

ENF520 The Intelligence Community

(3 credit hours)

Course Syllabus

Course Description

Provides an examination of the creation and continuing evolution of the US Intelligence Community (IC) in the post 9/11 era. The IC's missions, responsibilities and legal authorities will be explored. Students will hold an in-depth discussion on the IC's successes, failures, and purported controversies. An assignment using the entire intelligence cycle will be developed throughout the course; students will present their findings and develop follow on intelligence requirements based on evaluations from their peers.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Evaluate the development of U.S. intelligence and analyze its basic roles, purpose, and functions.
2. Evaluate the analytic standards described in Intelligence Community Directive (ICD) 203 and examine techniques to improve logic and reasoning.
3. Examine the six steps of the intelligence cycle and the impacts of politicized intelligence.
4. Assess how globalization and technology have impacted the mission of all eighteen U.S. agencies within the Intelligence Community (IC).

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

Included Resources:

This course does not use a textbook. All required resources are included as links within the course.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the [Tiffin University Library](https://tiffin.edu/library).

Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each week**. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).
2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.
3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Wednesdays**.
4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Saturdays, and**
5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET on Sundays**.

Learning Activities

This course offers a valuable opportunity for peer-to-peer learning through weekly discussion forums. Each week, you will respond to assigned questions and engage with at least two of your classmates' posts. These discussions are designed to encourage critical thinking and deepen your understanding of key topics.

In addition to participating in discussions, you will submit a short paper each week during Weeks 1-6. In Week 7, you will synthesize your learning by developing a presentation that evaluates the "whole-of-nation" approach in a notional case study.

This course, part of the **Master of Science in Homeland Security Administration**, will provide essential knowledge of the intelligence community—primarily as a consumer, but also as a potential contributor. You will explore the impact of globalization and technological advancements on the national security enterprise, challenging conventional perspectives and fostering strategic analysis.

Grading

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Discussion Activity 1.1 (not graded) Activity 1.2 (35)	Discussion Activity 2.1 (35)	Discussion Activity 3.1 (35)	Discussion Activity 4.1 (35)	Discussion Activity 5.1 (35)	Discussion Activity 6.1 (35)	No Discussion	210
Assignments Activity 1.3 (100)	Assignments Activity 2.2 (100)	Assignments Activity 3.2 (100)	Assignments Activity 4.2 (100)	Assignments Activity 5.2 (100)	Assignments Activity 6.2 (100)	Assignments Activity 7.1 - Presentation (120) Activity 7.2 Reflection (70)	790
135	135	135	135	135	135	190	1000

Undergraduate Grading Scale

A: 90-100%

B: 80-89%

C: 70-79%

D: 60-69%

F: <60%

Graduate Grading Scale

A: 90-100%

B: 80-89%

C: 70-79%

F: <69%

Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Start Here

- ☐ MON: Activity 1.1: Meet Your Peers - Introductory Post

Week 1 – What is US Intelligence?

- ☐ WED: Activity 1.1: Hello! Please Introduce Yourself - Secondary Posts
- ☐ WED: Activity 1.2 Discussion: What is US Intelligence? – Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 1.2 Discussion: What is US Intelligence? – Secondary Posts
- ☐ SUN: Activity 1.3 Paper: Members of the IC: Roles & Functions

Week 2 – Intelligence Regulation & Governance

- ☐ WED: Activity 2.1 Discussion: IC Legislation out of Disruption: Pre-9/11 – Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 2.1 Discussion: IC Legislation out of Disruption: Pre-9/11 – Secondary Posts
- ☐ SUN: Activity 2.2 Paper: IC Legislation out of Disruption: Post-9/11

Week 3 – Reasoning & Analysis

- ☐ WED: Activity 3.1 Discussion: Critically Assessing Our Biases – Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 3.1 Discussion: Critically Assessing Our Biases – Secondary Posts
- ☐ SUN: Activity 3.2 Assignment: Intelligence Analysis & Techniques to Improve

Week 4 – The Intelligence Cycle

- ☐ WED: Activity 4.1 Discussion: Relationships between Intelligence and Politics – Initial Post
- ☐ SAT: Activity 4.1 Discussion: Relationships between Intelligence and Politics – Secondary Posts
- ☐ SUN: Activity 4.2 Assignment: The Cuban Missile Crisis

Week 5 – “Whole-of-Nation” National Security

- ☐ WED: Activity 5.1 Discussion: Examining the Role of Fusion Centers – Initial Post

- ❑ SAT: Activity 5.1 Discussion: Examining the Role of Fusion Centers – Secondary Posts
- ❑ SUN: Activity 5.2 Assignment: Private Sector Engagement in National Security

Week 6 – Current Threats & Emerging Trends

- ❑ WED: Activity 6.1 Discussion: Debating the Greatest Threat to the US – Initial Post
- ❑ SAT: Activity 6.1 Discussion: Debating the Greatest Threat to the US – Secondary Posts
- ❑ SAT: Activity 6.2 Assignment: Assessing Threats of Emerging Technology

Week 7 – Impacts of Globalization and Technology

- ❑ SAT: Activity 7.1: Final Project: Evaluating the Intelligence Community in Crisis
- ❑ SUN: Activity 7.2 Assignment: Course Reflection

Tips for Success

Online learning requires self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery. Your course is a place for you to grow as you benefit from the expertise, experience, and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge and understanding.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

For More Information:

Be sure to review the [Support, Policies, and Procedures](#) addendum.