An introduction to homeland security, and defense, with a focus on policy, legal issues, organization, and administration. PUBPL 201 Introduction to Homeland Security (3) The course provides a baseline of common knowledge for understanding the nature of homeland security. The course achieves this goal by focusing on homeland security, the motivation and nature of terrorists, the policies established by governments, pertinent governmental plans to meet homeland security goals, who the key players are in homeland security, and the relevant legal issues framing efforts to defend the nation’s security. As an introduction to the broad area of study, this course serves as a basis for specialized study such as critical infrastructure protection, cyber-security, and emergency response management. Understanding key principles will be measured through preparation of a written analysis of key homeland security/defense issues with alternative strategies consistent with current policy and legal constraints.

HLS 475: Critical Infrastructure Protection
3 Credits
This course provides knowledge about protection of critical infrastructure as an aspect of homeland security. PUBPL 475 Critical Infrastructure Protection (3) Critical Infrastructure Protection provides a definition of critical infrastructure and examines the importance of protecting it in the post-9/11 era. The course focuses on policies and programs designed to prevent catastrophic events and to protect and maintain the nation’s critical infrastructure. It examines such activity through an understanding of the network of organizations at all levels of government and in the private sector responsible for protecting infrastructure. Case examples are provided of catastrophic events to provide an understanding of risks involved in infrastructure protection. Understanding key principles will be measured through preparation of a written analysis of a key homeland security/defense issue with alternative strategies consistent with current policy and legal constraints.

Prerequisite: PLSC 201; HLS 404

HLS 476: Homeland Security Intelligence
3 Credits/Maximum of 3
The Homeland Security Intelligence course provides a depth of knowledge of key intelligence issues for homeland security professionals.

Prerequisite: PLSC 201; HLS 404

HLS 483: Seminar in National Security Policy
3 Credits
This course provides a comprehensive overview of the process of U.S. national security policy - the principles, practices, and participants in the development and implementation of security strategy and policy. It applies theories and models to the bureaucratic policy making structure of the Executive Branch, looks at the roles of other governmental participants, and evaluates the many factors that constrain decision making. It assesses the impact of non-governmental entities such as the media, interest groups, and public opinion, and considers the effect of changing domestic factors on the process. Finally, it prepares students to be knowledgeable and effective participants in the process and presents them with a practitioner’s framework for policymaking. The main themes of this course are that the U.S. Constitution established a federal government of separate institutions sharing powers within an intentionally inefficient system of checks and balances that has evolved by virtue of a dynamic process of Constitutional Amendments, legislative statutes, judicial decisions, and executive actions; and, that national security decisions are best understood by considering the bureaucratic context in which they are made within the Executive Branch, and as a result of the interaction of other governmental and non-governmental participants.

Prerequisite: seventh-semester standing
Cross-listed with: PLSC 483, PUBPL 483
HLS 495: Homeland security internship

1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18

Supervised off-campus, non-group instruction including field experiences, practica, or internships. Written and oral critique of activity required. A specific title may be used in each instance and will be entered on the student's transcript.