactly for capitalization, italics, punctuation, etc..., then they are not correct.

Submitted work for this course is expected to be original work by the student, prepared specifically for this course, not using work from previous courses without express professor permission. Submitted work is additionally expected to be prepared without aid from other persons, including other students; other faculty; or the use of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements of text beyond individual words. Please see the Academic Integrity section for further information. When in doubt, please ask for clarification in advance.

Late Work: All work in this course is submitted in an online courseroom, with a week starting on Monday at 12:00 am central and ending on Sunday at 11:59 pm central, except for the last day of the course in Week 5 which ends on a Friday.

Discussion Board Initial Posts will be accepted if submitted after the Friday 11:59 pm central due date but prior to the close of the module on Sunday at 11:59 pm central, with an 11% late penalty. No special permission is needed to take advantage of this late submission. Discussion Board Initial posts will not be accepted or graded after a week has closed. Discussion Board Peer Response posts will not be accepted or graded after a week has closed.

Assignments and Exams may be submitted with penalty up to 72 hours following the due date. The courseroom submission area will remain open for 72 hours after a due date, and there is no need to ask for specific permission to submit during that time. An Assignment or Exam submitted one minute or more up to 24 hours after the due date will be assessed a 10% point penalty. An Assignment or Exam submitted more than 24 hours and less than 48 hours after the due date will be assessed a 20% point penalty. An Assignment or Exam submitted more than 48 hours and less than 72 hours after the due date will be assessed a 30% point penalty. Assignments and Exams will not be accepted or graded later than 72 hours following their due date. Assignments and Exams will not be accepted or graded after the last day of the course.

All work must be submitted prior to the end of the course. Late work cannot be accepted or graded after the course has ended. The university submission deadlines for course grades from professors is too tight for that.

Evaluation of each unit will be completed by the professor periodically throughout the semester. There is no set schedule for the receipt of graded work.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work.

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

For more details regarding academic integrity and the definition of academic dishonesty, please see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun.

Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Counseling Center Services

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Tentative Weekly Schedule:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Week 1 (11/06/2023-11/12/2023) | Chapters 1-4 Summary (Wednesday) Initial Discussion (Friday) Peer Response (Sunday) Topic Selection (Sunday) |
| Week 2 (11/13/2023-11/19/2023) | Chapters 5-6 Summary (Wednesday) Initial Discussion (Friday) Peer Response (Sunday) |
| Week 3 (11/20/2023-11/26/2023) | Chapters 7-9 Summary (Wednesday) Initial Discussion (Friday) Peer Response (Sunday) |
| Week 4 (11/27/2023-12/12/2023) | Chapters 10-13 Summary (Wednesday) Initial Discussion (Wednesday) Peer Response (Wednesday) |
| Week 5 (12/03/2023-12/08/2023) | Research Paper (Monday) Final Exam (Monday) |