



WILCO CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CRIJ 1145 Introduction to Homeland Security

Instructor: Teresa Fisher

Contact Phone: (815) 838-6941 ext. 1011

Office Hours: By Appointment

Email: tfisher@wilcoacc.org

Mon/Tue/Wed/Thur/Fri

Session One: 7:50 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.

Session Two: 9:55 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.

Session Three: 12:25 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Course Description

An overview of the evolution of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in the U.S. and an analysis of the major policies, practices, concepts, and challenges confronting the field. Modern threats from domestic, international, and transnational terrorism will be addressed along with issues stemming from other forms of geopolitical conflict and natural disasters. The roles of various agencies under the authority of the DHS as well as other government entities, private organizations, and individual citizens in responding to the modern threat landscape will be examined.

Credit and Contact Hours

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture/Demonstration: Yes

Lab/Practical Exercises: Yes

Book, Supplies, and Supplementary Materials

- **Textbook:** An Introduction to Homeland Security 2nd Ed., Oliver, Marion, Hill, 2021, Jones & Bartlett Learning
- **Required Uniform:** For class: Wilco Criminal Justice shirt, dark pants (blue or black) or khaki pants, shoes, black belt. For physical fitness: Wilco T-shirt, BDUs/sweatpants/shorts, gym shoes.
- **Technology:** Google Classroom technology will be integrated into this class. Login directions will be provided in class. Students are responsible for checking this site daily.
- **Supplies Required:** Notebook, paper, black 1 inch 3-ring binder, black pen, pencil, earbuds/headphones, flash drive

Method of Instruction

Students will be evaluated by any or a combination of the following: exams, assignments, written papers, and group projects. Class participation may also be a factor.

**THIS IS A COLLEGE LEVEL COURSE. ALL ELIGIBLE STUDENTS
WILL RECEIVE COLLEGE CREDITS THROUGH COLLEGE OF DUPAGE.**

Course Objectives

- 1) Describe the historic evolution of the United States DHS
- 2) Explain the functions and objectives of the DHS
- 3) Identify major programs, concepts, agencies, and issues involved in the national homeland security system
- 4) Describe the interactions of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and private sector entities as they pertain to homeland security
- 5) Identify the bureaucratic, legislative, and logistical problems associated with the DHS
- 6) Describe the ramifications of man-made threats to the United States including domestic, international, and transnational terrorism, geopolitical instability, mass migration, and civil unrest
- 7) Explain the role of the DHS in mitigating and responding to natural disasters
- 8) Describe the scope, legal implications, and controversial impact of the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism (USA PATRIOT) Act of 2001

Assessment of Learning

Formative assignments and quizzes
Summative periodic and final exams
Task Assessments, role playing and participation

General Education Student Learning Outcomes

Students will receive a basic understanding of Homeland Security that will provide a solid foundation and understanding of the many different agencies and their roles. Additionally, this will provide the student with more information to utilize when analyzing what area of Law Enforcement to pursue as a career. Additionally, students will be able to demonstrate:

- An ability to think critically and analytically
- Organized and coherent communication, both oral and written
- Competence in using academic technology including finding, evaluating and utilizing appropriate information sources.

Graded Assignments and policies:

Your grade will be based on a cumulative point total. However, do not count solely on “points” as class participation and attendance will be imperative to maintain a solid grade in this class. Grades will be based on the following criteria. Further explanation of the assigned points or assignments will follow throughout the year.

The Wilco Grading Scale is as follows:

A 90-100% Denotes performance that consistently exceeds expectations and demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the subject.
B 80-89% Denotes performance that meets and at times, exceeds expectations and indicates good preparation in the subject.
C 70-79% Denotes performance that meets expectations and demonstrates adequate preparation in the subject.
D 60-69% Denotes performance that is inadequate or inconsistently meets expectations and makes it inadvisable to proceed further in the subject without additional work.
F 0-59% Denotes performance that consistently fails to meet expectations.

Course Grading

Final Exam:	20% of the course grade
Unit Exams:	20% of the course grade
Chapter Quizzes:	20% of the course grade
Research Paper/Project:	20% of the course grade
Participation/Job-related/Task Assessment:	20% of the course grade

Students **must** maintain a grade of “C” or better to remain enrolled as a College of DuPage student to receive college credit. The instructor will drop students with a grade of “D” or lower from the college portion of this course. Students are **expected** to participate in all activities including physical training.

Classroom Policies and Procedures

Students are expected to follow all classroom policies and procedures as well as guidelines outlined in the Wilco Student Handbook available on the Wilco Website: www.wilco.k12.il.us.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is required for all classes.

Make-up Policy

Students with a written excused absence or suspension will be allowed to make up work that was missed during their absence. Work should be completed on the ratio of one day absent –one day make up time, two days absent-two days make up time, etc. Five (5) % points will be deducted for each day late. **No late work will be accepted after 7 days late.** Grades will be calculated cumulatively throughout the semester. The semester marks the end of the first grading period. Students start the second semester with a fresh start. At the end of the semester, letter grades are awarded as defined. Students are responsible for checking their grades on INFINITE CAMPUS - the official Wilco grade side that is linked on the Wilco website under "Quick Links".

Extra-credit Policy

Extra credit is not available for this course.

Final Exam

All students must take a cumulative final exam based on the topics listed and IL-AVC CJ1 essential topics.

Academic Honor Code

The objective of the academic honor code is to sustain a learning-centered environment in which all students are expected to demonstrate integrity, honor, and responsibility, and recognize the importance of being accountable for one's academic behavior. Instructors will not accept student responses within any assignment that are generated by AI. Any assignments believed to be AI generated will be returned and marked as missing until the student resubmits the assignment.

College Statement about grades of 'F' and withdrawal from class

Students may withdraw from a course by processing an add/drop form during regular office hours. Please note the withdrawal dates listed on your bill or student schedule. Every course has its own withdrawal date. Failure to withdraw properly may result in a failing grade of 'F' in the course. At any time prior to the deadline dates established, the **instructor will withdraw a student** from college credit because of poor attendance, poor academic performance or inappropriate academic behavior, such as, but not limited to, cheating or plagiarism.

Intellectual Property

Students own and hold the copyright to the original work they produce in class. It is a widely accepted practice to use student work as part of the college's internal self-evaluation, assessment

procedures, or other efforts to improve teaching and learning and in promoting programs and recruiting new students. If you do not wish your work to be used in this manner, please inform the instructor.

Professionalism/Student Code of Conduct

Each student is responsible for reading and adhering to the Student Code of Conduct as stated in the Wilco Student Handbook. Students are expected to handle themselves professionally during class. Professionalism includes attending and being prepared for class, being engaged, being active participants, and adhering to all rules and regulations. Students can expect to be treated as college-level students, and as such, require standards of professionalism that are highly consistent with the “real world.” Instructors will strive to maintain this “real world” classroom atmosphere, but will revert to maintaining conduct in a manner to be expected in a high school setting if student conduct dictates. Students must direct comments or responses to the class in a professional manner. Due to the controversial Law Enforcement/social issues covered, if you are offended by the comments of a fellow class member or instructor, please speak to the instructor personally to discuss the issue/problem. In many cases, these instances can result in valuable learning experiences.

Sexual Harassment

Wilco Area Career Center and College of DuPage seek to foster a community environment in which all members respect and trust each other. In a community in which persons respect and trust each other, there is no place for sexual harassment. There is a strong policy prohibiting the sexual harassment of one member of the school community by another. See Student Handbook.

Student Support

Students with a documented disability, including a learning disability, which requires special accommodations, should identify themselves during the first few days of the semester. Please contact the instructor before or after class. Student Services are available to all students.

Student Services include:

- o Tutoring
- o Learning disabilities support
- o Testing accommodations

Safety

It is the responsibility of the student not to engage in any activity that would endanger the safety of themselves or others. Students should immediately notify the instructor if they become aware of an unsafe situation.

College Documentation Styles

The selected documentation style for this class is APA 7th Edition.
All papers will be checked for plagiarism.

Quizzes and Exams

Quizzes will be administered at the end of each chapter. Exams will cover four to six chapters, resulting in three exams. A final exam will be administered at the end of the semester.

Course Outline

Chapter 1:	A History of Homeland Security
Chapter 2:	Homeland Security Defined
Chapter 3:	Modern Terrorism and Natural Disasters
Chapter 4:	The Development of Homeland Security
Chapter 5:	The Department of Homeland Security
Chapter 6:	Homeland Security Community
Exam:	Chapters 1 - 6
Chapter 7:	Antiterrorism and Counterterrorism

Chapter 8:	The National Strategy for Homeland Security
Chapter 9:	Homeland Security Threats
Chapter 10:	The Homeland Security Cycle
Exam:	Chapters 7 - 10
Chapter 11:	National Incident Management System and Incident Command System
Chapter 12:	Political Responses to Homeland Security
Chapter 13:	Legal Responses to Homeland Security
Chapter 14:	Homeland Security Communication and Technology Issues
Chapter 15:	Domain Security and the Future of Homeland Security
Exam:	Chapter 11 - 15

Topical Outline

1. Historical overview of the evolution of the United States DHS
2. DHS functions and objectives
3. Major programs, concepts, agencies, and issues involved in the national homeland security system
4. Interactions of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and the private sector in securing the homeland
5. Bureaucratic, legislative, and logistical problems associated with the DHS
6. Problems and solutions revolving around man-made threats to the United States
7. Mitigation and response to natural disasters facing the United States
8. Overview of the USA PATRIOT Act

Project Due Date

April 23, 2027

Disclaimer

This syllabus is subject to change anytime throughout the course at the discretion of the instructor.

Effective Date

May 1, 2026