

## Weapons of Mass Destruction (HMSY 1343)



**Credit:** 3 semester credit hours (3 hours lecture)

**Prerequisite/Co-requisite:** None.

### Course Description

This course covers hazard and risk assessment, crime scene preservation, chemical agents, biological agents, radiological agents, explosive devices, detection-sampling and plume models, and personal protection methods. The critical role of first responders in weapons of mass destruction, mitigation, and survival will also be presented.

### Required Textbook and Materials

1. *Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction* by Gary Ackerman and Jeremy Tamsett, 1<sup>st</sup> edition.
  - a. ISBN number is 978-1-4200-6964-8.
2. *Weapons of Mass Destruction: Awareness Level WMD Training (AWR-160)*
  - a. The course text was produced by the U. S. Department of Homeland Security, Office for Domestic Preparedness, National Preparedness Consortium. As the instructor is a certified national instructor for the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness, this text will be provided to the student, by the instructor, on the first day of class, at no charge to the student. The chapters from this text will be used to augment information provided throughout the course and specifically instruct students on awareness essential for first responder safety in WMD incidents.

### Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Identify weapons of mass destruction and means of dissemination. (SCANS: C1, C5, C6, C7 C8, C9, C14, C15, C18, F1, F2, F5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F10, F12, F13, F15, F17)
2. Compare the different biological, chemical, and radiological materials used in weapons of mass destruction. (SCANS: C1, C5, C6, C7 C8, C9, C14, C15, C18, F1, F2, F5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F10, F12, F13, F15, F17)
3. Recognize the motivational element of jihadist groups and the orientations of those groups to use weapons of mass destruction. (SCANS: C1, C5, C6, C7 C8, C9, C14, C15, C18, F1, F2, F5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F10, F12, F13, F15, F17)
4. Identify various aspects of countering and defending against the WMD threat. (SCANS: C1, C5, C6, C7 C8, C9, C14, C15, C18, F1, F2, F5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F10, F12, F13, F15, F17)

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5. Recognize future indicators of an intent and capability to use weapons of mass destruction. (SCANS: C1, C5, C6, C7 C8, C9, C14, C15, C18, F1, F2, F5, F6, F7, F8, F9, F10, F12, F13, F15, F17)

**SCANS Skills and Competencies**

Beginning in the late 1980's, the U.S. Department of Labor Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) conducted extensive research and interviews with business owners, union leaders, supervisors, and laborers in a wide variety of work settings to determine what knowledge workers needed in order to perform well on a job. In 1991 the Commission announced its findings in *What Work Requires in Schools*. In its research, the Commission determined that "workplace know-how" consists of two elements: foundation skills and workplace competencies.

**Course Outline**

- A. The Jihadists
  - 1. Jihadist Ideology and Strategy and the Possible Employment of WMD
  - 2. Obedience to Divinity? The Psychology of Jihadist WMD Terrorism
  - 3. Jihadist Tactics and Targeting
  - 4. Jihadist Capabilities and the Diffusion of Knowledge
- B. The Agents of Harm
  - 1. Jihadists and Chemical Weapons
  - 2. Jihadists and Biological and Toxin Weapons
  - 3. Radiological Weapons and Jihadist Terrorism
- 4. Jihadists and Nuclear Weapons
- C. The Once and Future Threat
  - 1. Islamist Use and Pursuit of CBRN Terrorism
  - 2. The Future of Jihadists and WMD: Trends and Emerging Threats
  - 3. Conclusion
- D. Awareness and Recognition
  - 1. Prevention and Deterrence
  - 2. Chemical Agents
  - 3. Biological Agents
  - 4. Radiological Materials and Nuclear Weapons
  - 5. Explosive Devices

**Grade Scale**

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
0 – 59	F

**Course Evaluation**

Final grades will be calculated according to the following criteria:

4 Unit Tests	25%
5 Reading Assignment Quizzes	25%
Course Chapter Assignments	25%
Course Project	25%

**Course Requirements**

- 1. Reading assignments as outlined in syllabus.
- 2. Complete Team projects.

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3. Pass comprehensive final exam.

**Course Policies**

1. No food, drinks, or use of tobacco products in class.
2. Beepers, cell phones, headphones, and any other electronic devices must be turned off while in class.
3. Do not bring children to class.
4. No late assignments will be accepted.
5. Tests or quizzes. Students that miss a test or quiz are not allowed to make up the test or quiz. Students that miss a test or quiz will receive a grade of '0'.
6. Attendance Policy. Two absences are allowed. If a student is tardy to class or departs early three (3) times, it will be equal to one (1) absence. Each absence beyond two absences will result in a 5 point deduction from your final grade.
7. If you wish to drop a course, the student is responsible for initiating and completing the drop process. If you stop coming to class and fail to drop the course, you will earn an 'F' in the course.
8. Do not walk out of class early without talking to me before the class begins.
9. Do not enter the classroom if you are more than ten minutes late.
10. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY WILL BE DEALT WITH MOST STRICTLY! - An automatic F for the semester, plus a report will be filed.
11. Tests, quizzes, and the Final Exam will begin on time. Students more than 5 minutes late for the test/quiz or Final Exam, will not be allowed to take the exam.
12. Additional class policies as defined by the individual course instructor.

**Disabilities Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, these statutes require that all students with documented disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Special Populations Coordinator at (409) 880-1737 or visit the office in Student Services, Cecil Beeson Building.

**Course Schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading Assignment</b>
1	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Section 1: Chapter 1 Lectures	<i>Prevention and Deterrence</i>
2	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Section 1: Chapter 2 Lectures	
3	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Section 1: Chapter3 Lectures	

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<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading Assignment</b>
4	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Section 1: Chapter 4 Lectures	
5	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Section Test I on chapters 1 – 4 Section 2: Chapter 5 Lectures	<i>Chemical Agents</i>
6	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Section 2: Chapter 6 Lectures	<i>Biological Agents</i>
7	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Section 2: Chapter 7 Lectures	
8	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Section 2: Chapter 8 Lectures	<i>Radiological Materials and Nuclear Weapons</i>
9	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Section Test 2 on chapters 5 – 8 Section 4: Chapter 13 Lectures	
10	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Section 4: Chapter 14 Lectures	
11	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Section 4: Chapter 15 Lectures	
12	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Section Test 3 on chapters 13 - 15 <i>Appendix A</i> Lectures	
13	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> <i>Appendix B</i> Lectures	<i>Explosive Devices</i>
14	<i>Jihadists and Weapons of Mass Destruction</i> Appendices Test 4 on Appendix A and Appendix B Review for Final Exam Team Project	