Course Description
The course introduces incident command and emerging trends. It addresses short and long term situations involving bomb threats, hostage and barricade situations, attacks on government and commercial buildings, hazardous materials threats, domestic violence, and active shooter incidents. General discussions are held concerning crime scene evidence collection, agency response coordination, and working with the media during high visibility situations.

General Course Purpose
The course is intended for students desiring a broad understanding of law enforcement’s preparation for and response to critical incidents. Students intending to seek employment in the military, law enforcement, security components of large corporations, or federal investigative agencies will have employment potential enhanced with knowledge of this course content. Likewise, students already employed in such agencies and businesses will benefit from increased job advancement possibilities. Discussions, based on actual incidents, will illustrate the various ways law enforcement has responded to and handled incidents of this nature in the past.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites
None

Course Objectives
Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- Recite and explain four reasons for preplanning for critical incidents
- Identify ten possible critical situations that could result in significant use of law enforcement personnel to resolve
- Describe how an agency can conduct a vulnerability assessment
- Identify and describe at least ten different ways local, state, federal, and private agencies work together to prevent, respond to, and resolve high visibility incidents
- Describe the dynamics of hostage taking and negotiation
- Identify three ways the media can assist in ending a crisis situation
- Describe the personal, professional, and academic preparation necessary for personnel designated to respond to crisis situations

Major Topics to be Included
- Historical successes and failures in high visibility crisis situations
- The private sector’s changing role in response to critical incidents
- Knowledge, skills and abilities of a professional respondent
- Working with the media during high visibility crisis situations
- Mitigation of and response to resolving high visibility crisis situations

Extra Topics
- On-campus mock exercises
- Field trip to a law enforcement agency
- Utilization of guest speakers in class