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An Exceptional University for Exceptional Learners

Since the Penn State World Campus launched its pilot programs in 1998, it has grown to include exceptional learners from all fifty states, more than sixty-two countries, and all seven continents. These students are part of our global learning community, interacting with faculty and exchanging ideas and expertise with one another as they strive to meet their educational and career goals.

“The discipline of homeland security has become a consortium of many different specialties. Penn State’s program was created to complement these diverse specialties with a homeland security education portfolio that will suit the needs of many individuals working in this field. It is the most comprehensive homeland security education program in the country.”

Robert A. Cherry, M.D., FACS
Associate Professor of Surgery and Public Health Services
Associate Chief Quality Officer,
Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center
Medical Director, Penn State Shock Trauma Center
Penn State’s Online Homeland Security Portfolio

Penn State’s 33-credit online intercollege master of professional studies (iMPS) in homeland security degree program and associated certificates can shape leaders who are capable of preventing or responding to man-made and natural disasters. The degree is unique; it offers five specialized tracks and certificates from which to choose, allowing you to tailor your studies and complement your strengths and interests.

**Degree Specializations**
- Homeland Security Base Program
- Public Health Preparedness
- Geospatial Intelligence
- Information Security and Forensics
- Agricultural Biosecurity

**Certificates**
- Homeland Security and Defense
- Public Health Preparedness
- Geospatial Intelligence
- Information Systems Security
- Agricultural Biosecurity

**Foundational Core Curriculum**

The homeland security master’s degree program features a core curriculum of three courses to provide you with a basic understanding of current management approaches and homeland security history, policy, and organizations. The courses examine the social, political, legal, and ethical issues that arise in the context of homeland security, to give you a fundamental knowledge of domestic and global issues related to the field.

**Core curriculum courses (9 credits)**

- **HLS 801** Homeland Security Administration: Policies and Programs
- **HLS 803** Homeland Security: Social and Ethical Issues
- **HLS 805** Violence, Threats, Terror, and Insurgency
Homeland Security
Master’s Degree Base Program

Graduates of the 33-credit online iMPS in homeland security base program can become knowledgeable about homeland security policy; legal issues in the American context; strategic development, planning, and implementation—and their relationship to protection of critical infrastructure; border security; and the need for collaboration and integration among federal, state, and local entities in preparing for, responding to, and mitigating the effects of catastrophic events.

Curriculum
The curriculum for the homeland security master’s degree base program offers a solid foundation in homeland security. In addition to the 9 credits of core curriculum courses, the program has its own set of required courses and multidisciplinary electives:

**Required courses (12 credits)**
- P ADM 401 Introduction to Homeland Security
- P ADM 404 Homeland Security and Defense in Practice

**P ADM 802 Multifaceted Approaches to Homeland Security**
**P ADM 803 Strategic Planning and Organizational Imperatives in Homeland Defense and Security**

**Elective courses (9 credits)**
*Available in concentration areas such as:
- Communications
- Geography
- Geosciences
- Information Science and Technology
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Public Administration
- Public Health Preparedness

**Capstone experience (3 credits)**
Research Project

800-252-3592
Penn State’s Master of Homeland Security

Homeland Security and Defense Graduate Certificate

The 12-credit online graduate certificate in homeland security and defense is designed to help professionals and military personnel further their knowledge of homeland security and defense policies, planning, and processes. The courses required for completion of the certificate are the same as the required courses for the base program. The curriculum covers topics such as:

- major legislation shaping homeland security policy
- key actors and their interactions
- planning and organizational imperatives related to homeland security or emergency management
- the impact of catastrophic events on society and domestic and global economies

Our homeland security degree curriculum is designed so that the 12 credits you earn in the homeland security and defense graduate certificate program may be applied to the master’s degree in homeland security base program, if you are granted admission to enter the degree program.
Public Health Preparedness

Graduates of the 33-credit online public health preparedness specialization of the iMPS homeland security program can become knowledgeable in areas related to public health evaluation and preparedness, the protection of health care delivery systems, and response to specific terrorist threats, natural disasters, and catastrophes.

Curriculum

Health care and nonhealth care professionals can benefit from the highly interdisciplinary curriculum created by the Penn State College of Medicine. In addition to the 9 credits of core curriculum courses, the program has its own set of required courses and multidisciplinary electives:

**Required courses (12 credits)**

- **PHP 410** Public Health Preparedness for Disaster and Terrorist Emergencies I
- **PHP 510** Public Health Preparedness for Disaster and Terrorist Emergencies II
- **PHP 527** Public Health Evaluation of Disasters and Bioterrorism
- **PHP 530** Critical Infrastructure Protection of Health Care Delivery Systems

**Elective courses (9 credits)**

*Available in concentration areas such as:*
- Communications
- Geography
- Geosciences
- Information Science and Technology
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Public Administration
- Public Health Preparedness

**Capstone experience (3 credits)**

- Research Project
Public Health Preparedness: Bioterrorism and Disaster Graduate Certificate

Penn State’s 12-credit online graduate certificate program in public health preparedness consists of courses designed to enhance your understanding in areas such as:

- designing and coordinating effective disaster plans
- estimating and minimizing the burden of disease
- the causes and consequences of natural disasters
- the impact of disasters in different economic, cultural, and social conditions

This certificate program is designed as a “stand-alone” certificate or can serve as a “step-up” program into the master of homeland security public health preparedness degree program.

When you have successfully completed our certificate program in public health preparedness, you may apply the 12 credits to the public health preparedness specialization of the master’s degree, if you are granted admission to the master’s program.
Geospatial Intelligence

Graduates of the 33-credit online geospatial intelligence specialization of the iMPS homeland security program can become knowledgeable about geospatial technology, spatial thinking, and information literacy. You can learn to apply these spatial skills in combination with knowledge of cultural and political geography to solve the problems that your employer considers most critical.

Curriculum
The curriculum for the master’s degree program in homeland security with a specialization in geospatial intelligence is designed for the new or established working professional, with or without geographic information systems experience, and it enables you to study where and when it is most convenient for you. In addition to the 9 credits of core curriculum courses, the degree and certificate have a set of required courses and multidisciplinary electives:

**Required courses (12 credits)**
- **GEOG 882** Geographic Foundations of Geospatial Intelligence
- **GEOG 883** Remote Sensing for the Geospatial Intelligence Professional
- **GEOG 884** Geographic Information Systems for the Geospatial Intelligence Professional
- **GEOG 885** Advanced Analytic Methods for Geospatial Intelligence

**Elective courses (9 credits)**
*Available in concentration areas such as:*
- Communications
- Geography
- Geosciences
- Information Science and Technology
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Public Administration
- Public Health Preparedness

**Capstone experience (3 credits)**
- Research Project
Penn State’s 13-credit online graduate certificate in geospatial intelligence consists of courses designed to enhance your understanding in areas such as:

- remote sensing systems’ operation, data products, and processing techniques
- application of geospatial intelligence to national security, international relief work, and disaster management
- the use of GIS to facilitate data analysis and communication
- the impact of disasters in different economic, cultural, and social conditions

This certificate program is designed as a “stand-alone” certificate or can serve as a “step-up” program into the master of homeland security in geospatial intelligence degree program or the master of geographic information systems.

When you have successfully completed our certificate program in geospatial intelligence, you may apply the 13 credits to the master of homeland security with a specialization in geospatial intelligence degree program, if you are granted admission to enter the degree program.
Information Security and Forensics

Graduates of the 33-credit online information security and forensics specialization of the iMPS homeland security program should be able to understand the principles of information systems and cyber security and assurance; know the core technologies used in making a networked information system secure; build information systems with assurances and the role of “trust” in delivering these assurances; analyze the security and assurance of modern information systems; and comprehend the socio-economic aspects of security and the human factor in security.

Curriculum

The curriculum for the master’s degree program in homeland security with a specialization in information security and forensics is designed for working professionals who want to develop IT management skills related to information security and forensics, either to enter IT management in homeland security or private security. In addition to the 9 credits of core curriculum courses, the degree and certificate have a set of required courses and multidisciplinary electives:

Required courses (12 credits)

IST 454 Computer and Cyber Forensics
IST 515 Information Security and Assurance
IST 554 Network Management and Security
IN SC 561 Web Security and Privacy

Elective courses (9 credits)

Available in concentration areas such as:

- Communications
- Geography
- Geosciences
- Information Science and Technology
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Public Administration
- Public Health Preparedness

Capstone experience (3 credits)

- Research Project
Penn State’s 15-credit online postbaccalaureate certificate program in information systems security consists of courses designed to enhance your understanding in areas such as:

- principles of information systems and cyber security and assurance
- core technologies used in making a networked information system secure and assured
- knowing how to build information systems with assurances and the role of “trust” in delivering these assurances
- socio-economic aspects of security
- the impact of human factors in security

This certificate program is designed as a “stand-alone” certificate or can serve as a “step-up” program into the master of homeland security information security and forensics degree program.

When you have successfully completed our certificate program in information systems security, you may apply the 15 credits to the master of homeland security with a specialization in information security and forensics degree program, if you are granted admission to enter the degree program.
Agricultural Biosecurity

Graduates of the 33-credit online agricultural biosecurity specialization of the iMPS in homeland security program should be knowledgeable in the theories, technologies, and skills associated with plant and animal agricultural biosecurity; food processor security; active and passive infectious disease surveillance systems; diagnostic and sensor technologies; disease predictive modeling capabilities; epidemiology, protection and mitigation approaches; microbial forensic capabilities; and event response planning to minimize the adverse effects of an attack.

Curriculum

The curriculum for the master’s degree program in homeland security with a specialization in agricultural biosecurity offers courses designed to teach professionals how to act responsibly and effectively to protect two of our nation’s most basic and valuable resources: our food and our health. In addition to the 9 credits of core curriculum courses, the degree has a set of required courses and multidisciplinary electives:

**Required courses (12 credits)**

- **AGBIO 520** Agricultural Biosecurity: Protecting a Key Infrastructure
- **AGBIO 521** Food Defense: Prevention Planning for Food Processors
- **AGBIO 801** Veterinary Infectious Disease Diagnostic and Surveillance Systems
- **AGBIO 802** Plant Protection: Responding to Introductions of Threatening Pests and Pathogens

**Elective courses (9 credits)**

*Available in concentration areas such as:*

- Communications
- Geography
- Geosciences
- Information Science and Technology
- Project Management
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Public Administration
- Public Health Preparedness
- Veterinary and Biomedical Science

**Capstone experience (3 credits)**

- Research Project
Agricultural Biosecurity Graduate Certificate

Penn State’s 12-credit online graduate certificate program in agricultural biosecurity consists of courses designed to enhance your understanding of the diverse agricultural and food supply chain systems, including vulnerabilities, public health and surveillance systems, and appropriate responses to an outbreak of widespread infectious disease.

This certificate program is designed as a “stand-alone” certificate or can serve as a “step-up” program into the master of homeland security in agricultural biosecurity degree program.

You may apply the 12 credits to the master of homeland security with a specialization in agricultural biosecurity degree program, if you are granted admission to enter the degree program.
The Penn State Difference

➤ Experience in Distance Education
As a distance education pioneer, Penn State has developed a nationally recognized support system for students who are geographically removed from campus. Our offerings have received high satisfaction ratings from students in terms of course content and student services.

➤ Connect with Classmates
Interact with dedicated, goal-oriented peers from across the nation, creating a network of great ideas. As you communicate daily with other professionals, you’ll gain insights that you can apply to your job immediately.

➤ Library Services
You will be able to access one of the leading university research libraries in North America—Penn State’s University Libraries system, which holds more than 5 million volumes and 68,000 serials. You can search the online catalog and review databases as if you were sitting at a terminal in any Penn State library.

➤ Learner and Technical Support
Without having to set foot on campus, you will have access to many of the same support services that residential students enjoy. Additionally, procedures such as course scheduling and registration are available through World Campus Student Services. World Campus HelpDesk personnel are available to offer technical support.
Begin Your Application Today

When applying to the master’s degree or certificate program, you must include the following:

**Degree**
- online application form and fee
- statement of purpose
- names of three references
- résumé
- official transcripts from all institutions attended
- GRE scores
- TOEFL score, if applicable

**Certificate**
- résumé
- statement of purpose
- names of three references
- official transcripts from all institutions attended

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**For More Information**

**Contact Us**
pennstateonline@psu.edu • www.worldcampus.psu.edu
800-252-3592 (toll free within the United States)
814-865-5403 (local and international)
814-865-3290 Fax

**Student Services Hours** (inquiries and registration)
- 8:00 a.m.–9:30 p.m. Monday–Thursday
- 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Friday
- Closed Saturday and Sunday

**Admissions Hours**
- 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Monday–Thursday
- 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Friday
- Closed Saturday and Sunday

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Did you know?

- Penn State credits and degrees earned online are identical to those earned on campus.
- Penn State World Campus has enrolled students from all fifty states and all seven continents.
- Our online courses involve frequent interactions between students and with instructors.

PENN STATE

World Campus

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