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American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

<p>School of Security and Global Studies INTL422 Open Source Collection Credit Hours: 3 Length of Course: 8 Weeks Prerequisite: INTL300</p>

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Instructor Information

Instructor: link to bio

Office Hours: [1 hour/wk if teaching one course, 2 hours/wk if teaching 2+ courses], and by appointment.

Please contact your instructor through the Messages tab in the classroom.

After the class is over, instructor contact information:
@mycampus.apus.edu.

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Course Description (Catalog)

INTL422 Open Source Collection (3 hours)

This course provides an examination of how various unclassified materials, such as news services, databases, government documents, newspapers, journals, magazines, yearbooks, surveys, radio, TV, Internet, indexes, materials from various organizations, interviews, and country studies can be utilized as intelligence.

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Course Scope

As a 400-level course, this course provides a higher level of knowledge building on the basic material taught at the 300 level. The purpose and scope of this course is to enable the student to build a deeper understanding of the structure, function and collection cycle and capabilities within the Intelligence Community, as well as analytical and operational principles.

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Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to

Course Objective (1) – Analyze investigative strategies that lead to the production of OSINT intelligence products.

Course Objective (2) – Assess specific threats that can be addressed by systematically collecting OSINT information covering printed resources, online and Internet sources including protocols, privacy, net anonymity, and legal and ethical constraints.

Course Objective (3) - Deduce how an OSINT is analyzed via the intelligence cycle

Course Objective (4) – Critique objective, impartial and consistent approaches and methodologies to the handling of OSINT theory and practice.

Course Objective (5) – Compare and contrast multiple facets of different search engines while formulating tailored semantic search terms and Boolean logic.

Course Objective (6) – Examine the effect of ownership, affiliations and operating environments on reporting and aggregations of relevant intelligence topics

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Course Objective (7) – Construct OSINT intelligence products.

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Course Delivery Method

This course, delivered via distance learning, will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course resources and access to an online learning management system will be available to each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET and include all written assignments, examinations, and research papers submitted for grading. Weekly Forum questions (accomplished in groups in a Forum) require an initial response by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET, with all other required responses due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET. The assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

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Course Resources

- Course readings consist of journal articles found in the Lessons area of the classroom. See the References List below for the readings for the course.
- Various resources from the APUS Library are used. Please visit <http://apus.libguides.com/er.php> to locate the course eReserve.
 - Please visit <http://apus.libguides.com/er.php> and search by the course number (ex: LITR210) to access your required resources.
- External websites and other assigned reading found in the Lessons area of the classroom.
- Weekly Lesson Notes and videos or audio files are found in the Lessons area of the classroom.

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Evaluation Procedures

Late Assignments

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Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

Deductions:

Late forum posts can be penalized up to 5 points per day

Late assignments can be penalized up to 5 points per day

FACULTY NOTE: Instructors DO have the ability to modify the policy, but must change it in the syllabus and make sure that it is also posted in the site information display or send it out within the announcements. You always have the discretion **to not to make deductions**, but we want to make sure there is some policy in place. We ask that you do allow students leeway – if an assignment is a few minutes or even a few hours late, please give students the benefit of the doubt, especially during the first few weeks of class.

CITATION AND REFERENCE STYLE: All assignments for the School of Security and Global Studies (papers, essays, exams, and Forums) must follow the Turabian citation method. An online copy of may be found at:

http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html. Students should be aware that in-text citations are the preferred method for citing sources (rather than in footnotes or endnotes). Any notes used in essays or assignments should be limited to extraneous information that the student wishes to include. The format for in-text citations is given in the Turabian guide linked above. Students are to use the parenthetical form (P) within the text of the document and the reference list form (R) in providing a list of sources. See more information on citation style in the Week 1 Lesson.

Forum discussions – One initial post by Thursday; two follow-up posts to classmates by Sunday. Specific questions found in Forums tab of the classroom.

OSINT Prospectus assignment – Typically 2-3 pages. Specific instructions found in Assignments tab of the classroom..

OSINT Project– Specific instructions found in Assignments tab of the classroom.

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Open Source Quiz –1.5 hour timed assessment. Specific instructions found in Tests & Quizzes tab of the classroom.

Grade Instruments	Percentage
Forums	25
OSINT Project Prospectus/Assignment	10
Open Source Quiz	30
OSINT Project	35
Total	100%

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference the University's [grading scale](#).

For all university policies, including grading system, extensions, and disability accommodations, please see the [APUS Student Handbook](#).

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8 – Week Course Outline

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic(s)</u>	<u>Course Objective(s)</u>	<u>Reading(s)</u>	<u>Assignment(s)</u>
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1	<p>What is OSINT?</p>	<p>LO - Precisely identify the components of an intelligence gap that can be identified using open source collection methods.</p> <p>LO - Analyze how intelligence sharing concepts are evolving with new developments in technology.</p> <p>LO - Understand the importance of open source collecting as it pertains to integration into the intelligence cycle.</p> <p>CO (1) & CO (2)</p>	<p>Read: OSINT Doctrine by Taylor</p> <p>Open Source Intelligence - Issues for Congress, CRS Report</p> <p>Lecture on Open Source Intelligence from the European Commission Joint Research Centre slides that accompany the lecture by Clive Best</p> <p>Watch: Clive Best - Part 1 (first 45 minutes) Lecture on Open Source Intelligence from the European Commission Joint Research Centre</p>	<p>Student Introduction and Week One Forum Discussions due NLT Sunday at 11:55 p.m. for week 1 only.</p>
2	<p>The History and Evolution of OSINT</p>	<p>LO - Determine how various government and non-government entities collect, analyze and use open source information.</p> <p>LO - Explain what relevance OSINT has in the intelligence community.</p> <p>CO (1), CO (2) & CO(4)</p>	<p>Read: Sailing the Sea of OSINT in the Information Age</p> <p>OSINT: An Intelligence Lifeline</p> <p>Slides for the Lecture on Open Source Intelligence from the European Commission Joint Research Centre by Clive Best (Part 2 - second 48 minutes)</p> <p>Watch: Clive Best - Part 2 (second 48 minutes) Lecture on Open Source Intelligence from the European Commission Joint Research Centre</p>	<p>Week Two Forum Discussion due.</p> <p>Note: All initial answers to forum discussions are due on Thursdays at 11:55pm ET. All follow-ups to discussions are due on Sundays at 11:55pm ET. All written assignments are due on Sundays at 11:55pm ET</p>

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3	<p>The Distinction of OSINT from other Intelligence Disciplines</p>	<p>LO - Determine the proper role and key insertion points of open source information and how it is integrated into the intelligence cycle.</p> <p>LO - Recognize key factors that are unique to open source information.</p> <p>CO(3) & CO(7)</p>	<p>Read: Intelligence for the 21st Century by Dupont</p> <p>Strategic Use of Open Source Information by Gannon</p> <p>U.S. Embraces Open Source Intelligence</p>	<p>Week Three Forum Discussion due.</p> <p>OSINT Project Prospectus due NLT Sunday at 11:55 p.m.</p>
4	<p>OSINT Source Collection, Analysis, and Production Part A</p>	<p>LO - Begin to prioritize tasked open source collection requirements.</p> <p>LO - Diagnose how specific theoretical applications can be applied on strategic open source collection levels.</p> <p>CO (4), (5), & (6)</p>	<p>Read: Diving the Digital Dumpster: The impact of the Internet on Collecting Open Source Intelligence</p> <p>Intelligence Exploitation of the Internet by NATO (pages 1-75. Skim the checklists and evaluation pieces)</p> <p>Open Source Intelligence Reader by NATO (pages 9-55)</p>	<p>Week Four Forum Discussion due.</p>
5	<p>OSINT Source Collection, Analysis, and Production Part B</p>	<p>LO - Begin to prioritize tasked open source collection requirements.</p> <p>LO - Diagnose how specific theoretical applications can be applied on strategic open source collection levels.</p> <p>CO (4), (5), & (6)</p>	<p>Read: Collecting Open Source Intelligence via Tailored Information Delivery Systems</p> <p>Producing Intelligence from Open Sources</p> <p>NATO OSINT Handbook (pages 1-35)</p> <p>The Downside of Open Source Intelligence</p>	<p>Week Five Forum Discussion due.</p>

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6	OSINT and Social Media	<p>LO - Determine the specific intelligence value of and identify actionable items that can be gleaned from social media resources.</p> <p>LO - Evaluate and identify the wide array of social media outlets that exist and which aspects of potential intelligence exploitation are the most effective for integration into the intelligence cycle.</p> <p>LO - Examine the nontraditional challenges and threats confronting the United States and the global community.</p> <p>CO(2) &(6)</p>	<p>Media Content:</p> <p>Open Source Intelligence and Social Media</p> <p>Read: Introducing Social Media Intelligence</p> <p>Social Media: Valuable Tools in Today's Operational Environment</p> <p>Using Google to track Mexican Drug Trafficking Organizations by Coscia and Rios</p>	<p>Week Six Forum Discussion due.</p> <p>Open Source Quiz opens this week</p>
7	OSINT and the Intelligence cycle as it relates to decision and policy makers	<p>LO - Evaluate the coordination of intelligence collection within the U.S. intelligence community.</p> <p>LO - Examine solutions to the problems of intelligence failures.</p> <p>LO - Describe what changes need to be made in the U.S. intelligence community practices and policies in order to increase future successes in OSINT procedures.</p> <p>CO(4), (6), & (7)</p>	<p>Read: Giving a Voice to Open Source Stakeholders</p> <p>The "Grey" Intersection of Open Source Information and Intelligence</p> <p>"TRADECRAFT VERSUS SCIENCE:" Intelligence Analysis and Outsourcing</p>	<p>Week Seven Forum Discussion due.</p> <p>Open Source Quiz is open this week.</p>

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8	Lessons Learned - What is the future of OSINT?	<p>LO - Apply the strategies, tactics, and principles found in the course materials to develop a coherent and applicable OSINT plan and operation.</p> <p>LO - Evaluate the breadth and depth of the capabilities and vulnerabilities associated with OSINT practices.</p> <p>CO(2) & (7)</p>	<p>Read:</p> <p>Can Open Source Intelligence Emerge as an Indispensable Discipline for the Intelligence Community in the 21st Century?</p>	<p>Week Eight Forum Discussion due.</p> <p>OSINT Project due NLT Sunday at 11:55 p.m.</p> <p>Open Source Quiz due NLT Sunday at 11:55 p.m.</p>
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Policies

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

- [Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)
- [Plagiarism Policy](#)
- [Extension Process and Policy](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

Citation and Reference Style

Attention Please: Students will follow the Turabian/Chicago Style as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. See <http://www.apus.edu/Online-Library/tutorials/chicago.htm>.

Late Assignments

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time.

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Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especially satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emoticons” to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

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Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- **Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:** The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors’ publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- **Electronic Books:** You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- **Electronic Journals:** The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.

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- **Tutor.com:** AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutor.com connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

Request a Library Guide for your course (<http://apus.libguides.com/index.php>)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOCI111), or class name.

If a guide you need is not available yet, please email the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu.

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Turnitin.com

Faculty require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze a paper and report instances of potential plagiarism for the student to edit before submitting it for a grade. The instructor will post information in the classroom on student procedures.

Required Readings

Week 1:

- Michael C. Taylor. "Doctrine Corner: Open Source Intelligence Doctrine". *Military Intelligence Professional Bulletin*. Ft. Huachuca: Oct-Dec 2005. Vol. 31, Iss. 4.
- Richard A. Best, Jr., and Alfred Cumming. "Open Source Intelligence (OSINT): Issues for Congress". *CRS Report for Congress*. December 5, 2007.
- "Lecture on Open Source Intelligence from the European Commission Joint Research Centre" PowerPoint Slides.

Week 2:

- Stevyn Gibson. "Open Source Intelligence: An Intelligence Lifeline". *RUSI Journal*. London: Feb 2004. Vol. 149, Iss. 1.
- Stephen C. Mercado. "Sailing the Sea of OSINT in the Information Age". *CSI Studies*, Vol 48, No. 3.

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- “Lecture on Open Source Intelligence from the European Commission Joint Research Centre” PowerPoint Slides.

Week 3:

- John C. Gannon. Speeches and Testimony. Washington College of Law. Washington, DC. 6 Oct 2000.
- Alan Dupont. “Intelligence for the Twenty-First Century”. *Intelligence and National Security*. Vol. 18, No. 4, p. 15-39.
- US Embraces Open Source Intelligence. *Jane’s Intelligence Digest*. 13 Apr 2007.

Week 4:

- Lt. Col. David A. Umphress. “Diving the Digital Dumpster”. *Air & Space Power Journal*, Winter 2005.
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization “Intelligence Exploitation of the Internet by NATO”, 2002.
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization. “Open Source Intelligence Reader”, 2002.

Week 5:

- Dr. Donald L. Madill. “Producing Intelligence from Open Sources”. *Military Intelligence Professional Bulletin*. Ft. Huachuca: Oct-Dec 2005.
- Arthur S. Hulnick. “The Downside of Open Source Intelligence”. *International Journal of Intelligence and Counterintelligence*. 2002. p. 565-579.
- William L. Sousesan, Qiuming Zhu, Ryan Nickell, William Mahoney, & Pete Hospodka “Collecting Open Source Intelligence via Tailored Information Delivery Systems”. *University of Nebraska-Omaha, Department of Computer Science. Technical Report No. cst-2008-1, 2008.*
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization. “NATO OSINT Handbook” 2002.

Week 6:

- Sir David Omand , Jamie Bartlett & Carl Miller “Introducing Social Media Intelligence”. *Intelligence and National Security*. 27(6), 801-823, December 2012.
- Rudy Schoen. “Social Media: Valuable Tools in Today's Operational Environment”. *Naval War College, 2011.*
- Michele Coscia & Viridiana Rios. “How and Where do Criminals Operate: Using Google to track Mexican Drug Trafficking Organizations”. *Harvard University, Department of Government, 2012.*

Week 7:

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- June Crowe. "The "Grey" Intersection of Open Source Information and Intelligence". *Open Source Research Group, 2008.*
- Hamilton Bean. "Tradecraft Versus Science: Intelligence Analysis and Outsourcing". *Research Paper No. 104, University of Colorado at Boulder. 2006.*
- "Giving a Voice to Open Source Stakeholders". *Committee on Homeland Security, 2008.*

Week 8:

- Harris Minas. "Can Open Source Intelligence Emerge as an Indispensable Discipline for the Intelligence Community in the 21st Century?" *REIAS Research Paper No. 139, 2010.*

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