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# Homeland Security

In the College of Sciences

**OFFICE: Chemistry Sciences Laboratory 120**

**TELEPHONE: 619-594-5960**

**FAX: 619-594-0921**

<http://www.homelandsecurity.sdsu.edu>

## Associated Faculty for Homeland Security

Eric G. Frost, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Geological Sciences,  
Co-Director, Center for Homeland Security Technology  
Assessment, Co-Director of Homeland Security Program  
Jeffrey S. McIlwain, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Public Affairs,  
Co-Director of Homeland Security Program  
Robert W. Welty, Director, Homeland Security SDSU Research  
Foundation, SDSU Research Foundation, Co-Director, Center for  
Homeland Security Technology Assessment, Homeland Security  
Projects Director for Homeland Security Program  
Stephanie K. Brodine, M.D., Professor of Public Health, Division Head  
of Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Mary Ann Lyman-Hager, Ph.D., Professor of French, Director of  
Language Acquisition Resource Center  
Stanley R. Maloy, Ph.D., Professor of Biology and Dean of the College  
of Sciences  
Patrick J. Papin, Ph.D., Professor of Physics and Associate Dean of  
the College of Sciences  
Robert S. Pozos, Ph.D., Professor of Biology  
Douglas A. Stow, Ph.D., Professor of Geography  
William G. Tong, Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Murray Jennex, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Information and  
Decision Systems  
Khaleel Mohammed, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Religious Studies  
Ming-Hsiang Tsou, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Geography  
Sherry Ryan, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Public Affairs

## General Information

The homeland security program offers interdisciplinary graduate study leading to the Master of Science degree in homeland security. The homeland security program is the first of its kind in the nation, taking advantage of the unique learning and research opportunities offered by the "living laboratory" that is the San Diego/Tijuana border region. The program provides a strong, active interdisciplinary educational environment that welcomes students with diverse professional, disciplinary, and cultural backgrounds.

The mission of the homeland security program is to produce leaders from a variety of educational and professional backgrounds who can effectively and efficiently identify, design, and mobilize the appropriate community resources to prevent, deter, preempt, defend against, and respond to terrorist attacks and/or other critical incidents and emergencies on the local, regional, national and international levels.

The active participation of graduate students and faculty with community partners is a primary focus of the homeland security program. Therefore, the program has established a number of collaborative relationships with public, private, and non-profit sector partners on the international, federal, state, and local levels. These relationships allow the homeland security graduate student to engage in a number of service-learning opportunities.

The program emphasizes international and comparative approaches in the educational process. To that end, thematic and semester-long study abroad opportunities are provided in countries such as Afghanistan, Canada, China, France, Germany, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Netherlands, and Russia. Students may also pursue a graduate-level certificate in Transborder Public

Administration and Governance through the School of Public Administration and Urban Studies. Language and cultural learning opportunities are provided by SDSU's congressionally established Language Acquisition Resource Center.

The homeland security program provides a vibrant educational environment that welcomes students with a strong desire to engage in interdisciplinary study, critical thinking, and research. Both domestic and international students are encouraged to apply.

## Admission to Graduate Study

The application deadlines are posted on the Web site at [homelandsecurity.sdsu.edu](http://homelandsecurity.sdsu.edu) or can be obtained from the homeland security program director or graduate adviser. All students must satisfy the general requirements for admission to the university with classified graduate standing as described in Part Two of this bulletin. In addition, students must demonstrate sufficient preparation for the program. This may include a bachelor's degree in sciences, engineering, law enforcement, international security, public policy, or a related discipline providing educational preparation for a career in homeland security. The degree must be from an accredited institution or indicate completion of equivalent academic preparation as determined by the Graduate Dean. Evaluation of a student's transcript will be made on an individual basis by the admissions committee to determine whether evidence of sufficient preparation can be demonstrated. A student whose preparation is deemed insufficient by the admissions committee may be admitted as conditionally classified and will be required to complete specified courses in addition to the minimum of 36 units required for the degree.

The grade-point average required for admission to the master's program in homeland security is 2.85 in undergraduate coursework plus satisfactory scores on the verbal and quantitative sections of the GRE.

Students applying for admission should electronically submit the university application available at <http://www.csumentor.edu> along with the \$55 application fee.

All applicants must submit admissions materials separately to SDSU Graduate Admissions and to the Homeland Security Program.

### Graduate Admissions

The following materials should be submitted as a complete package directly to:

Graduate Admissions  
Enrollment Services  
San Diego State University  
San Diego, CA 92182-7416

- (1) Official transcripts (in sealed envelopes) from all postsecondary institutions attended;

Note:

- Students who attended SDSU need only submit transcripts for work completed since last attendance.
- Students with international coursework must submit both the official transcript and proof of degree. If documents are in a language other than English, they must be accompanied by a certified English translation.

- (2) GRE scores (<http://www.ets.org>, SDSU institution code 4682);
- (3) TOEFL score, if medium of instruction was in a language other than English (<http://www.ets.org>, SDSU institution code 4682).

### Homeland Security Program

The following materials should be mailed or delivered to:

Director, Homeland Security Program  
San Diego State University  
5500 Campanile Drive  
San Diego, CA 92182-1020

- (1) Two letters of recommendation from persons in a position to judge academic ability (in sealed, signed envelopes);
- (2) One letter of recommendation from a person in a position to judge professional ability and potential (in sealed, signed envelope);
- (3) A two-page maximum personal statement giving reasons for choosing homeland security as a degree objective;
- (4) A two-page maximum personal statement summarizing applicant's qualifications, skill sets, and life experiences as they apply to the homeland security degree.

## Advancement to Candidacy

All students must satisfy the general requirements for advancement to candidacy as described in Part Two of this bulletin.

## Specific Requirements for the Master of Science Degree

**(Major Code: 22102)**

In addition to meeting the requirements for the Master of Science degree, as described in Part Two of this bulletin, students must complete 36 units of coursework in an officially approved course of study as outlined below. Students must earn a minimum grade point average of B (3.0) in the master's program and no less than a C in each course. Students may meet the culminating experience requirement through Plan A by completing H SEC 799A or through Plan B by completing H SEC 790 and successfully passing a comprehensive examination.

### Graduate Program (36 units)

#### Core Courses (12 units)

H SEC 601	Seminar in Homeland Security (3)
H SEC 602	Seminar in Science, Technology, and Homeland Security (3)
H SEC 603	Seminar in Emergency Preparedness and Response (3)
H SEC 604	Seminar in Law, Society, and Homeland Security (3)

Students must select nine units from one of the specializations listed below:

### Specialization in Communication and Information Systems

EUROP 560	Technologies and Methodologies: Language Learning and Technology (3)
GEOG 583	Internet Mapping and Distributed GIServices (3)
IDS 687	Data Communications and Distributed Data Processing (3)
IDS 691	Decision Support Systems (3)

### Specialization in Science and Technology

CHEM 550	Instrumental Methods of Chemical Analysis (2)
GEOG 505	Photogeology and Remote Sensing (3)
PHYS 561	Nuclear Instrumentation (3)

### Specialization in Terrorism and Asymmetrical Warfare

H SEC 620	Seminar in Warfare and Homeland Security (3)
H SEC 621	Seminar in Intelligence and Homeland Security (3)
CJA 570	Organized Crime: Domestic and International Perspectives (3)
CJA 601	Seminar in the Administration of Criminal Justice (3)

### Specialization in Infrastructure and Homeland Security

CIV E 580	Traffic Engineering Design (3)
CIV E 620	Traffic Flow and Control (3)
CP 730	Seminar in Urban Transportation Planning (3)
GEOG 556	Location and Spatial Structure of Cities (3)

### Field Experience or Practicum (3-6 units)

H SEC 650	Homeland Security Study Abroad (3 or 6)
H SEC 695	Practicum in Homeland Security (3)

### Electives (6-9 units)

Six to nine units of electives selected in consultation with the graduate adviser.

### Plan A or Plan B (3 units)

Students who complete Plan A, thesis or project option must include H SEC 799A in their program of study. Students who complete Plan B, non-thesis option must include H SEC 790 in their program of study and pass a comprehensive examination.