HOMELAND SECURITY

Degree Requirements

Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S)
Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-700 Professional Degree Policies (https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/).

The Master of Professional Studies in Homeland Security program requires a minimum of 33 credits, 24 of which must be earned at Penn State. Up to 10 graduate credits may be transferred in from a regionally accredited institution (subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-309/transfer-credit/)); if the full 10 credits are transferred, the minimum total number of credits in the degree program will be 34. At least 18 credits must be courses at the 500 or 800 level, of which 6 credits must be in 500-level courses.

Students are expected to maintain a B (3.0) or better average in academic courses to be retained in the program. Graduate Council policy requires that students must have a GPA of 3.0 or above in order to graduate from the program.

Each student will take a 9-credit core curriculum consisting of HLS 801/PADM 801, HLS 803/PHIL 803, and HLS 805/PLSC 805, as well as a non-credit Orientation Course. Students will also take 12 credits of prescribed courses for the specialized option. There are 9 elective credits that are chosen from an approved list in consultation with the student’s academic adviser. The list of electives is maintained by the Base Program and Option Directors and is provided to the students in the respective specialization area. Finally, each degree candidate must complete a capstone project on a topic related to homeland security and defense, in association with HLS 594/AGBIO 594/GEOG 594/INSC 594/IST 594/PHP 594/PLSC 594.

Time Limitation
All degree requirements for the Master of Professional Studies in Homeland Security must be met within five years of admission to degree status.

Prescribed Courses
Homeland security refers to the unifying core for the vast global network of organizations and institutions that are involved in the efforts to secure society. Regardless of field of specialization, or chosen discipline for graduate study, all professionals in the program will participate in a Unifying Core Curriculum with the following educational goals and objectives:

- Understand major policies and legislation that shapes homeland security in a globalized society.
- Become familiar with organizations that play a key role in the implementation of homeland security policies and administration, and recognize the interactions among them.
- Understand the way in which a person or group responds to a set of conditions so as to prevent and respond to incidents and catastrophic events when needed.
- Recognize the impact that catastrophic events, both natural and man-made, have on society and the domestic and global economy.
- Identify and assess potential threats, vulnerabilities, and consequences.
- Apply leadership skills and principles that are necessary for producing and acting on information of value within a collaborative setting.
- Communicate effectively in the context of particular institutional cultures.
- Use, conduct, and interpret research and data effectively in decision-making.
- Practice ethics and integrity as a foundation for analytical debate and conclusion.
- Develop an appreciation of the cultural, social, psychological, political, and legal aspects of terrorism and counterterrorism.

The Core Curriculum consists of the following four courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HLS/PADM 801</td>
<td>Homeland Security Administration: Policies and Programs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLS/PHIL 803</td>
<td>Homeland Security: Social and Ethical Issues</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLS/PLSC 805</td>
<td>Violence, Threats, Terror, and Insurgency</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
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Listed below are the courses required/suggested for the Base Program and for the Options:

### Homeland Security (Base Program)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HLS Orientation</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLS/PADM 801</td>
<td>Homeland Security Administration: Policies and Programs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLS/PHIL 803</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HLS 812</td>
<td>Homeland Security and Homeland Defense in Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLS 813</td>
<td>Multifaceted Approaches to Homeland Security</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLS 558</td>
<td>Whole-Community Disaster Preparedness</td>
<td>3</td>
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### Electives
Choose 9 credits from an approved elective list in consultation with adviser. The list of electives is maintained by the Base Program Director and is provided to the students in the base program.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HLS 594</td>
<td>Research Topics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>33</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Agricultural Biosecurity and Food Defense Option

#### Required Courses
- **HLS Orientation**: 0 credits
- **HLS/PADM 801**: Homeland Security Administration: Policies and Programs (3 credits)
- **HLS/PHIL 803**: Homeland Security: Social and Ethical Issues (3 credits)
- **HLS/PLSC 805**: Violence, Threats, Terror, and Insurgency (3 credits)

#### Agricultural Biosecurity and Food Defense Option Prescribed Courses
- **AGBIO 520**: Agricultural Biosecurity: Protecting a Key Infrastructure (3 credits)
- **AGBIO 521**: Food Defense: Prevention Planning for Food Processors (3 credits)
- **AGBIO 801**: Veterinary Infectious Disease Diagnostic and Surveillance Systems (3 credits)
- **AGBIO 802**: Plant Protection: Responding to Introductions of Threatening Pests and Pathogens (3 credits)

#### Electives
Choose 9 credits from an approved elective list in consultation with adviser. The list of electives is maintained by the Option Director and is provided to the students in the option.

#### Capstone Experience
- **AGBIO 594**: Agricultural Biosecurity and Food Defense Capstone Experience (3 credits)

**Total Credits**: 33

### Counterterrorism Option

#### Required Courses
- **HLS Orientation**: 0 credits
- **HLS/PADM 801**: Homeland Security Administration: Policies and Programs (3 credits)
- **HLS/PHIL 803**: Homeland Security: Social and Ethical Issues (3 credits)
- **HLS/PLSC 805**: Violence, Threats, Terror, and Insurgency (3 credits)

#### Counterterrorism Option Prescribed Courses
- **PLSC 836**: Root Causes of Terrorism (3 credits)
- **PLSC 569**: Counterterrorism (3 credits)
- **PLSC 838**: Tools and Analysis of Counterterrorism (3 credits)
- **PLSC 837**: Radicalization, Counter-Radicalization, and De-Radicalization (3 credits)

#### Electives
Choose 9 credits from an approved elective list in consultation with adviser. The list of electives is maintained by the Option Director and is provided to the students in the option.

#### Capstone Experience
- **PLSC 594**: Research in Political Science (3 credits)

**Total Credits**: 33

### Intelligence and Geospatial Analysis Option

#### Required Courses
- **HLS Orientation**: 0 credits
- **HLS/PADM 801**: Homeland Security Administration: Policies and Programs (3 credits)
- **HLS/PHIL 803**: Homeland Security: Social and Ethical Issues (3 credits)
- **HLS/PLSC 805**: Violence, Threats, Terror, and Insurgency (3 credits)

#### Intelligence and Geospatial Analysis Option Prescribed Courses
- **GEOG 882**: Geographic Foundations of Geospatial Intelligence (3 credits)
- **GEOG 483**: Problem-Solving with GIS (3 credits)
- **GEOG 479**: Spatial Data Science for Cyber and Human Social Networks (3 credits)
- **GEOG 885**: Analytical Methods and GeoAI in Geospatial Intelligence (3 credits)

#### Electives
Choose 9 credits from an approved elective list in consultation with adviser. The list of electives is maintained by the Option Director and is provided to the students in the option.

#### Capstone Experience
- **GEOG 594A**: Culminating Experiences in Geospatial Intelligence (1 credit)
- **GEOG 594B**: Geospatial Intelligence Capstone Experience (2 credits)

**Total Credits**: 33

### Information Security and Forensics Option

#### Required Courses
- **HLS Orientation**: 0 credits
- **HLS/PADM 801**: Homeland Security Administration: Policies and Programs (3 credits)
- **HLS/PHIL 803**: Homeland Security: Social and Ethical Issues (3 credits)
- **HLS/PLSC 805**: Violence, Threats, Terror, and Insurgency (3 credits)

#### Information Security and Forensics Option Prescribed Courses
- **IST 454**: Computer and Cyber Forensics (3 credits)
- **IST 456**: Information Security Management (3 credits)
- **IST 815**: Foundations of Information Security and Assurance (3 credits)
- **IST 554**: Network Management and Security (3 credits)

Choose 4 out of the following 5:
- **SWENG 545**: Data Mining (3 credits)
- **INSC 561**: Web Security and Privacy (3 credits)
- **INSC 846**: Network and Predictive Analytics for Socio-Technical Systems (3 credits)
- **IST 564**: Crisis, Disaster and Risk Management (3 credits)
- **INSC 831**: Contemporary Information Systems Architecture (3 credits)

#### Electives
Choose 9 credits from an approved elective list in consultation with adviser. The list of electives is maintained by the Option Director and is provided to the students in the option.

#### Capstone Experience
- **GEOG 594A**: Culminating Experiences in Geospatial Intelligence (1 credit)
- **GEOG 594B**: Geospatial Intelligence Capstone Experience (2 credits)

**Total Credits**: 33
Electives
Choose 9 credits from an approved elective list in consultation with adviser. The list of electives is maintained by the Option Director and is provided to the students in the option.

Capstone Experience

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<tr>
<td>IST 594</td>
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Total Credits 33

Public Health Preparedness Option

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHP 410</td>
<td>Public Health Preparedness for Disaster and Terrorist Emergencies I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHP 510</td>
<td>Public Health Preparedness for Disaster and Terrorist Emergencies II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHP 527</td>
<td>Public Health Evaluation of Disasters and Bioterrorism</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHP 830</td>
<td>Critical Infrastructure Protection of Health Care Delivery Systems</td>
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Electives
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