NISS 5300.500 – Introduction to Intelligence and Security Studies

Fall Semester 2021
Professor: Dr. Julie Harrelson-Stephens
Office: 135 Liberal Arts North

ZOOM Office Hours:
Monday and Wednesday 9:00-9:50;
and Tuesday 1:00-3:00 and Thursday 11:00-12:00
Phone: 936-468-2380

E-mail: harrelsoj@sfasu.edu “The best way to contact me is through the email built into D2L/Brightspace

My ZOOM office hours are drop-in and do not require an appointment. If I am with another student, you may be in the waiting room. If you would like to make an appointment or need to meet at another time, let me know I am happy to work with your schedule. I will answer your emails within 48 hours.

Please Note: The syllabus may change at the discretion of the instructor. Notification of changes will be made through Brightspace.

Course Description (3 credits; fully online; spans 15 weeks).

This course introduces the students to the core concepts and theories in security and intelligence studies. The course introduces the basic elements of intelligence: collection and analysis, counterintelligence, and covert action. It will include a brief history of the evolution of intelligence, an introduction to the intelligence cycle, and a discussion of intelligence failures.

The course contains extensive written and video content. In addition, students have significant weekly reading assignments and are expected to participate in weekly discussions covering the reading assignments and lecture material. The student will also complete two intelligence briefs. Finally, the student complete two essays covering the material and concepts covered in the course. The student is expected to spend at least six hours a week completing the reading and associated assignments.

Course Goals

Program Learning Outcomes

The student will explain basic theories of intelligence collection and analysis policy
Course Objectives (Student Learning Outcomes)

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Distinguish intelligence from information
2. Demonstrate a familiarity with the Intelligence Community
3. Assess disparate approaches to analysis
4. Analyze causes of intelligence failures and techniques for creating successes

Course Materials

Required Text:


Required Technology: This course will be delivered through the university’s Learning Management System (LMS), Brightspace. Each student is required to have access to a computer with internet capabilities in order to access the course. Each student is also required to have a working, university (sfasu.edu) email account.

As a student of Stephen F. Austin State University, you have free access to this course’s Brightspace site. You will need to access the course weekly throughout the semester. Assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through Brightspace, unless otherwise instructed. Some assignments may require audio files. Students must have a working computer microphone or the ability to add audio to files on their computer to complete these assignments. Files with audio are submitted as PowerPoint files. All other submitted files must be in PDF or Word format.

Technical Support

If at any point during the course you experience technical difficulties in Brightspace, please let your instructor know immediately.

You will also need to contact the SFASU Brightspace Support Team by email (d2l@sfasu.edu) or phone (936.468.1919) for technical help.

Class Attendance and Excused Absence: Policy 6.7

Regular, punctual attendance, documented participation, and, if indicated in the syllabus, submission of completed assignments are expected at all classes, laboratories, and other activities for which the student is registered. Based on university policy, failure of students to adhere to these requirements shall influence the course grade, financial assistance, and/or enrollment status. The instructor shall maintain an accurate record of each student’s attendance and participation as well as note this information in required reports and in determining final grades. Students may be excused from attendance for reasons such as health, family emergencies, or student participation in approved university-sponsored events. However, students are responsible for notifying their instructors in advance, when possible, for excusable absences. Whether
absences are excused or unexcused, a student is still responsible for all course content and assignments. Students with accepted excuses may be permitted to make up work for up to three weeks of absences during a semester or one week of a summer term, depending on the nature of the missed work. Make-up work must be completed as soon as possible after returning from an absence.

**Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Please ensure that all work you post or submit is your original work, and that any material belonging to others is properly cited according to the ASPA Style Manual.

Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism

**Student Academic Dishonesty: Policy 4.1**

Abiding by university policy on academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam;
- falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment; and/or;
- helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one's own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- submitting an assignment as one's own work when it is at least partly the work of another person;
- submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source; and/or,
- incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit.

The consequences for academic dishonesty will result in a minimum penalty of a zero for the assignment and may result in an “F” for the course and reporting to the Dean of Students for further action. For additional information about academic dishonesty, please read and abide by the complete university policy at SFASU Academic Dishonesty Policy.

**Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities: Policy 6.1 and 6.6**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325 (936.468.3004) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to SFASU Disability Services.
Mental Health and Wellness

SFA values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:

**SFA Counseling Services**
Rusk Building, 3rd Floor
936.468.2401

**SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic**
Human Services, Room 202
936.468.1041

**Crisis Resources**
Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741