

# SYLLABUS

# GEOG 3300

## Transportation Security

Spring 2025 (full term)

3 credit hours

In person, no remote option

**Day: T/Th**

**Time: 11:10-12:30 PM**

**Location: Hitchcock Hall 324**



# COURSE OVERVIEW

## Instructor

- **Name:** Sen Wang, Ph.D. C.M.
- **Email:** wang.18872@osu.edu
- **Office location:** 1105 Derby Hall
- **Office hours:** 2pm–3pm Friday; appointment by email

## Teaching Assistant

- **Name:** Abdirashid Dahir
- **Email:** dahir.39@osu.edu
- **Office location:** TBD
- **Office hours:** TBD

## Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

## Course description

This course is an introduction to transportation security: protecting transportation networks from damage and humans from injuries and deaths caused by intentional acts. We will discuss major transportation modes including air, maritime and land-based systems, their properties and the evolution of threats against these systems. We will also discuss the varying roles of private and public sector agents and their responsibilities.

## Course learning outcomes

By the end of this course, students should successfully be able to:

- 1) Provide an understanding of the importance of transportation in human activity in historical and contemporary contexts;
- 2) Identify the major modes of transportation and their general characteristics and to understand the role each plays in the broader context of human activity;
- 3) List and understand elements associated with protecting transportation infrastructure and cargo, to include regulations; industrial practices; cargo

screening equipment; personnel, physical, and procedural security requirements; and new security technologies;

- 4) Identify the major transportation industry and government institutions responsible for addressing transportation security issues, and to understand the role each plays in shaping transportation security policies and procedures;
- 5) Assess transportation security vulnerabilities from a geographic, transport planning, and/or policy perspective, as well as identify and understand current international security threats, countermeasures, and potential future security concerns.

## HOW THIS COURSE WORKS

**Mode of delivery:** This course is **100% in person**. All lectures and office hours will be held on campus. **If I get sick, and coming to campus is not an option, I will post a Zoom-based video lecture on Carmen in place of meeting as a group.**

**Credit hours and work expectations:** This is a **3-credit-hour course**. According to Ohio State policy ([go.osu.edu/credithours](https://go.osu.edu/credithours)), students should expect around **3 hours per week of time spent on direct instruction (instructor content and Carmen activities, for example) in addition to 6 hours of homework (reading and assignment preparation, for example) to receive a grade of (C) average.**

## COURSE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGIES

### Textbooks

Johnstone, R. William, *Protecting Transportation: Implementing Security Policies and Programs*. ISBN-13: 978-0124081017 (Available via <https://library.osu.edu/>)

### Course Technology

#### Technology support

For help with your password, university email, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the Ohio State IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at [ocio.osu.edu/help/hours](https://ocio.osu.edu/help/hours), and support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- **Self-Service and Chat support:** [ocio.osu.edu/help](https://ocio.osu.edu/help)
- **Phone:** 614-688-4357(HELP)
- **Email:** [servicedesk@osu.edu](mailto:servicedesk@osu.edu)
- **TDD:** 614-688-8743

## Carmen access

You will need to use BuckeyePass ([buckeyepass.osu.edu](https://buckeyepass.osu.edu)) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in Carmen. To ensure that you are able to connect to Carmen at all times, it is recommended that you take the following steps:

- Register multiple devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the BuckeyePass - Adding a Device help article for step-by-step instructions ([go.osu.edu/add-device](https://go.osu.edu/add-device)).
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click **Enter a Passcode** and then click the **Text me new codes** button that appears. This will text you ten passcodes good for 365 days that can each be used once.
- Download the Duo Mobile application ([go.osu.edu/install-duo](https://go.osu.edu/install-duo)) to all of your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data, or Wi-Fi service

If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357(HELP) and IT support staff will work out a solution with you.

## ASSIGNMENT AND GRADING RUBRIC

ASSIGNMENT CATEGORY	PERCENTAGE
Attendance	5
Quizzes (x5)	10
Discussions (x5)	10
Midterm Exam	25
Final Exam	25
Group Project	15
Group Presentation	10
Total	100

### Attendance

**Description:** This course will feature five spot attendance checks, accounting for a total of 5% of the total grade. These will be completed in class. As in-person learning is

important to achieve the learning objective, you are expected to attend each lecture in person and sign your own name. Signing for others will constitute a COAM violation. I will not dock you for attendance if you provide documentation of a verifiable health illness (i.e. COVID-19), a verifiable family emergency, jury duty, religious obligation, and/or military service. Otherwise, a missed class will count against your attendance grade.

## Discussion

**Description:** There will be five discussion boards this semester, designed to help develop your critical thinking skills and foster peer communication and learning. Each discussion is worth ten points, accounting for 2% of the total grade. To earn full points, you must create one thread and respond to at least one other post. Late submissions will not be accepted unless due to the circumstances such as a verifiable health illness, verifiable family emergency, jury duty, religious obligation, and/or military service

## Quizzes

**Description:** A number of five quizzes will be given in a semester to assist you understand key learning topics. Each quiz is worth 2% of the total grade. Late or makeup submission attempts will not be allowed, with the exception of valid reasons such as grief absence, evidence of military, athlete, or orchestra training, and the proof of medical leave.

## Midterm/Final Exam

**Description:** Each exam is worth 25% of your final grade. Midterm/Final exams are due on midnight of February 18, 2025, and April 17, 2025, time stamped via Carmen.

**Academic integrity and collaboration:** Both exams are open note, meaning that you can consult the readings, your lecture notes, and lectures slides while preparing the exams. However, you can not work in groups; my expectation is that you hand in your own, original work. Failure to complete the midterm and final exam on your own, including plagiarism violations, will constitute a COAM violation.

**Late handing in the exam?** For the late submission, there is a 10% penalty of your total score per 24-hour period after the due date. This means that if you are late with the exam, you should hold on to it for 24 hours to maximize your work time. Handing in a late exam before the 24 hours has expired means that you are not making full use of the time you have effectively gained with the 10% penalty. **If you are handing in a late exam, please email me and TA to let us know.**

I will waive the exam late penalty for a handful of reasons, for example if you have a verifiable health illness, a verifiable family emergency, jury duty, religious obligation, and/or military service. If any of these situations applies to you, I will expect an email

prior to the exam so that we can work out an alternate due date and schedule. **If you wait until the due date has passed to contact me and TA, I will not waive the late penalties.**

## Term Project

In this project, each group will perform an in-depth review and assessment of a particular component of the existing/emerging transportation security system (e.g., security screening checkpoint at airport ABC/security planning for AAM vertiport).

Efficient communication is essential for the success of this project. Each student is responsible for being actively involved in the teamwork. In the concluding section of the paper, the group must include a detailed description of each member's responsibility throughout the project. **Each group needs to submit the well-proofread paper and presentation slides by 5pm EST April 6<sup>th</sup>, time stamped via Carmen. The late submission of the term paper and slides will not be accepted.**

### Project Requirements:

- Scope of Analysis: Each paper should cover overview of the component you are studying and an assessment of this component.
- Visuals: The paper should include relevant visual aids such as tables and figures to better support the analysis.
- Length: Each group needs to deliver an 8-page paper to cover all details, 1.5"-spaced (excluding APA-styled references, Cover Page, and Appendix); at least 5 citations are required.

### Grading Criteria:

- Use of Data and Visuals: Effectiveness of visual aids in enhancing the understanding of network changes.
- Clarity and Organization: Overall structure, coherence, and presentation of the paper.
- Creativity and Critical Thinking: Insightful discussions on how future trends may impact the airline's network.
- Grammar: Proper use of grammar, punctuation, and overall readability.
- Page: Adequate length of the paper, adhering to the 8-page requirement

Criteria	1 – Poor	2 – Fair	3 – Good	4 – Very Good	5 – Excellent
<b>Use of Data and Visuals</b>	No visuals or ineffective use of visuals	Few visuals, somewhat relevant	Relevant visuals, moderately effective	Good use of relevant visuals, effectively supports analysis	Excellent use of visuals that enhance understanding
<b>Clarity and Organization</b>	Disorganized, lacks flow	Some structure, but lacks coherence	Clear structure, some areas lacking flow	Well-structured, coherent throughout	Exceptional structure, smooth flow
<b>Creativity and Critical Thinking</b>	Little to no creative thought, no future outlook	Some creative thinking, limited discussion on trends	Demonstrates creative thought, decent discussion on future trends	Creative thinking and strong discussion on future trends	Highly creative, deep insights on future trends

<b>Grammar</b>	Multiple ( $\geq 10$ ) grammar errors, difficult to read	Frequent ( $\geq 5$ ) grammar errors, somewhat readable	Few grammar ( $\geq 3$ ) errors, generally readable	Minimal ( $\geq 1$ ) grammar errors, well-written	No grammar errors, polished writing
<b>Page</b>	1 page	2-3 page	4-5 page	6-7 page	8-page

## Presentation

**Description:** Each group will have 10 minutes to present their term project in person. The presentation should be clear and concise, highlighting the key aspects of the paper. Presentation schedules can be found on Canvas.

Criteria	1 – Poor	2 – Fair	3 – Good	4 – Very Good	5 – Excellent
<b>Content Knowledge</b>	Shows little understanding of the topic	Shows limited understanding, several errors	Demonstrates good understanding, some minor errors	Demonstrates solid understanding, few minor errors	Demonstrates excellent understanding, no errors
<b>Organization</b>	Presentation is disorganized and unclear	Some organization, but difficult to follow	Organized, but lacks clarity in some areas	Well-organized and mostly clear	Exceptionally organized and easy to follow
<b>Visual Aids</b>	No visuals or visuals are irrelevant	Few or poorly chosen visuals	Relevant visuals used, but not integrated well	Visuals are relevant and well-integrated	Excellent use of visuals that enhance the presentation
<b>Time Management</b>	Less than 3 minutes	3-5 minute	5-7 minute	7-9 minutes	10 minutes

**Missed presentation?** Failure to present during the scheduled time will result in a zero score unless prior arrangements/notifications have been made.

## GRADING SCALE

93–100: A	An “A” grade indicates <b>outstanding performance</b> in the class, in comparison with other students.
90–92.9: A-	An “A-” grade indicates <b>very good performance</b> in the class, in comparison with other students.
87–89.9: B+	A “B+”, “B” and “B-” grade indicates <b>above average performance</b> in the class, in comparison with other students. Above average students will be assigned +/- in comparison with other above average students.
83–86.9: B	
80–82.9: B-	
77–79.9: C+	A “C+”, “C” and “C-” grade indicates <b>average performance</b> in the class, in comparison with other students. Average students will be assigned +/- in comparison with other average students.
73–76.9: C	
70–72.9: C-	
67–69.9: D+	A “D+” and “D” grade indicates <b>low but acceptable performance</b> in the class, in comparison with other students. D-range students will be assigned + in comparison with other average students.
60–66.9: D	

Below 60: E	An "E" grade indicates that the student has not successfully satisfied the course requirements.
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The above qualitative language on grades is adopted from

<https://trustees.osu.edu/index.php?q=rules/university-rules/chapter-3335-8-instruction.html>

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Tasks
1/7	Course Overview	Recording
1/9	TRB Conference	No Classes Readings: Introduction
1/14	Introduction to Transportation Security	
1/16	Transportation Security before 9/11	Readings: CH 1
1/21	Transportation Security after 9/11	Readings: CH 2
1/23	Transportation Systems Part 1 - Principles	Readings: CH 3 Deadline: Discussion 1
1/28	Transportation Systems Part 2 - Network Analysis	Readings: CH 3
1/30	Transportation Systems Part 3 - Empirical Examples and Resilience	Readings: CH 3
2/4	Transportation Security Roles Part 1 - International	Readings: CH 4
2/6	Transportation Security Roles Part 2 - US	Readings: CH 4 Deadline: Discussion 2
2/11	Transportation Security Policymaking in the US	Readings: CH 5
2/13	Midterm Exam Review	Deadline: Form groups
2/18	Midterm Exam - no class meeting	Deadline: Midterm exam
2/20	Maritime Security Part 1 - Ports and Vessels	Readings: CH 6
2/25	Maritime Security Part 2 - Supply Chains and Domain Awareness	Readings: CH 6
2/27	Land Transportation Security Part 1 - Mass Transit and Passenger Rail	Readings: CH 7
3/4	Land Transportation Security Part 2 - Freight, Highways and Pipelines	Readings: CH 7 Deadline: Discussion 3
3/6	Aviation Security Part 1 - Commercial Aviation	Readings: CH 8 Deadline: Topic review
3/11	Spring Break	No Classes
3/13	Spring Break	No Classes
3/18	Aviation Security Part 2 - Air Cargo + General Aviation	Readings: CH 8 Deadline: Discussion 4
3/21	Evaluating Transportation Security	Readings: CH 9
3/25	Transportation Risk Analysis	Readings: CH 9
3/27	Transportation Security in Context	Readings: CH 10
4/1	Climate Change, Hazards and Transportation Resilience	Deadline: Discussion 5
4/3	Final Exam Review	
4/8	Team Presentation	



4/10	Team Presentation	
4/15	Team Presentation	
4/17	<i>Final Exam - no class meeting</i>	

Note: The schedule is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

## Faith accommodations

It is Ohio State's policy to reasonably accommodate the sincerely held religious beliefs and practices of all students. The policy permits a student to be absent for up to three days each academic semester for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief.

Students planning to use religious beliefs or practices accommodations for course requirements must inform the instructor in writing no later than 14 days after the course begins. The instructor is then responsible for scheduling an alternative time and date for the course requirement, which may be before or after the original time and date of the course requirement. These alternative accommodations will remain confidential. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all course assignments are completed.

## Instructor feedback and response time

I am providing the following list to give you an idea of my intended availability throughout the course. (Remember that you can call **614-688-4357(HELP)** at any time if you have a technical problem.)

- **Grading and feedback:** For assignments and exams, you can generally expect feedback within **7 days**.
- **Email:** I will reply to emails within **24 hours on days when class is in session at the university**. I do not check email on the weekends and after 5 p.m. during the weekday.

## OTHER COURSE POLICIES

### Discussion and communication guidelines

The following are my expectations for how we should communicate as a class. Above all, please remember to be respectful and thoughtful.

**Email communication style:** My TA and I expect proper email etiquette. This means using your osu.edu email address for communication, writing the subject of your email in the subject line, identifying which class you're taking with me,

being concise, not writing in block letters, using spell check, not deleting prior communications on your reply, and ending with a signature that includes your contact information. I am also expecting that you address me and the TA formally. You can find useful information on how to communicate via email at <https://onpace.osu.edu/modules/polishing-your-job-etiquette-skills/communicate-as-a-professional/e-mail-etiquette-content-area>

**Tone and civility during lecture: I welcome your active participation during the lectures** in the form of questions regarding the material at hand. However, because it is my responsibility to ensure that students' participation in class is orderly and respectful, **my core expectation is that students will, at all times and without any exceptions, act professionally and courteously in the classroom.**

**Tone and civility during office hours:** Office hours are not individualized; you can expect multiple visitors. As a result, let's maintain a supportive learning community during office hours where everyone feels safe and where people can disagree amicably.

## Academic integrity policy

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct (See: <https://oaa.osu.edu/academic-integrity-and-misconduct/student-misconduct>) to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.

**If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by university rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct.** If COAM determines that you have violated the university's *Code of Student Conduct* (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the university.

If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include:

- Committee on Academic Misconduct web page ([go.osu.edu/coam](http://go.osu.edu/coam))
- Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity ([go.osu.edu/ten-suggestions](http://go.osu.edu/ten-suggestions))

## Using Artificial Intelligence (AI) in this class

AI can be useful for a variety of purposes. For example, artificial intelligence can assist in idea brainstorming. AI can help with grammar, particularly among ESL students. AI can also serve as a brainstorming tool. However, it is crucial to recognize that AI has serious downsides. For example, it can produce inaccurate or incomplete data and frequently fails to offer proper summaries of published scholarly work. Also, AI may generate plagiarized text. If you use AI-generated information that is plagiarized, you will be held accountable for any COAM implications, noted above. For more on the promises and pitfalls of AI, see <https://teaching.resources.osu.edu/teaching-topics/ai-considerations-teaching-learning>. AI tools, such as ChatGPT and Gemini, are allowed for use in this course to develop ideas and grammar and spelling checking. Please keep in mind that you are NOT ALLOWED to use generative AI tools in this course when writing discussions or answering questions in the exams.

When you use AI tools:

- You must first **consult with me or the TA**, as well as **provide footnotes to indicate where you used AI in an assignment**. If you do not consult with us and do not receive written approval to use AI, you cannot use it.
- **You need to be responsible for any information you submit in an assignment using generative AI, keeping in mind the points raised above about the fallibility of AI-generated information. If an AI tool generates plagiarized content, and you use it, you are responsible for the plagiarized content as per COAM.**

## Student Services and Advising

University Student Services can be accessed through BuckeyeLink. More information is available here: <https://contactbuckeyelink.osu.edu/>

Advising resources for students are available here: <http://advising.osu.edu>

## Copyright for instructional materials

The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course.

## Statement on Title IX

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of

support applied to offenses against other protected categories (e.g., race). If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleix.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@osu.edu](mailto:titleix@osu.edu)

## **Commitment to a diverse and inclusive learning environment**

The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

## **Religious accommodations**

It is Ohio State's policy to reasonably accommodate the sincerely held religious beliefs and practices of all students. The policy permits a student to be absent for up to three days each academic semester for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief.

Students planning to use religious beliefs or practices accommodations for course requirements must inform the instructor in writing no later than 14 days after the course begins. The instructor is then responsible for scheduling an alternative time and date for the course requirement, which may be before or after the original time and date of the course requirement. These alternative accommodations will remain confidential. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all course assignments are completed.

## **Land Acknowledgement**

We acknowledge the land that The Ohio State University occupies is the ancestral and contemporary territory of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe and Cherokee peoples. Specifically, the university resides on land ceded in the 1795 Treaty of Greenville and the forced removal of tribes through the Indian Removal Act of 1830. We want to honor the resiliency of these tribal nations and recognize the historical contexts that have and continue to affect the Indigenous peoples of this land.

More information on OSU's land acknowledgement can be found here:

<https://mcc.osu.edu/about-us/land-acknowledgement>

## Your mental health

As a student, you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating, and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. No matter where you are engaged in distance learning, The Ohio State University's Student Life Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) is here to support you. If you find yourself feeling isolated, anxious, or overwhelmed, on-demand resources are available at [go.osu.edu/ccsondemand](https://go.osu.edu/ccsondemand). You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614- 292-5766, and 24-hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK or at [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org). The Ohio State Wellness app is also a great resource available at [go.osu.edu/wellnessapp](https://go.osu.edu/wellnessapp).

## ACCESSIBILITY ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

### Requesting accommodations

The university strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions, please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. SLDS contact information: [slds@osu.edu](mailto:slds@osu.edu); 614-292-3307; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.