



# DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT *takes?*



- Are you wondering how to translate your skills and degree into an exciting career?
- Would you like to collaborate with the nation's best and brightest in solving wicked problems?
- Do you want to make a difference by helping to protect your country?

## **IF SO, YOU MAY WANT TO CONSIDER A CAREER IN THE INTELLIGENCE OR NATIONAL SECURITY SECTOR.**

The faculty and staff at the Center for Intelligence and Security Studies can help you reach your goals. **Enroll in introduction to intelligence studies (ISS 125) to learn more.**

“THE ISS MINOR INTRODUCED ME TO THE WORLD OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY AND TAUGHT ME HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEX WORLD OF NATIONAL SECURITY”  
- CURRENTLY EMPLOYED AT DIA

# WHAT IS INTELLIGENCE?



## Working separately, working together

The U.S. Intelligence Community is a federation of executive branch agencies and organizations that work separately and together to conduct intelligence activities necessary for the conduct of foreign relations and the protection of the national security of the United States.



## The U.S. Intelligence Community (IC) is composed of 17 different agencies:

- Office of the Director of National Intelligence
- Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
- Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA)
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- Department of State
- Department of Treasury
- Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)
- Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA)
- National Reconnaissance Office (NRO)
- National Security Agency (NSA)
- Air Force
- Army
- Coast Guard
- Marine Corps
- Navy

CENTER FOR INTELLIGENCE  
AND SECURITY STUDIES  
AT THE UNIVERSITY  
OF MISSISSIPPI



## INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY CENTER OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

In 2012 the Director of National Intelligence designated the Center for Intelligence and Security Studies at the University of Mississippi as an Intelligence Community Center of Academic Excellence (IC-CAE). CISS offers an 18-hour minor in intelligence and security studies (ISS), which prepares outstanding students for entry-level positions in the U.S. Intelligence Community.

### Application Requirements

CISS uses a highly selective admission process to admit a small number of outstanding students into the program each semester. To apply, students must have taken or currently be enrolled in ISS 125 and pass the course with at least a B average as well as have at least a 3.0 overall GPA. Applications are available Fall and Spring semesters. More information on application

deadlines can be found at [ciss.olemiss.edu](http://ciss.olemiss.edu). Once accepted to the minor, students must maintain at least a 3.0 GPA to remain in the cohort. Our students major in different programs including critical languages (e.g., Arabic, Chinese), computer and physical science, international studies, accounting and business. We encourage outstanding students from any academic discipline on campus to apply.

## INTERNSHIPS

What is an internship? Most people think that an internship involves getting coffee for people, making copies and running countless errands. Internships are different in the IC. An internship with the intelligence community serves more like a 10-week-long job interview. You will gain valuable experience, do real work that matters, and often obtain a security clearance, which is necessary for the important work required of you.

The ISS minor requires all students to complete an internship. This opportunity allows you to put into practice what you have learned in the classroom. It opens up new avenues for employment and will provide you with valuable work experience that gives you a competitive edge in the job market. CISS encourages students to apply for internships with federal IC agencies such as the CIA, FBI and NSA. Students may also opt for many local internship opportunities and even telecommuting options that still allow you to contribute to the security of our nation and gain valuable work experience.

Internships are one of the most important experiences students can undertake to aid in securing a job after graduation. CISS will help you find the right internship: one that aligns with your career and academic goals. This can be an intimidating experience, but our staff will aid you every step of the way and help make your internship a rewarding experience.

## HIGHLIGHTS

The ISS minor consists of six mandatory courses:

### ISS 125: INTRODUCTION TO INTELLIGENCE STUDIES

CISS offers this course to all students at UM. It includes an overview of the IC, including its history, the intelligence cycle, laws and ethics, cybersecurity and future national security issues.

### ISS 351: ADVANCED ANALYTICS I

This course introduces students to advanced analytic methodologies used by the IC as well as skills related to writing and briefing for policymakers. By the conclusion of the course, students will demonstrate their ability to analyze information and communicate effectively.

### ISS 352: ADVANCED ANALYTICS II

This course follows ISS 351 and continues developing students' advanced analytic, writing and briefing skills. This course concentrates on "learning by doing" with students completing numerous case studies and writing and briefing assignments.

### ISS 480: NATIONAL SECURITY ISSUES OF THE 21ST CENTURY

This course, which relies heavily on fundamentals of strategic intelligence and futures research, introduces students to challenges they will likely face over the course of a career in the IC.

### ISS 490: INTERNSHIP

Students complete an internship related to intelligence, national security, or security industry. Internships may be completed at a government intelligence agency or within the private sector. CISS has a career-planning specialist to assist students in procuring an internship.

### ISS 499: SENIOR THESIS/ CAPSTONE PROJECT

Students will apply the skills they learned in all previous courses to complete a project of practical benefit to the IC.

## STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

CISS offers many opportunities for students admitted to the cohort, including participation in international intelligence conferences and visits to agencies across the region as well as in Washington, D.C. In addition, CISS hosts the annual Days of Intrigue, a weekend-long practical intelligence case study that includes participation from agencies across the IC and takes place in the spring.



“I FELT MORE THAN PREPARED ENTERING THE AGENCY AND WAS QUICKLY ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MISSION BECAUSE OF THE ISS MINOR’S RELEVANCY.”

- CURRENTLY EMPLOYED AT CIA

# CAREERS

## IN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY (IC)

Careers within the IC are as varied as the unique missions of the various intelligence departments, agencies and elements. You might not even realize that your academic degree, training, and skills can translate to a career in intelligence.

With tens of thousands of employees worldwide, the U.S. intelligence community provides dynamic careers to talented professionals in almost every career category. To include but not limited to:

- Intelligence analysis
- Intelligence collection
- Foreign language
- Computer science and cyber
- Law and legal studies
- Engineering, physical, and mathematical sciences
- Business, accounting and budget
- Communication and Public Affairs

Find out more about how your unique skillset can contribute to the IC on [intelligencecareers.gov](http://intelligencecareers.gov)



### PLACEMENT RATE OF STUDENTS WITH ISS MINORS:

Students graduating with an ISS minor are highly competitive on the job market. The CISS practical skills-based approach to preparing students for the IC and related national security fields has contributed to the strong placement of students with an ISS minor. CISS students are often more prepared than their counterparts and ahead of the learning curve during their internships and early career.

### % ON AVERAGE GRADUATES FROM EACH COHORT:



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