Critical infrastructure is one of the cornerstones of Homeland Security in America. Critical Infrastructure Protection will explore the risks and vulnerabilities associated with our national infrastructure, and analyze mitigating and protective practices and measures to ensure that this infrastructure is operational and recoverable following an attack or disaster. The course will cover a broad overview of our nation’s critical infrastructure network, the history and evolution of U.S. critical infrastructure, and the importance of interconnectivity between systems. The program of study for this course will incorporate invigorating and thought provoking lecture, real world experience and vignettes from the instructor, interactive discussion, exciting guest lectures and role-playing!

Textbook you need to purchase:


There will be other assigned readings that will be provided to the student throughout the semester. These readings will be posted to Bb.
**Course Objectives**

After completing this course, the student will be able to:

- Comprehend and understand the history and evolution of our national critical infrastructure.
- Recognize the national critical infrastructure in the United States and its importance to Homeland Security.
- Identify all the different infrastructure nodes, functions and relevance to the nation’s survival.
- Understand resiliency and what it means with respect to infrastructure protection.
- Illustrate the complexities associated with risks and vulnerabilities to the nation’s critical infrastructure systems.
- Explain how our national critical infrastructure is interconnected and dependent on one another.
- Describe and explain the human dimension of management of critical infrastructure.
- Develop a working knowledge of how infrastructure systems work and what threatens the function of those systems.

**Course Structure**

This is a facilitated course that is designed incorporate the knowledge of the entire class. Class participation during our discussions will be key to your learning, and students are highly encouraged to participate actively.

Class format will consist of PowerPoint presentations, video presentations, tests, student panel presentations, some classroom group activities (ungraded) and other interactive learning opportunities. Students will be given, and are expected to complete, all the work assigned to them by the published due date. There will be a couple of guest lecturers during the semester, and due to their availability, the schedule in this syllabus may be modified slightly. Students will also write a case study research paper. The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus as needed during the course to incorporate or respond to new information.

Course lecture material will be posted on Blackboard before class, and students are encouraged to take notes during class. Laptops, tablets, and recording devices are all permitted, but cell phones, droids, iPhones are prohibited during class! Anything said or discussed in the classroom is fair game for exam material.

**Course Expectations**

All material used in this course (with the exception of the textbook) will be posted online at [http://www.campus.fsu.edu/](http://www.campus.fsu.edu/)

In order to participate in this course you will be expected to have an e-mail account and access to the internet (free to Florida State students).

Additional readings on the weekly topics are encouraged. *The instructor retains the right to assign additional readings during the course of the semester.*
Grades and Grading Scale

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Midterm 30 pts.
Research Paper 25 pts.
Panel Presentation 10 pts.
Participation 5 pts.
Final Exam 30 pts.
Total 100 pts.

Note: Final grades will be rounded to the closest whole number.

Assignments and Calendar

The course calendar includes assigned reading and exam dates and is at the end of this document. The latest schedule and calendar is available on the course website on Blackboard. The instructor will notify the class of any major deviations from the calendar.

Tests

There are two tests during the semester—a midterm and a final exam. These tests are designed to assess your mastery of the assigned material. I give you two weeks to order your textbook, but you should be aware that the midterm (and final) will have questions from your reading assignments. Tests will be multiple choice, fill in the blank, true-false, short answer, and essays. The tests will be based on all material presented, discussed, and assigned, to include guest speaker material. The final exam is comprehensive for the entire semester.

Research Paper

You will be given an assignment to research and write about a real-world event that had devastating or near fatal implications for any one of the national critical infrastructure systems. An example might be “Impact of Hurricane Sandy on New York’s Electrical Power Grid.” All final papers are to be posted by the student to Safe Assign.

Purpose of these papers:

- Upon completion of your research, you will have a masterful understanding of your case.
- Showcase your knowledge of the challenges, successes and failures of the international response.

Formatting:

- Page count does not include the title page, abstract, or the references.
• Refer to the grading rubric for the ‘Case Study Paper’ – this is the rubric used to evaluate and grade your response papers. (The grading rubric will be posted in Blackboard)
• APA format for the entire paper, including abstract, title page, references and in paper citations.
• Graduates will write 10-12 pages, 1.5 spaced, with 1” margins in TNR 12pt font. At least 9 quality sources required.
• Undergraduates will write 7-9 pages, 1.5 spaced, with 1” margins in TNR 12pt font. At least 7 quality sources required.
• Spacing between paragraphs should be set to zero

**Student Panels**

This activity will consist of actual case studies where students will act as Directors of various critical infrastructure systems in the United States. Each student will be given a specific infrastructure component to research and learn about. Students will later be split into groups of 3 and will be assigned a specific event to research and report on. Graduate students will lead each respective group. During week 10, student panels will then present their findings formally to the class in a 30-minute presentation. This activity awards students the opportunity to think outside the box and craft what they think might be the best approach to tackling difficult and challenging critical infrastructure events.

**Late Work Policy**

I do not accept late work. Get it in on time or it is a 0.

**Syllabus Change Policy**

"Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.”