

Course Description

DSC1006 | Introduction to Homeland Security | 3.00 credits

This course will introduce students to the vocabulary and important components of homeland security. Students will learn about the agencies associated with homeland security and their interrelated duties and relationships.

Course Competencies

Competency 1: The student will describe essential characteristics of national and international acts of terrorism by:

1. Defining an act of national and international terrorism
2. Differentiating between a criminal act and an act of terrorism

Competency 2: The student will identify historical terrorist events that have affected the United States and the world by:

1. Describing historical acts of terrorism that have affected the United States
2. Describing historical acts of terrorism that have affected other countries

Competency 3: The student will contrast the roles played by the different levels of the government organizations in their response to a terrorist incident compared to state and federal agencies by:

1. Distinguishing the role of governments in their response to a terrorist incident compared to state and federal agencies
2. Identifying the different federal agencies responsible for homeland security and describing their roles
3. Describing the role state agencies have in responding to and combating terrorism

Competency 4: The student will differentiate between ethical and unethical attitudes and actions regarding the execution of homeland security practices by:

1. Distinguishing between racial profiling and criminal profiling
2. Applying constitutional and statutory laws of search and seizure and arrest in an ethical and professional manner
3. Demonstrating an understanding of federal and state statutes authorizing law enforcement actions

Competency 5: The student will identify the characteristics, ideologies, motives, and behaviors of various extremist and terrorist groups that foster and support terrorist criminal activities by:

1. Describing major ideologies that shape and motivate contemporary terrorist activities
2. Identifying criminal activities that support terrorist goals

Competency 6: The student will examine and interpret forensic evidence that might be found at the scene of the terrorist act by:

1. Identifying types of evidence that might be found at the scene of a terrorist act
2. Demonstrating the ability to secure and process a crime scene utilizing digital crime scene technology tools
3. Distinguishing the types of forensic investigative techniques used to analyze different categories of evidence
4. Describing capabilities of different state and federal crime laboratories and their ability to examine different categories of evidence

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society