



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Fire and Emergency Services Administration Program FESA
4318: Terrorism, WMD & Homeland Security
Fall 2026

A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT

Examines the philosophies and tactics of terrorist groups, weapons of mass destruction (WMD), homeland Security threats and discusses emerging terrorism trends, WMD issues and homeland security issues in context of the fire service. Also, covers the study of the methodology, incident response, and managing the consequences of events involving terrorist activities, WMD's and Homeland security.

B. LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Identify terrorist groups and organizations
2. Examine terrorism's political, economic, and environmental impact on public administration and the private sector
3. Identify the legal changes required to combat terrorism
4. Present the results of terrorism research

C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS

1. To gain an understanding of the motivations, means, and methods of trans-national terrorist and national terrorist groups.
2. To develop an understanding of the broad range of federal, state and local policies and procedures enacted since the events of 9/11 and other terrorist events.
3. To gain an understanding of the organizations involved in homeland security, how they are organized, how they interrelate, and their specific roles. This includes federal organizations, such as the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Defense, the National Guard, and those at the state and local levels.
4. Enable fire service personnel to improve their ability to interpret, analyze, evaluate and make inferences of ill-defined homeland security issues and problems.
5. To provide fire service personnel with the foundational knowledge of the discipline of homeland security upon which to build and begin preparing future leadership positions within their organizations in this field.

D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS

Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century, 9th Ed. Author(s): Cynthia C. Combs, Publisher: Routledge