**ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE**

**Community and Continuing Education**

**HLS 101 – Introduction to Homeland Security**

**Course Outline**

**Course Number & Name:**  HLS 101 Introduction to Homeland Security

**Credit Hours:**  3.0 **Contact Hours:**  3.0 **Lecture:** 3.0 **Lab:**  N/A **Other:**  N/A

**Prerequisites**:  None

**Co-requisites:** None **Concurrent Courses:** None

**Effective Date:**  Fall 2011

**Course Description**: This course is an overview to all of the important components of homeland security. The course will examine the agencies associated with homeland security and their inter-related duties, a description of the state, national, and international laws impacting homeland security, and an examination of historical events that led up to the present day critical threats that America now faces.

**Course Goals:** Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to do the following:

1. outline the essential characteristics of national and international acts of terrorism;

2. construct a historical timeline that includes all significant terroristic threats and events in the United States and globally; and

1. examine and interpret forensic evidence to reconstruct crime and terrorism events.

**Measurable Course Performance Objectives (MPOs)**: Upon successful completion of this course, students should specifically be able to do the following:

1. Outline the essential characteristics of national and international acts of terrorism:

1.1 *classify the roles, functions, and interdependency between local, federal, and international law enforcement and military agencies to counter and combat terrorism;* and

1.2 *describe effective strategies that generate useful information for local, national, and international law enforcement agencies*

2. Construct a historical timeline that includes all significant terroristic threats and events in the United States and globally:

 2.1 *compose a historical outline that reflects the methods and outcomes used by national and international law enforcement and military agencies to counter and combat terrorism*; and

 2.2 *explain the significant threats and resulting defense measures taken by American military agencies*

**Measurable Course Performance Objectives (MPOs)** (continued):

3. Examine and interpret forensic evidence to reconstruct crime and terrorism events:

3.1 *define terms used to describe and explore terroristic and crime threats nationally and globally*; and

3.2 *analyze American vulnerabilities regarding crime and international terrorism*

**Methods of Instruction**: Instruction will consist of lecture, class discussions, homework assignments, quizzes, exams, and completion of a typed 5 – 7 page research paper.

**Outcomes Assessment:** Quiz and exam questions are blueprinted to course objectives. A checklist rubric is used to evaluate the research paper for the presence of course objectives. Data is collected and analyzed to determine the level of student performance on these assessment instruments in regards to meeting course objectives. The results of this data analysis are used to guide necessary pedagogical and/or curricular revisions.

**Course Requirements:** All students are required to:

1. Maintain regular attendance.

2. Read assigned chapters and complete homework.

3. Take part in class discussions.

4. Take all quizzes and exams as scheduled.

5. Submit a typed, double-spaced 5 – 7 page research paper on due date.

**Methods of Evaluation:** Final course grades will be computed as follows:

 **% of**

**Grading Components final course grade**

* **Homework assignments and class participation 15%**

Students will complete chapter questions in writing, for collection in class, to foster learning and comprehension of homeland security. The assignments will provide evidence of student mastery of course objectives.

* **2 or more Quizzes**   **20%**

Quizzes will show evidence of the extent to which students meet course objectives, demonstrating an operational knowledge of homeland security and the most critical threats confronting national security.

**Methods of Evaluation:** (continued)

 **% of**

**Grading Components final course grade**

* **5 – 7 page Research Paper 25%**

Papers will be double-spaced and typed and are required to enhance the understanding of homeland security and agency interrelated duties and relationships in the United States. The topic will be approved by the instructor and will relate to course objectives.

* Midterm Exam 20%

The midterm exam will show evidence of student mastery of course objectives and of student comprehension of course material covered in the first half of the semester, including material from chapters 1 – 6.

* **Final Exam** **20%**

The final exam will show evidence of student mastery of course objectives and of student comprehension of course material covered in the last half of the semester, including material from chapters 7 – 14.

**Academic Integrity:** Dishonesty disrupts the search for truth that is inherent in the learning process and so devalues the purpose and the mission of the College. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following:

* plagiarism – the failure to acknowledge another writer’s words or ideas or to give proper credit to sources of information;
* cheating – knowingly obtaining or giving unauthorized information on any test/exam or any other academic assignment;
* interference – any interruption of the academic process that prevents others from the proper engagement in learning or teaching; and
* fraud – any act or instance of willful deceit or trickery.

Violations of academic integrity will be dealt with by imposing appropriate sanctions. Sanctions for acts of academic dishonesty could include the resubmission of an assignment, failure of the test/exam, failure in the course, probation, suspension from the College, and even expulsion from the College.

**Student Code of Conduct:** All students are expected to conduct themselves as responsible and considerate adults who respect the rights of others. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. All students are also expected to attend and be on time for all class meetings. No cell phones or similar electronic devices are permitted in class. Please refer to the Essex County College student handbook, *Lifeline*, for more specific information about the College’s Code of Conduct and attendance requirements.

**Course Content Outline:** based on the text **Homeland Security: An Introduction to Principles and Practice**, by Charles P Nemeth; 2010.

**WeekUnit/Topic**

1 Unit 1 – Introduction to Homeland Security (Idea and Origin)

2 Unit 2 – Terror, Threat, and Disaster Post-9/11: A New Paradigm of Homeland Security

3 Unit 3 – Homeland Security Laws, Regulations, and Budgeting

4 Unit 4 – Risk Management, Threats, and Hazards

5 Unit 5 – Training and Exercises in Homeland Security (HSEEP)

6 Unit 6 – DHS Challenges: National versus State and Local, National Security versus Homeland Security

7 Unit 7 – FEMA, Response and Recovery (FEMA History Lesson)

 **MIDTERM EXAM**

8Unit 8 – Intelligence in the United States; Intelligence Agencies (FBI, CIA, DIA)

9 Unit 9 – Border Security, US Citizenship, and Immigration Services

10 Unit 10 – Transportation Security and Safety; TSA, Air Marshals, Maritime Security, Coast Guard, Rail and Mass Transit

11 Unit 11 – Homeland Security and Public Health (USA Patriot Act)

12 Unit 12 – Future of Homeland Security; DHS: Technology, Growth, Decentralization, and A Need for New Thinking

13 Unit 13 – Future of Homeland Security (continued); Bioterrorism: Responding to Communication Challenges Posed by Intentional or Unintentional Release of Pathogens in an Urban Setting

 **Research Paper due**

14 Unit 14 – Predictions and Forecasts

 Review for Final Exam

15 **FINAL EXAM**