MAJOR MAP

How to use the map
This map is designed to give you information about your chosen major or that will help keep you on track for graduation within 4 years. The introductory sections will help orient you to “big picture” ideas like the topics and areas of interest inside your major, the kinds of courses you will take, university policies and areas of interest inside your major, the kinds of courses that will help keep you on track for graduation within 4 years. The chart on the second page will help you to develop a productive plan to make the most of your 4 years at ECU and prepare yourself for the job market after graduation.

Remember, it is important that you diversify your experiences, for success both in your degree program and after graduation. While coursework is critically important, it should not be your only focus. The chart on page 2 will show you how to incorporate other kinds of experiences that will expand your knowledge of your chosen field and make you a more desirable job candidate. The map is only a guideline. Speak with your advisor often to learn about new opportunities, clarify concerns, and develop a plan that is right for you.

Questions?
ECU will help you grow and learn from your first day of orientation until your graduation. Your Academic and Faculty Advisors, New Student Orientation, Pirate to Pirate Mentoring, the University Writing Center, and the Career Center are only a few of the services and centers available to assist you throughout your time on campus.

WORKPLACE SUCCESS
What Employers Want
With your Security Studies major, you will pursue a career that requires specific skills and experiences. These might include:
1. Critical thinking and analytical skills
2. Ability to identify relevant and credible source materials
3. Excellent writing skills, especially the ability to express complex problems in a concise manner
4. Briefing/presentation skills
5. Understanding of U.S. Government functions, foreign policy and national security policy
6. Ability to work in teams and develop leadership skills
7. Practical experience through relevant internships, participation in study abroad, data analysis and/or foreign language proficiency

WHAT CAN I LEARN?
While completing the Security Studies major, you can expect to:
• Develop the skills necessary to succeed in a professional environment;
• Understand the concepts and theories relevant to this career field;
• Gain practical knowledge about the modern world and insights into the major issues of our age;
• Learn basic concepts relevant to the structures, power, procedures and problems in the international system, and how the U.S. interfaces with them;
• Identify and understand the factors that influence international, domestic, and individual security;
• Analyze the ways in which cultures, societies, politics, economics, power, environment, and religions can result in conflict between and within states;
• Assess foreign and security policies.

THOMAS HARRIOT COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Security Studies

ABOUT THE CONCENTRATION
The Multidisciplinary Studies: Security Studies program teaches students an interdisciplinary approach to understanding and addressing the diverse domestic and international threats to U.S. national security. The program is designed to enable students to evaluate threats and develop viable responses at the international, national, state and local levels. The program will also increase students’ understanding of the institutional coordination required to meet the challenges posed by such threats.
It is our goal to educate students and prepare them to compete for careers that will further their success as well as contributing to the well-being of our society.

DEGREE OPTIONS
To earn a BA in Security Studies you will need to complete a minimum of 120 credit hours, including:
• General Education requirements
• Demonstrate foreign language proficiency through level 2004
• 15 credit hours in Core Security Studies courses
• 6 credit hours of writing and communication cognate courses
• 24 credit hours of electives from at least 4 different disciplines
• At least 18 credit hours in a minor.

To earn a BS in Security Studies you will need to complete a minimum of 120 credit hours:
• General Education requirements
• 15 credit hours in Core Security Studies courses
• 6 credit hours of writing and communication cognate courses
• 24 credit hours of electives from at least 4 different disciplines
• At least 18 semester hours in a minor.

Foreign language hours are not required for the BS.
### FIRST YEAR

Begin completing the General Education requirements (ENGL 1100 & MATH 1050). Register for SECS 1000 (fall), JUST 1000 & POLS 2020. If completing the BA in MULT-SECS, begin taking foreign language requirements. Work with your advisor to develop your academic plan in DegreeWorks.

### SECOND YEAR

Continue to progress with general education requirements and foreign languages (if needed) and begin with your SECS electives.

### THIRD YEAR

Complete general education requirements and register for any remaining SECS core courses, including POLS 3031 in the fall. Continue with SECS electives and second major or minor courses. Be sure you have 4 WI classes completed.

### FOURTH YEAR

Complete electives for major/minor/second major. Register for SECS 4000: Senior Seminar in Security Studies in the spring. Meet with your academic advisor before the year starts to be sure you will have a minimum of 120 semester hours and all the requirements to complete the major. Apply for graduation!

#### POST-GRAD OPTIONS

Students who graduate with a degree in Security Studies have a variety of career options. Some of these include:

- Federal, state or local intelligence or law enforcement
- Contract work for security-related agencies
- Domestic or international think tanks, interest groups or non-profit organizations
- Local or state government
- Law school
- Private sector security and intelligence
- Graduate school
- Military service

#### THINK GLOBALLY

Integrate internationally-oriented classes into your electives. If you are considering a foreign language, check the critical languages identified by agencies of interest. Consider volunteer work abroad with NGOs/ international aid organizations like the Peace Corps and International Red Cross.

#### CAREER PREPAREDNESS

Meet with your Career Counselor to explore your goals and develop your résumé. Attend career fairs and other employer-related activities. Speak to your instructors and advisors about career options often. Spend some time each year reviewing qualifications for positions advertised on USAJobs.gov and elsewhere.

#### COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Pay attention to emails from the department that will let you know about upcoming guest lectures, internship opportunities, and special events. Keep up with the department social calendar to attend events. Consider opportunities to get involved with quantitative research, and experience with GIS.

#### GAIN RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Explore your major and career options in consultation with your advisor. By the end of your first year you should have identified the experience necessary for the kinds of employment you may be interested in and start thinking about relevant internships and the potential to study abroad.

#### THE COURSES YOU NEED

- **Preface**
  - **Degree Information**
  - **Prepares You**
  - **The Courses You Need**
  - **Gain Relevant Experience**
  - **Community Connection**
  - **Apply for Scholarships Each Year**
  - **Think Globally**
  - **Career Preparedness**

#### Major Map

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#### Visit Us Online

For more information and an interactive map PDF visit: [www.securitystudies.ecu.edu](http://www.securitystudies.ecu.edu)