

SECURITY AND TERRORISM STUDIES (ONLINE) (MPTS)

Graduate Degree Program
College: Behavioral and Social Sciences

ABSTRACT

The National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism's (START) MPS in Security and Terrorism Studies provides students with advanced education on the causes, dynamics, and impacts of terrorism and wider issues related to human security in a complex world. The program is dedicated to training and mentoring a new generation of scholars and analysts to holistically examine questions related broadly to terrorism and security. The program uses a "whole of social sciences" approach to prepare students to examine the complex social, political, economic, and psychological underpinnings of terrorist and security threats. Students are exposed to the theoretical and methodological skills necessary to pursue advanced research and/or be successful in an analytic career. The program consists of twelve courses. Courses are offered in an online learning environment. The program can be completed in as little as four semesters.

The program is appropriate for individuals interested in (and/or currently) working in fields related to intelligence analysis, homeland security analysis, or analysis of other relevant topic areas; and individuals interested in (and/or currently) conducting scholarly research on terrorism and security.

CONTACT

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Website: <http://www.start.umd.edu> (<http://www.start.umd.edu/>)

ADMISSIONS

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Statement of Purpose
- Transcript(s)
- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements/>))

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- Letters of Recommendation (none)
- CV/Resume
- Writing Sample (optional)
- Description of Research/Work Experience (optional)

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Type of Applicant	Fall Deadline	Spring Deadline	Summer Deadline
Domestic Applicants			
US Citizens and Permanent Residents	August 7, 2026	January 6, 2026	N/A
International Applicants			
F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas, E,G,H,I and L visas and immigrants	August 7, 2026	January 6, 2026	N/A

RESOURCES AND LINKS:

Program Website: <https://exst.umd.edu/professionals-post-baccalaureates/professional-graduate-programs/start-graduate-programs> (<https://exst.umd.edu/professionals-post-baccalaureates/professional-graduate-programs/start-graduate-programs/>)
Application Process: gradschool.umd.edu/admissions (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/>)

REQUIREMENTS

- Security and Terrorism Studies, Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/security-terrorism-studies-mpts/security-terrorism-studies-mpts/>)