

B.S. Corporate Security/Organizational Security Concentration

What do organizational security management professionals do?

Organizational security management professionals are employed by organizations (corporations, partnerships, entrepreneurships, non-profit entities, non-governmental organizations, or government (federal, state and local) to protect the organization's property, personnel, information, and economic assets from man-made and natural disasters and ensure business continuity. As an organizational security management professional, you may be tasked with technical, supervisory, or managerial responsibilities. Organizational security management professionals protect the workplace from theft, workplace violence, crime, and terrorism. Security management professionals may perform security risk assessments, conduct investigations, design crime prevention programs and security systems, create, implement and manage loss prevention programs, protect high-risk personnel, devise and implement disaster recovery plans and business continuity plans. They also act as liaisons with local law enforcement and emergency management personnel. Interaction may also occur with various departments and agencies involved in Homeland Security depending on the type of organization you work for or if an act of terrorism occurs. Security management professionals may also get involved with the functional requirements needed for a new facility or the renovation of an existing facility.

How did organizational security evolve as an academic discipline?

Security as a profession has evolved from the traditional role of guards, guns and gates to a much more complex and critical role in modern society. A security breach is any activity disrupting normal business operations. The activity can be from within the organization or external to the organization. Activities such as workplace violence, theft at work, crime, fraud, computer hacking, economic espionage, civil unrest, terrorism, natural disasters such as fires, floods, and electrical outages all greatly affect the workplace and the various stakeholders and final consumers of the products and/or services the organization produces or renders. The man-made disaster of 9/11 was both a major national security breach and an organizational security breach to all the businesses and surrounding businesses affected. Owners, board directors, and executive management rely on and need its security management team to protect the organization's personnel, property, information, and economic assets from internal and external security breaches.

The American Society for Industrial Security International conducted a study about the needs of the security industry and concluded security professionals need to be versed in several academic disciplines so this degree embraces courses that are multidisciplinary in nature. In addition, a study was done by the ASIS Foundation that projected entry-level security professionals will be needed for the next several decades.

What skills do organizational security management professionals need?

- Communication
- Values and ethics
- Global interdependence
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Professional proficiency
- Writing

Where can you work as an organizational security management professional?

You can work in either the private sector or the public sector or in non-profit and non-governmental organizations. Any industry is open for a career in this field including but not limited to:

- Healthcare
- Manufacturing
- Retail
- Transportation
- Utilities
- Cultural Sites
- Banking and financial services
- Hospitality
- Safety Management
- Sport Management

You can hold various job titles. A representative list includes the following:

- Security Supervisor
- Loss Prevention Supervisor/Manager
- CIA Agent
- FBI Agent
- Security Manager
- Chief Security Officer
- Security Director
- Corporate Security Executive

You can also be an entrepreneur and provide security products and/or services to various organizations. You could also work as a security engineer and design consultant for various organizations. For more information about the various career opportunities available, please reference [Career Opportunities in Security Management](#) by ASIS International.

What is the highest premier designation(s) you can earn in this organizational security management concentration?

The designation, [Certified Protection Professional](#) (CPP), is recognized by employers worldwide and domestically and is offered by the American Society for Industrial Security International (ASIS). The other technical designations offered by the ASIS are the [Professional Certified Investigator](#) (PCI) and the [Physical Security Professional](#) (PSP).

There are other specialized security and security-related certifications offered by other organizations unique to specific industries. For example, the International Association of Healthcare Security and Safety Professionals offer the Certified Healthcare Protection Administrator certification.

Can you double major?

Yes, you can double major. Common double majors include but are not limited to the following degrees: Computing with a Concentration in Cyber Security, Management, Safety, Resort Tourism, Sport Management, Criminology and Criminal Justice, and Homeland Security.

How can the organizational security management concentration better assist students who have substantial work experience in a certain industry?

If you already have substantial work experience in a certain industry, with an organizational security management concentration you may be uniquely qualified to re-enter the same industry in a different capacity-as a security professional. The advantage of your industry knowledge may uniquely distinguish you from other candidates without industry expertise. So, do not think of this as “starting over” but merely “diversifying”.

What is the difference between an organizational security management professional and a homeland security professional?

Homeland security deals with protecting national security (the macro approach) whereas organizational security management deals with protecting the organization (the micro approach). There are some similarities between the two such both homeland security professionals and organizational security management professionals are concerned with man-made (terrorists) and natural disasters (Katrina). However, the distinction lies in how the organizational security professionals respond to the disaster. The organizational security professional responds by preventing, mitigating and recovering from the disaster from within the organization, while the homeland security professional prevents, mitigates on a much larger scale across many organizations and use counterterrorism measures.

Where do you go on SRU’s campus to learn more about the Corporate Security-Organizational Security concentration?

You can learn more about this exciting opportunity by contacting the Department of Homeland/Corporate Security and Leadership by emailing susan.lubinski@sru.edu or by calling 724 738 2556.

What happens after you declare the Corporate Security-Organizational Security concentration?

You will be assigned an Academic Advisor who will assist you in mapping your courses and devising a career plan for your entrance into the workforce.