



**DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY STUDIES,
COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

SYLLABUS

**SCST 6365 Doctrine and Praxis in HS Studies (Capstone Research
Project [CRP])**

Spring 2018

Professor: Magdalena Denham, Ed. D.

Office location: CJC Room 105

Phone: (936) 294 4748

Email: magdalena@shsu.edu

Class hours: Virtual

Classroom: N/A

Office hours: Mondays 9:00 – 11:45; Wednesdays 9:00 – 11:45 or by appointment

Required Textbooks:

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

ISBN – 10: 1 – 4338-0561-8

Course Description:

This Capstone course will provide graduate students with an opportunity to demonstrate in writing the mastery of safety and security issues, challenges, models, concepts, theories, trends acquired during the graduate journey. The demonstration will consist of linking content knowledge and contextualizing it through synthesis, integration, research, and critical inquiry into a written product created purposefully, with relevance, and with social, organizational, political, or cultural resonance.

Course Objectives:

In this course, our focus will be on these major objectives (as assessed by the IDEA course evaluation

system):

Essential:

1. Gain factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends).
2. Develop skills in expressing oneself in writing through the composition of the final Capstone Research Project (CRP).
3. Acquire interest in learning more about the focal safety and security topic under inquiry.

Important:

4. Develop skills relevant to practitioners in the field of Homeland Security Studies through collaboration and communication with professionals.

Course Requirements:

1. Students are expected to integrate expert knowledge available on the topic into the CRP.
2. All written assignments are to be completed on time. Assignments submitted late will not be accepted. Job challenges are not considered reasons for not completing assignments. No incompletes will be given for this course without prior approval from the instructor and based on EXTREME unforeseen circumstances.
3. All written products should reflect graduate level quality scholarship and composition skills and follow APA, 6th edition.
4. Students are expected to spend the time necessary to keep up with the readings and the written assignments.
5. At all times the student is expected to maintain a professional presence in face-to-face or in electronic communications. Another part of professional behavior is meeting the requirements/deadlines for the assigned written products.

Course Grading:

The grade in this course will be based on the segments and drafts of the CRP and will be accrued incrementally through scaffolding of the CRP; integration of feedback from previous drafts into the final CRP will be paramount:

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Assignment 1 – Table of Content (TOC) | Total possible points 100 |
| Assignment 2 – Introduction/Background | Total possible points 100 |
| Assignment 3 – Literature Review Draft 1 | Total Possible Points 100 |

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Assignment 4 – Methodology | Total Possible Points 100 |
| Assignment 5 – Literature Review Draft 2 | Total Possible Point 100 |
| Assignment 6 – Findings and Discussion | Total Possible Points 100 |
| Final CRP | Total Possible Points 400 |

Total points possible: 1000

Grading Scale:

1000-900 =A; 900-800 =B;

***** Grade A and B are the only passing CRP grades. Grade of C or lower will disqualify student from graduation.**

Academic Dishonesty:

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see Dean of Student's Office at http://www.shsu.edu/~slo_www/. **Be advised that all of your assignments will be assessed for their originality through the use of the national database/cross-checker turnitin.com**; online FEMA tests taken as part of the midterm might be monitored by the instructor.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: "a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...." A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an

assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf

Students with Disabilities Policy:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Counseling Center and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/811006.pdf

Cellular phones, pagers, laptops, and other electronic devices:

Only with a formal request from the Counseling Center will a student be allowed to use ANY electronic device during class to aid in the learning process.

As members of the classroom community, all students have a responsibility to others who are a part of that community. The goal is to produce an environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and other students with respect. Cell phones, laptop computers, pagers, and similar devices have become increasingly a part of everyday life in our society; however, when used in the classroom environment they can become disruptive. Students are to turn off all cell phones and other electronic equipment while in the classroom. When cell phones or pagers ring and students respond in class or leave class to respond, it disrupts the class. ***Therefore, the use by students of cell phones, pagers, or similar communication devices during scheduled class-time is prohibited.*** All such devices should be turned off or put in a silent (vibrate) mode and ordinarily should not be taken out

during class. If there is an emergency situation for a student, that student should inform the instructor and place himself/herself in a seat near the door where an exit for a phone call would be only minimally disruptive. With instructor approval, students may record lectures, take notes via laptop computer, etc., provided that they do not disturb other students in the process. Other exceptions to this policy may be granted at the discretion of the instructor. Any use of cell phones or other electronic devices during a test period is prohibited. Even the visible presence of a cell phone or other device during the test period may result in a zero for that test. Use of a cell phone during a test could result in a charge of academic dishonesty. During the test these instruments should be left at home or stored securely in such a way that they cannot be seen or used by the student. For a complete copy of Student Guidelines, see:

http://www.shsu.edu/students/StudentGuidelines2007_2008.pdf

Visitors in the classroom:

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

There will be no Midterm for this course

SCST 6365 PROJECTED COURSE CALENDAR

Spring 2018

| Week | | Topic | Assignment |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| January 17 – January 23 | | Capstone Research Paper (CRP) approvals; design planning; literature and documentation collection | CRP plan approved at department level by Jan 23 rd by midnight |
| Jan 24 – January 30 | Individual Progress | Table of Content (TOC); References | Assignment 1 (TOC; References) due January 30th by midnight |
| January 31- Feb 13 | Individual Progress | Introduction/Background/Context | Assignment 2 (Intro) due Feb 13th by midnight |
| Feb 14- Feb 27 | Individual Progress | Literature Review | Assignment 3 (Lit. Rev. Draft 1) due by February 27th by midnight |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Feb 28 - March 20 | Individual Progress | Methodology/Collection/Analysis/Data Sources/Ethics | Assignment 4 (Method.) due March 20th by midnight |
| March 20 - April 3 | Individual Progress | Literature Review (Cont.) | Assignment 5 (Lit. Review Draft 2) due by April 3rd by midnight |
| April 4 –April 17 | Individual Progress | Findings/Discussion | Assignment 6 (Findings/Discussion) due April 17th by midnight |
| April 18 – May 6th | Individual Progress | CRP Due | Final CRP due May 6th by midnight |