

UTSA Intelligence Studies Certificate Course Descriptions

National Security (NS)	Planned Offering*
<p>The Role of U.S. Intelligence in National Security (NS 6003) - Prerequisite: None (Also required course for CTSP). This course provides a broad overview of the role of intelligence work - and in particular U.S. intelligence efforts - in maintaining and enhancing the country's national security posture. The history of the intelligence community from the second World War onward is examined in terms of how that community has evolved over the years. Emphasis is placed upon the interplay and challenges that the intelligence community face with policymakers. Included is an examination of case studies that illustrate intelligence successes and failures that have had a significant impact on national security. Also covered is the evolving unique nature that the cyber domain plays in cyber/national security issues.</p>	Spring 2019 Spring 2020 Spring 2021
<p>Intelligence Reasoning and Analysis (NS 6503) - Prerequisite: None. Analysis and analytical reasoning in the intelligence field requires adherence to analytical standards and principles that promote integrity as well as logic. The course includes, but is not limited to, topics such as critical thinking, structured analytical techniques, the application of alternative competing hypotheses, key assumption check, perceptual, cognitive and cultural biases, methods for describing the assessed validity of information or conclusions, A/B team approaches, high impact low probability events, alternative futures analysis and other components of the process and psychology of intelligence analysis.</p>	Spring 2019 Fall 2019 Spring 2020 Fall 2020 Spring 2021
<p>Methods in Intelligence Collection (NS 6523) - Prerequisite: NS6003. This course covers the fundamentals of the primary methods for intelligence collection: human intelligence (HUMINT), geospatial intelligence (GEOINT), open source intelligence (OSINT), signals intelligence (SIGINT) and measurement + signal intelligence (MASINT). Topics explored include methods used, nature of the data collected, sources of error within the data collected for each method, limitations of the data and challenges encountered when integrating and fusing data from multiple sources and methods. Use of unclassified case studies will provide additional examples of some of the concepts and principles covered.</p>	Summer 2019 Summer 2020 Summer 2021
<p>Analytical Writing, Reporting and Briefing for the Intelligence Community (NS 6223) - Prerequisite: NS6003. Fundamentals of writing and reporting for intelligence community audiences. Illustrated concepts and principles include bottom line up front, topic sentences, presentation of key judgments, the descriptive use of confidence intervals, estimative language, presentation of alternative outcomes, scenario description, appropriate reading level for reports, key challenges in one time briefings, speaking truth to power, the benefits of brevity and clarity, the issue of source disclosure, the value of context, characteristics of assessments and avoiding policy statements.</p>	Summer 2019 Summer 2020 Summer 2021

* Planned course offering. Course offerings subject to change. All courses offered on weeknights after 6PM.