

Doctor of Strategic Intelligence (D.S.I.)

The Doctor of Strategic Intelligence addresses intellectual, cultural, and organizational challenges in the emerging field of intelligence studies. You'll study the activities and relationships between actors in the global community, along with domestic intelligence topics and issues of strategic concern to the U.S. The curriculum integrates practice, research, and multidisciplinary study (international security, psychology, strategic leadership) to enhance your understanding of the complex problems you face in your professional practice today.

As a student in this doctoral program, you will conduct ethically-sound, original, applied research that extends the body of knowledge in the field, and prepares you for leadership and service in the intelligence community. This program embraces a scholar-practitioner model of education, and courses are taught by highly credentialed and experienced instructors, many of whom hold key positions in government agencies or public safety organizations.

Degree Program Objectives

- Analyze the academic and professional practice of strategic intelligence.
- Synthesize the major theories, approaches, and concepts relevant to strategic intelligence.
- Evaluate complex issues and challenges related to strategic intelligence.
- Design research studies using appropriate qualitative and quantitative approaches for strategic intelligence.
- Assess the impact of strategic intelligence on domestic and global problems.
- Operate according to the ethical and professional behavior guidelines in accordance with university best practices.
- Defend and communicate research relevant to strategic intelligence issues before a body of peers, policymakers, or press, in a professional conference setting.
- Analyze strategic leadership, business, and financial management practices.

Admission Requirements

Admission to our AMU (<https://www.amu.apus.edu/academic/degrees-and-programs/doctoral.html>) and APU (<https://www.apu.apus.edu/academic/degrees-and-programs/doctoral.html>) doctoral programs is selective. Students are selected based on evidence of outstanding intellectual ability, strong commitment to applied research and practice in the discipline, and demonstrated ability to successfully complete post-baccalaureate study. Interviews will be held with selected students prior to a final admission decision.

All required admissions documents are due before the review can begin. We recommend you apply at least 3 months in advance of your intended cohort start date.

Required Documentation

Upon completion of the application and payment of the non-refundable \$100.00 application fee, you will be assigned a student ID. This will allow you to complete your admissions package, which consists of the following required documentation:

1. Prior Education

Your master's degree in a closely related discipline with a minimum GPA of 3.0 is required. Related disciplines include: Intelligence Studies; Military Studies; International/Global Studies; Homeland Security; Cybersecurity; National Security; Terrorism Studies; Public Administration/Public Policy. Other degrees and doctoral experience may be considered. Your official transcript verifying the award of your master's degree must be sent from the issuing institution in sealed envelopes or by official electronic copy (such as National Student Clearinghouse transcript). No faxed or unsealed transcripts will be accepted.

2. Professional Practice

You must have 3-5 years work experience in the intelligence field or closely related field.

3. CV or Resume

Must include work history, professional accomplishments, service to the profession, and any teaching and research experience.

4. English Proficiency

Applicants from a country whose native language is not English (regardless of current residence) must provide proof of English proficiency.

5. Three References

Choose three references from colleagues or professors with whom you have current or recent (within the past 3-5 years) professional associations, and ask them to complete the doctoral reference form. Your references will assess your professional accomplishments, leadership in the discipline, written and verbal communication skills, service activities, and personal strengths necessary for successful completion of a doctoral program.

6. Admission Essay

In 750-1200 words, explain why you are applying to this doctoral program. Please discuss your rationale for earning a doctorate in this field and include specific examples for how this degree will

help you obtain your long-term academic and professional career goals. Provide examples of how current issues in this field inform your decisions, making sure to include current relevant literature and cite using Chicago/Turabian style.

7. Photo ID

Submit a legible color copy of your valid government-issued photo ID. Military students, except Air Force, can submit a government issued JST.

Degree at a Glance

Code	Title	Semester Hours
	Core Requirements	30
	Professional Practice Requirements	8
	Elective Requirements	9
	Residency Requirements	4
	Practicum Requirements	3
	Dissertation Requirement ¹	4
	Total Semester Hours	58

¹ Total of 58 semester hours, plus continuing registration for dissertation requirement

Degree Program Requirements

Core Requirements (30 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
INTL710	Seminar in Intelligence Integration	3
SSGS711	Psychology of Actors in the Global Environment	3
DOCT700	Qualitative Methods	3
SSGS712	Nationalism and Identity	3
INTL711	Comparative Intelligence Institutions	3
DOCT701	Quantitative Methods	3
DOCT702	Statistics	3
INTL712	US Intelligence Law and Ethics	3
DOCT715	Seminar in Strategic Leadership	3
SSGS742	National Security Decision Making	3
	Total Semester Hours	30

Professional Practice Requirements (8 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
SSGS700	Professional Practice I and Doctoral Program Foundations	3
DOCT704	Professional Practice II	1
DOCT705	Professional Practice III	1
DOCT706	Professional Practice IV	1
DOCT707	Professional Practice V	1
DOCT708	Professional Practice VI	1
	Total Semester Hours	8

Elective Requirements (9 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Select 3 courses from the following:		9
DOCT716	Seminar in Business and Financial Management	
INTL740	Intelligence Cooperation and Sharing	
INTL741	Intelligence and Policy-Making	
INTL743	Intelligence and Technology	
INTL790	Independent Study	
SSGS741	Big Data and Social Media Analysis	
SSGS750	Cyber, Policy, and Conflict	
SSGS770	From Academics to the Profession: Publishing in the Social Sciences	
SSGS792	Special Topics	
	Total Semester Hours	9

Residency Requirements (4 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
DOCT721	Residency: Preparing for the Practicum and Dissertation	2
DOCT722	Residency: Scholar/Practitioner Presentation	2
	Total Semester Hours	4

Practicum Requirement (3 semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
DOCT897	Practicum	3
	Total Semester Hours	3

Dissertation Requirements (variable semester hours)

Code	Title	Semester Hours
DOCT894	Dissertation Proposal Defense	3
DOCT899	Dissertation ¹	1

¹ Continuous registration for dissertation may be required.

Program Milestones

- **Portfolio Defense:** This is an oral defense of the portfolio to demonstrate mastery of disciplinary knowledge and the program learning outcomes for doctoral coursework.
- **Dissertation Proposal Defense:** This is an oral defense of the dissertation proposal in order to receive dissertation committee approval of the dissertation concept and research plan. The portfolio defense must be successfully completed to defend the dissertation proposal.
- **Dissertation Defense:** This is an oral defense of the complete dissertation at the conclusion of the research and writing process. Students must pass the dissertation defense, make any necessary revisions, and publish the dissertation in ProQuest before the doctoral degree can be conferred.