Master of Arts in Intelligence Studies

The Master of Arts in Intelligence Studies provides you with advanced-level understanding of strategic intelligence analysis, collection, and operations. Core courses in this graduate program impart substantive knowledge and analytic skills required by all professionals seeking leadership positions in the intelligence community. Additional concentration choices enable you to focus on a functional area or intelligence sub-field. This degree program is designed for students seeking advancement in the intelligence field, or for those who wish to build upon undergraduate knowledge as entry into the field. This degree program is taught by highly credentialed and experienced instructors, many who hold key positions in government agencies or other intelligence organizations.

Degree Program Objectives

In addition to the institutional and degree level outcome objectives, this degree also seeks the following specific learning outcomes of its graduates. Graduates in this degree program will be able to:

- Examine the evolution, structures, functions, capabilities, and activities of the national intelligence community, both from the pre- and post September 11, 2001, perspectives.
- Explain the structures, functions, capabilities, and contributions of national intelligence consumers to include the national command authority, executive departments, Congress, military services, joint/ unified commands, and law enforcement agencies.
- Appraise the intelligence cycle, including intelligence planning, data collection, data exploitation, analysis, production, and dissemination phases.
- Investigate the fundamental capabilities, limitations, and means of tasking human, geographic/imagery, signals, measurement, and technical and open intelligence data sources.
- Assess and predict traditional and non-traditional threats to national and international security.
- Conduct advanced research and compose professional and academic analyses on issues critical to intelligence consumers.
- Evaluate the latest techniques and procedures for improving interagency cooperation and intelligence sharing.

Degree at a Glance

Degree Program Requirements

Core Requirements (18 semester hours)

SSGS500	Research Design and Methods [1]	3
INTL501	Strategic Intelligence	3
INTL502	Collection	3
INTL507	Intelligence Operations	3
INTL508	Intelligence Analysis (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	3
INTL616	Ethical Challenges in the Intelligence Community	3
Total Semester Hours		18

[1]   Required as the first course in this program.

Students must choose a concentration for this degree program and may select from a General Concentration, Criminal Intelligence, Cyber, Homeland Security, Intelligence Analysis, Intelligence Collection, Intelligence Management, Intelligence Operations, or the Terrorism Studies Concentrations.

General Concentration Requirements (12 semester hours)

This general concentration allows you to select from all the intelligence courses within this program, enabling you to create your own focused area of study.

Select 4 courses from the following:		12
INTL604	Interagency Operations	
INTL610	Counterintelligence	
INTL613	Intelligence and Homeland Security	
INTL621	Signals Intelligence (SIGINT)	
INTL622	OSINT (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	
INTL623	Human Intelligence (HUMINT)	

INTL627	Advanced Geospatial Intelligence (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	
INTL631	Criminal Intelligence Analysis	
INTL635	Indications and Warnings	
INTL637	Intelligence Profiling	
INTL644	Cyber and the Intelligence Cycle	
INTL646	Transnational Crime and Narcotics	
INTL647	Cyber Intelligence (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	
INTL649	Case Studies in Foreign Cyber Threats (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	
INTL650	Counterterrorism	
INTL652	Terrorism: Assessing the Past to Forecast the Future	
INTL653	Deception, Propaganda and Disinformation	
SSGS670	From Academics to the Profession: Publishing in the Social Sciences	
SSGS690	Independent Study	
Total Semester Hours		12

Concentration in Criminal Intelligence (12 semester hours)

Examines the historical roots of organized crime and its current role within the American criminal justice system. Provides an overview on U.S. counter-drug efforts and basic information on illicit drugs, with a focus on world regions where drugs are typically manufactured and transported. Teaches counterintelligence principles and criminal intelligence analysis for predicting trends, weaknesses, capabilities, intentions, changes, and warnings needed to dismantle criminal organizations.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to apply intelligence processes and procedures in the criminal justice community.

Concentration Requirements (12 semester hours)

Select 4 courses from the following:		12
CMRJ524	Organized Crime	
CMRJ526	Drug Cartels and the Narcotics Threat	
INTL610	Counterintelligence	
INTL631	Criminal Intelligence Analysis	
INTL646	Transnational Crime and Narcotics	
INTL647	Cyber Intelligence (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	

LSTD517	Law, Ethics and Cybersecurity	
Total Semester Hours		12

Concentration in Cyber (12 semester hours)

Addresses the cyber discipline from a multidisciplinary perspective. Topics include current and historical structure, functions, and capabilities of private and governmental agencies comprising the cyber community; laws related to intellectual property, civil litigation, criminal prosecutions, and privacy; cybercrime investigation and prevention; and the ethical, economic, and societal issues that face today's information-entrenched society.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to analyze the cyber discipline from a multidisciplinary perspective.

Concentration Requirements (12 semester hours)

Select 4 courses from the following:		12
INTL621	Signals Intelligence (SIGINT)	
INTL622	OSINT (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	
INTL647	Cyber Intelligence (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	
INTL649	Case Studies in Foreign Cyber Threats (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	
ISSC630	Advanced Cybercrime Analysis	
ISSC631	Cyber Ethics: Privacy and Intellectual Property	
INTL644	Cyber and the Intelligence Cycle	
LSTD517	Law, Ethics and Cybersecurity	
NSEC506	Cyber Policy and Practice in National Security	
Total Semester Hours		12

Concentration in Homeland Security (12 semester hours)

Traces intelligence and homeland security processes in defending the U.S., such as the efforts to prevent, prepare, and respond to the use of weapons of mass destruction. Looks at: terrorist groups from different political psychological perspectives; threats to U.S. borders, such as illegal immigration, narcotics smuggling, and money laundering; and risk management in loss prevention.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to apply intelligence processes and procedures in the defense of the United States.

Concentration Requirements (12 semester hours)

Select 4 courses from the following:		12
HLSS502	Homeland Security and Defense	
HLSS505	Security Risk Management	
HLSS522	Weapons of Mass Destruction and the New Terrorism	
HLSS523	Domestic Terrorism and Extremist Groups	
INTL613	Intelligence and Homeland Security	
NSEC614	Political Psychology of Terror Groups	
Total Semester Hours		12

Concentration in Intelligence Analysis (12 semester hours)

Studies advanced intelligence analysis methods in composing professional and academic analyses on issues critical to intelligence community consumers. Topics include: an analysis of political leaders; an overview of transnational crime and narcotics and the effects on the political, social, and economic development of countries around the world; and the challenges and benefits of cyber intelligence operations.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to apply advanced intelligence analysis methods in composing professional and academic analyses on issues critical to intelligence community consumers.

Concentration Requirements (12 semester hours)

Select 4 courses from the following:		12
INTL635	Indications and Warnings	
INTL637	Intelligence Profiling	
INTL646	Transnational Crime and Narcotics	
INTL647	Cyber Intelligence (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	
INTL652	Terrorism: Assessing the Past to Forecast the Future	
INTL653	Deception, Propaganda and Disinformation	

NSEC614	Political Psychology of Terror Groups	
Total Semester Hours		12

Concentration in Intelligence Collection (12 semester hours)

Studies advanced intelligence data collection methods in supporting analyses on issues critical to intelligence community consumers. Analyzes the phases, processes, and challenges of cybercrime investigations, as well as U.S. and foreign aspects of counterintelligence and the technical, legal, and social issues relating to the search and seizure of digital evidence and computer forensics.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to apply advanced intelligence data collection methods in supporting analyses on issues critical to intelligence community consumers.

Concentration Requirements (12 semester hours)

Select 4 courses from the following:		12
INTL610	Counterintelligence	
INTL621	Signals Intelligence (SIGINT)	
INTL622	OSINT (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	
INTL623	Human Intelligence (HUMINT)	
INTL627	Advanced Geospatial Intelligence (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	
INTL644	Cyber and the Intelligence Cycle	
ISSC630	Advanced Cybercrime Analysis	
Total Semester Hours		12

Concentration in Intelligence Management (12 semester hours)

Lays the groundwork to understanding management principles in the intelligence community environment. Topics include: ethical dilemmas and conflicts in organizational settings; strategic planning techniques used by industrial companies; the evolution and philosophical foundation of the human resource field; methods of managing an organization; and human behavior principles in individual, group, team, and organizational settings.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to apply management principles in the intelligence community environment.

Concentration Requirements (12 semester hours)

Select 4 courses from the following:		12
HRMT600	Human Resource Management	
MGMT600	Organizational Management	
MGMT601	Organizational Behavior	
MGMT615	Strategic Planning	
MGMT618	Ethics in Leadership	
Total Semester Hours		12

Concentration in Intelligence Operations (12 semester hours)

Explores intelligence management skills required for leadership within the intelligence community. Examines covert action in the context of national security, including the political and executive aspects of the presidential powers involved. Addresses core elements of information operations, including the disciplines of electronic warfare (EW), computer network operations (CNO), psychological operations (PSYOP), and operations security (OPSEC).

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration, the student will be able to employ intelligence management skills required by planning and management positions in the intelligence community.

Concentration Requirements (12 semester hours)

Select 4 courses from the following:		12
INTL604	Interagency Operations	
INTL610	Counterintelligence	
INTL637	Intelligence Profiling	
INTL647	Cyber Intelligence (Prerequisite: SSGS500 - Research Design and Methods)	
INTL653	Deception, Propaganda and Disinformation	
NSEC611	Covert Action and National Security	
Total Semester Hours		12

Concentration in Terrorism Studies (12 semester hours)

Studies the causes and threats of domestic and international terrorism, including the threat of weapons of mass destruction as a unique phenomenon within the homeland security landscape. Also includes terrorist and extremist groups within the U.S., policies for combating terrorism and terrorist tactics worldwide, and various counterterrorism intelligence methodologies and analytic tools.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this concentration the student will be able to appraise the causes of and threats from U.S domestic and international terrorism.

Concentration Requirements (12 semester hours)

Select 4 courses from the following:		12
HLSS522	Weapons of Mass Destruction and the New Terrorism	
HLSS523	Domestic Terrorism and Extremist Groups	
INTL650	Counterterrorism	
INTL652	Terrorism: Assessing the Past to Forecast the Future	
MILS671	The Non-State Soldier	
NSEC614	Political Psychology of Terror Groups	
Total Semester Hours		12

Elective Requirements (3 semester hours)

Select from other graduate courses not taken to meet core or concentration requirements.

Final Program Requirements (3 semester hours)

Select 1 course from the following:		3
INTL699	Intelligence Studies Capstone [1]	
SSGS696	Master's Project Capstone Seminar [1]	
Total Semester Hours		3

[1]   Taken once all other requirements have been met.