In recent years, the understanding of how and why individuals engage in violent extremism and terrorism has evolved and become more nuanced, as have the tools to mitigate these threats. A field of policy and practice called Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) has emerged that focuses on countering the pull of terrorist recruitment and influence by building resilience among populations vulnerable to radicalization.
BSST643 Great Powers & Near-Peer Competition (3 Credits)
Focused on the emerging threats posed by state actors termed as "near-peers," including topics germane to near-peer competitors, most notably China, Russia, and Iran, but will cover other state actors as necessary. The course also investigates the past, present, and future of the most powerful states in the international system, the great powers, and how they compete, and cooperate in international relations. By examining the various aspects of the great powers and near-peer competitors, students will learn how geography, politics, economics, technology, and ideology play a role in global competition.

BSST645 Non-state Actors Threats and Responses (3 Credits)
The Non-State Actor. Running the gamut from Freedom fighters to Corporatized extortionists, NSAs play a pivotal role in the modern fields of combat. Some maintain loose state-level ties with high deniability, others rage against their domestic governments and facilitate foreign influence, but all present a modern adversary that Western Allies and Governments need to anticipate, track, and overcome. This course will provide an overview of the types of non-state actors that influence state actions. The course will examine the economic, political, and social costs of the proliferation of non-state actors globally. While the course will discuss terrorist groups, the main focus of the course will be on actors such as militant groups, insurgent groups, drug cartels, and illicit financial actors.

BSST650 Foundations of Insider Risk Management & Mitigation (3 Credits)
The risks posed by trusted insiders to organizations in both the public and private sector are well documented. Past compromises of national security information have provided sensitive information to US adversaries; theft or compromise of proprietary data and intellectual property has impacted businesses large and small; and, incidents of workplace violence perpetrated by insiders are on the rise. This course provides context for the counter insider threat mission and explores multi-disciplinary insider risk management concepts. The course addresses matters of policy, political and socio-economic impacts, psychological factors, and gives special consideration to issues of cyber insider threat, privacy and civil liberties, kinetic violence, and related social and behavioral science research.

BSST651 The Psychology of Malicious Insiders (3 Credits)
Multidisciplinary perspectives on intentional, malicious behavior by insiders. Reviews theoretical foundations from social psychology, personality psychology, psychopathology, and criminology and encourages students to understand Insider Threat (InT) behaviors through case conceptualization/formulation. Emphasis shall be placed on understanding the "fit" between different strategies for interviewing, investigating, early warning, monitoring, and mitigation, as well as the dynamics of a given case.

BSST652 Managing Insider Threat Activities (3 Credits)
Introduces critical concepts in threat assessment, management, and mitigation. Specifically, the seminar will highlight key concepts, theories, best practices, and research in three major areas of focus: (1) threat assessment and risk management, (2) mitigating existing risk and preventing further escalation, and (3) oversight and accountability of threat assessment activities.

BSST653 Investigative Thinking, Analysis and Decision-making in Insider Risk Management & Mitigation (3 Credits)
The purpose of this course is to stimulate "knowledge opportunity" in the complex everyday subject of decision making in insider threat analysis. Through the discovery of investigative thinking and some of its core elements of critical thinking, data to knowledge process, communication, heuristic, bias, and thinking processes, it is hoped it will lead students towards a better understanding of "What they are looking for" and "What they are looking at," both key elements essential in sound investigative thinking.

BSST654 Risk Management & Mitigation (3 Credits)

BSST655 The Psychology of Malicious Insiders (3 Credits)

BSST656 Investigative Thinking, Analysis and Decision-making in Insider Risk Management & Mitigation (3 Credits)

BSST657 Capstone (3 Credits)
The capstone course allows MPS students the ability to take what they have learned throughout their coursework and apply theories, methods, analysis, and policy in the form of a final project. The project can originate from work experience or the student's interests. Projects will be developed in conjunction with a member of the graduate faculty who will oversee the student's progress. By the end of the semester, each student is expected to have completed their individual project. The project should further the student's intellectual and career goals and can take the form of practical analysis, policy, or a more academic approach. Students will present their capstone project in written form and will also be required to present their research via an online colloquium. Students are expected to meet with a capstone advisor at least once a week and will devote considerable time developing the project individually.

Restriction: Students must be currently enrolled in their final semester of the MPTS program and have completed a minimum of 27 program credits.

BSST698 Seminar in Terrorism Studies (1-3 Credits)
A special topics seminar course for graduate students interested in terrorism studies.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.

BSST699 Independent Study in Terrorism Studies (3 Credits)
An independent study course for students in the Global Terrorism Minor program.
Repeatable to: 9 credits if content differs.