Course Syllabus and Policy Requirement Statement

In order to access your course materials, you must agree to the following, by clicking the "Mark Reviewed" button below.

By checking the "Mark Reviewed" link below, you are indicating the following:

- You have read, understood, and will comply with the policies and procedures listed in the class syllabus, and that you have acquired the required textbook(s).
- You have read, understood, and will comply with class policies and procedures as specified in the online Student Handbook.
- You have read, understood, and will comply with computer and software requirements as specified with Browser Test.
- You have familiarize yourself with how to access course content in Blackboard using the Student Quick Reference Guide or CSS Student Orientation Course.

ISSA 3305 Intelligence Collection: Sources and Challenges

Course Description/Overview

This course will examine the fundamentals of intelligence collection, collection sources, methods, technologies and challenges. This course describes the aspects of the strategic, operational and tactical intelligence collection process, the various intelligence disciplines, specific strengths of those disciplines, legal limitations on intelligence collection, and will address some weaknesses and vulnerabilities.

Intelligence collection is one of the critical steps in the overall intelligence cycle. It serves as a foundational and critical layer for all further intelligence analysis, in support of decision and policy making. Once an intelligence need is stated and validated, the intelligence tasking and collection process begins. Intelligence collection refers to the entire process of acquiring access to information resources using a variety of methods and techniques. Intelligence collection generates raw information that must be processed before analysts can use it. Collected raw data and information are processed through various means to render the raw data usable. During processing, foreign language materials are translated into English and other types of data and information are rendered into a form usable for analysts to evaluate and integrate into various intelligence products and assessments for intelligence consumers.

The United States Intelligence Community relies on a wide variety of potential resources for its intelligence collection efforts. These collection resources are divided by their intelligence disciplines, and referred to by their INTs. These collection disciplines are also categorized as technical or non-technical depending on the techniques and means of collection and the type of information collected. Non-technical collection requires only human interaction with the collection resource and the data is produced may require little or no further processing beyond translation from a foreign language into English. Non-technical collection methods involve interviews, interrogations, and the systematic research of publicly available information. Technical collection requires some equipment or technical means to access and/or exploit some collection source, and often requires heavy computer work before it is usable by analysts. Technical collection problems can often require not one but a range of technical and technological solutions to gain access to data sources and to collect usable data once access has been gained.

The first three lessons provide a general course overview of intelligence collection and cover the non-technical intelligence collection sources and methods: Human Intelligence (HUMINT), and Open Source Intelligence (OSINT). The remaining lessons discuss several technical collection methods and technologies including: Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), Imagery Intelligence (IMINT), Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT), and Measurement and Signature Intelligence (MASINT). The final lesson discusses a number of "hot topics" facing intelligence collection such as the challenges of the Global War on Terrorism, cyber-warfare, and intelligence information sharing between national, state and local authorities.

Collection management is the process that aligns intelligence needs with information collection and processing capabilities and assets across the various intelligence collection disciplines. The collection management process answers the needs of intelligence consumers while making the most economical and effective use of intelligence collection resources. As such, collection management has two distinct functions: Collection Resource Management and Collection Operations Management. Collection resource management aligns intelligence needs and priorities with available resources while considering budgetary constraints. Simultaneously, collection operations management assigns specific collection tasks to a specific intelligence discipline, agencies, units or a specific system in order to make the most economic and effective use of all intelligence collection capabilities.

This course will examine the background, capabilities, and limitations of each intelligence discipline as well as the capabilities and limitations of multi-source collection integration. The course focuses on the intelligence process, specific intelligence collection methods and technologies, unique collection challenges presented by of the Global War on Terrorism, and national, state and local intelligence collection integration and information sharing.
Course Bibliography and Required Readings

The following textbook is required for this course. Other readings are assigned each week and are provided to you via a link in the course materials. If such a link fails, or does not work, start with a search engine, and then the Porter Henderson Library, and then contact me.


Course Objectives/Learning Outcome

Objectives:

ISSA 3305 is designed for students to develop an understanding of and appreciation of intelligence collection methods, limitations, and capabilities, multi-source integration, and specific intelligence collection challenges today. At the end of this course students will be able to:

1. Identify specific intelligence collection methods, capabilities and limitations; describe how intelligence collection fits into the overall intelligence process and supports the overall intelligence cycle.
2. Understand the collection management process and the distinction between collection resource management and collection operations management.
3. Understand the general sources and methods associated with the six primary intelligence collection disciplines to include the strengths and limitations of various intelligence collection platforms, sources and technologies.
4. Describe the importance and value of Human Intelligence (HUMINT) collection and understand the distinction between overt and covert HUMINT collection techniques.
5. Define open source intelligence (OSINT), its unique benefits and the challenges facing OSINT collection.
6. Describe Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), its three sub-disciplines and how SIGINT collection contributes to the overall intelligence picture.
7. Understand the difference between Imagery Intelligence (IMINT) and Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT), the evolution of intelligence collection from imagery and geo-locational data and describe the capabilities and limitations of IMINT and GEOINT collection platforms.
8. Distinguish between strategic IMINT/GEOINT collection for national security purposes and tactical IMINT/GEOINT support to war fighters and law enforcement.
9. Describe Measurements and Signatures Intelligence (MASINT), its seven main sub-disciplines and the capabilities and collection technologies unique to MASINT.
10. Comprehend the intelligence collection challenges in a post-9/11 environment and how the intelligence community has adapted to these new challenges.

Learning Outcomes:

Students have a right to know what instructors are going to expect that they learn from a course of instruction and how their learning will be measured. This course establishes several learning outcomes that are measured subjectively. As a result of completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Express an "informed citizen's" understanding of the craft of intelligence collection to include identifying the role of intelligence collection in the overall intelligence process.
2. Describe in detail the six major intelligence disciplines, the capabilities and vulnerabilities of each discipline, and any sub-disciplines.
3. Describe the responsibilities of the various agencies within the intelligence community with regard to intelligence collection disciplines, techniques and technologies.
4. Analyze and appreciate the capacities of intelligence collection, the constraints within which it works, and its contribution to US national security.
5. Compare the intelligence collection process with other factors that impact national decision-making and distinguish the appropriate role of intelligence collection in a variety of policy circumstances.
6. Describe the key contributions intelligence collection makes to tactical support to warfighters and to law enforcement agencies.
Assessment of Learning/Grading Policies

A Note on Grades:

ISSA 3305 is a colloquium (meaning a group discussion, from the Latin Colloqui – to talk together — to have a conversation). As such, weekly participation in the discussion threads is expected and forms part of the grade. Final grades are composed as follows:

This course employs a midterm essay, a final essay, and wiki entries combined with discussions regarding them to measure student learning. This includes the main post describing the wiki entry, and the responses to other students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
<th>Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation in the Discussion Board</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Weekly, to include week 3 (midterm) but not 8 (final), with all discussion posts completed by 11:59 CST Sunday. Comment on not less than two other students discussion posts, on not less than three different days, with each post being not less than 400 words (not including citations).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wiki entries</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Weekly, to include week 3 (midterm) but not 8 (final). An original wiki entry on a unique topic is due not later than Friday 11:59PM (CST). Entries will be not less than 500 words; use not less than two sources available through the online, full-text resources available through the Porter-Henderson Library; and be cited using the Chicago Manual of Style author-date-in-text method for citations. Create a original discussion thread with a brief but robust description of the entry, including the title of the entry, also not later than Friday 11:59PM (CST)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Essay (6-8 pages)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Due not later than Sunday 11:59PM (CST) of Week 3.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Essay (10-12 pages)</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Due not later than Thursday of Week 8, at 08:00 / 8 AM (CST).</td>
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Grades will be based on your ability to organize the material, integrate relevant concepts and theories, cite your sources, and present them in essay form in discussion threads as well as mid-term and final assignments. You are expected to apply your own observations as necessary when demonstrating grasp of material.

Students are expected to write original material in support of wiki entries, discussion posts and essay requirements associated with this class. Essays will be turned in to the professor via the Blackboard Assignment system. Essays not submitted through Blackboard will not be graded. Material submitted late will not be accepted. Students will not present their essay to their fellow students.

Rubrics:

Discussion forums and writing assignments will be graded using a standardized rubric. It is recommended that you be familiar with these grading criteria and keep them in mind as you complete the assignments. There are three rubrics. Click the link to download the PDF document:


Wiki Rubric:  [https://blackboard.angelo.edu/bbcswebdav/users/rlaflamme1/ISSA3305%20Intel%20Collection/Wiki%20Rubric%20ISSA%203305%20-%20Spring%202019.pdf](https://blackboard.angelo.edu/bbcswebdav/users/rlaflamme1/ISSA3305%20Intel%20Collection/Wiki%20Rubric%20ISSA%203305%20-%20Spring%202019.pdf)


On Wiki Entries

In the discussion area, I have listed topics and guidance for wiki entries for each week, each lesson. As described above, and as described in the rubric, I expect you to write an entry in the wiki for a topic not already addressed. I am asking you to address a new and unique topic, to create a new and unique entry. If there is an entry already for that topic, go ahead and begin work on a new entry.
There is a collaboration space - it's listed under Resources - that can serve as a great place for deconflicting topics on which students intend to research and write.

Angelo State University employs a letter grade system. Grades in this course are determined on a percentage scale:

- A = 90 – 100 %
- B = 80 – 89 %
- C = 70 – 79 %
- D = 60 – 69 %
- F = 59 % and below.

**Announcements**

Anticipate an announcement every week, at the beginning of the week, posted here in Blackboard and disseminated through student school email accounts. It will contain refinements to this syllabus and additional guidance to weekly readings, assignments, and the course. You are required to read course announcements, as they will contain updates to and refinements for this course.

### Course Organization/Learning Outcomes:

#### Lesson 1:
**Overview of Intelligence Collection.**

An introduction to the course; discussion of readings; introduction of key issues; the intelligence disciplines; the intelligence cycle; collection management; and statutory limitations on intelligence collection. How does intelligence collection fit into the overall intelligence production cycle?

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Identify specific intelligence collection methods, capabilities and limitations; describe how intelligence collection fits into the overall intelligence process and supports the overall intelligence cycle.
- Understand the collection management process and the distinction between collection resource management and collection operations management.
- Understand the general sources and methods associated with the six primary intelligence collection disciplines to include the strengths and limitations of various intelligence collection platforms, sources and technologies.
- Understand the distinction between and statutory limitations intelligence collection for national security purposes and intelligence collection for law enforcement purposes, and understand the need for protecting intelligence sources and methods.

#### Lesson 2:
**Human Intelligence (HUMINT).**

This lesson introduces students to the Human Intelligence (HUMINT) collection discipline. It demonstrates the strengths of HUMINT collection as well as several potential vulnerabilities and limitations.

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Understand the importance and value of Human Intelligence collection and understand the distinction between overt and covert HUMINT collection techniques.
- Describe the Defense Attaché Service, the National Clandestine Service, the potential reliability issues and pitfalls of HUMINT collection and the potential moral and ethical questions associated with Human Intelligence collection.

#### Lesson 3:
**Open Source Intelligence (OSINT).**

Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) is intelligence derived from the collection, processing and analysis of publicly available information. Nearly 90% of the information used in the production of intelligence estimates is derived from unclassified, publicly available sources. OSINT has been a valuable source of information for centuries, but advances in communications technology, the expansion of the World Wide Web, and the proliferation of social media give access to an ever-expanding repository of information and make it possible to answer new intelligence questions through open source collection.

**Learning Outcomes:**
Define open source intelligence, its unique benefits and the challenges facing OSINT collection.

Comprehend policy issues related to OSINT collection and the roles and functions of the Open Source Center and the National Air and Space Intelligence Center in OSINT collection processing and dissemination.

Lesson 4:
Signals Intelligence (SIGINT).

The techniques of Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) collection take advantage of vulnerabilities in the communications and information gathering technologies of our adversaries. SIGINT is probably the most versatile of the technical intelligence disciplines. It can provide information not only concerning adversary capabilities and current operations, but also future plans and intentions.

Learning Outcomes:

- Understand how SIGINT collection contributes to the overall intelligence picture.
- Describe the three sub-disciplines of SIGINT.
- Understand the general capabilities of the various SIGINT collection platforms, and what service or agency operates them.
- Describe the primary producers and users of SIGINT.
- Comprehend the unique capabilities and strengths of SIGINT as well as its vulnerabilities.

Lesson 5:
Imagery Intelligence (IMINT) & Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT).

You can tell a lot from a picture. Pictures are graphic, easily understood and compelling. Images can move public opinion and policy decisions in ways that words alone often cannot. Imagery intelligence (IMINT), or as it has become know more recently, geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) involves the collection and interpretation of images of various kinds to develop assessments of other nations' activities, capabilities and disposition of forces.

Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the evolution of intelligence collection from imagery and geo-locational data.
- Understand the difference between Imagery Intelligence (IMINT) and Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT).
- Describe the capabilities and limitations of IMINT/GEOINT collection platforms.
- Distinguish between strategic IMINT/GEOINT collection for national security purposes and tactical IMINT/GEOINT support to war fighters and law enforcement.
- Understand the importance of commercial satellite imagery to the overall GEOINT collection process.
- Understand the role of the National Reconnaissance Office in imagery and geo-locational data collection.

Lesson 6:
Imagery Intelligence (IMINT) & Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT) (Cont.).

Whereas the focus of the previous lesson was primarily on imagery and strategic imagery collection assets (U-2 aircraft and satellites) the focus in this lesson shifts to geospatial intelligence and tactical support to war fighters, homeland defense and law enforcement.

Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the difference between Imagery Intelligence (IMINT) and Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT).
- Distinguish between strategic IMINT/GEOINT collection for national security purposes previously discussed and tactical IMINT/GEOINT support to war fighters and law enforcement.
- Describe the process of managing geospatial assets and the agencies involved.
- Identify the major advances in geospatial support to warfighters.

Lesson 7:
Measurement and Signature Intelligence (MASINT).

Measurement and Signatures Intelligence (MASINT) is among the most technologically advanced but least understood intelligence collection disciplines. MASINT collection techniques encompass a wide variety of technologies and techniques including electro-optical, infrared, radio, laser and radar technologies, as well as collection from nuclear, acoustic and seismic sensors and gaseous, liquid and solid materials sampling for analysis.

Learning Outcomes:

- Describe Measurements and Signatures Intelligence (MASINT).
Understand the seven main sub-disciplines of MASINT collection and their unique capabilities and collection technologies.
Describe the role of the Central MASINT Organization in coordinating MASINT collection efforts within the Intelligence Community.
Comprehend how MASINT collection contributes to law enforcement and the War on Terrorism.

Lesson 8: Continuing intelligence collection challenges: Policy; budget; and the Global War on Terrorism.

Much has changed for the Intelligence Community since the end of the Cold War, and especially since the terrorist attacks in 2001. Whereas the focus during the Cold War was on one nuclear capable adversary and collection priorities where relatively stable, the focus today has shifted to a myriad of interrelated topics and issues: terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, transnational crime, narcotics trafficking, etc. These issues do not stand alone, but are interrelated. For instance, the Taliban in Pakistan and Afghanistan use the profits from opium trafficking to fund their activities against NATO in Afghanistan. The near impossibility of separating such interrelated and fluid targets has made prioritizing and managing collection against those targets extremely difficult.

The Intelligence Community has adapted to this new environment by increasing the exchange of information and improving the interaction between national, state and local agencies. For instance, the Department of Homeland Security has established Fusion Centers to coordinate, correlate and disseminate information from national agencies to state and local agencies. Despite these efforts, interagency rivalries and competition for funding continue to present challenges.

Learning Outcomes:
- Comprehend the intelligence collection challenges in a post-911 environment and how the intelligence community has adapted to these new challenges.
- Distinguish between Computer Network Exploitation and Computer Network Attack.
- Comprehend the role of Joint Terrorism Task Forces, Field Intelligence Groups and Fusion Centers in intelligence collection and dissemination to support National Security.

Additional Resources

1. The Angelo State University Writing Center: https://www.angelo.edu/dept/writing_center/ writingcenter@angelo.edu 325-486-6173 Porter Henderson Library, C305 [link]
2. The Porter Henderson Library at Angelo State University: https://www.angelo.edu/services/library/handouts/ [link]
5. The eLearning Center at Angelo State University: https://www.angelo.edu/services/e-learning/ [link]

Communication

Office Hours/Contacting the Instructor

See the Instructor Information section for contact information.
**Academic Integrity** Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding and complying with the University [Academic Honor Code](https://blackboard.angelo.edu/webapps/vtbe-tinymce/tiny_mce/plugins/preview/preview.jsp?v=3300.0.6-rel.49+ecc5c16_3300.0.6-rel.49+ecc5c16) and the [ASU Student Handbook](https://blackboard.angelo.edu/webapps/vtbe-tinymce/tiny_mce/plugins/preview/preview.jsp?v=3300.0.6-rel.49+ecc5c16_3300.0.6-rel.49+ecc5c16).

**Accommodations for Disability**
ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA), and subsequent legislation.

Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by emailing studentservices@angelo.edu, or by contacting:

Office of Student Affairs  
University Center, Suite 112  
325-942-2047 Office  
325-942-2211 FAX

**Student absence for religious holidays**
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.