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Understanding Terrorism Through the Use of GIS - CRJ 346: Terrorism and Society

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**Technology and Research
Cornerstone III
Interdisciplinary Program
Dyson College and Seidenberg School**

**Understanding Terrorism Through the Use of GIS
CRJ 346: Terrorism and Society**

June 25, 2009

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Status Report

Mid-Project Reports - Please submit the following:

A) Please outline your original goals.

The goal of this proposal was to:

- enhance the student's learning experience by creating an active learning environment;
- helping students realize how decisions in the post 9/11 law enforcement community are now being reached;
- help students define what is meant by "intelligence information;"
- how intelligence information is collected;
- learn to use existing technologies to support data collection and analysis;
- and what to analyze and how to present data relating to terrorism.

Strategies involved introducing student to and how to;

- use various forms of "social networking" to collect intelligence information;
- to use the library and various news sources to collect terrorism related information available in the public domain;
- to develop and utilize a spreadsheet to record terrorism related data;
- explore the development of web-based databases and mapping for analysis

B) What progress have you made towards your original goals on your project to date?

The goal of this grant proposal was achieved beyond our stated expectations. Within several weeks of the beginning of the semester, students were in full control of the class, an outstanding active learning environment was achieved. Each class started not only started with an “intelligence briefing,” but the knowledge gained was fully enmeshed in the entire class discussion.

What are your next steps?

C) A map web-server was installed. A next phase of the project will be to integrate student maps into an integrated GIS system.

Although we have achieved the goals for this grant proposal, it is our objective to repeat this project course again this coming Fall 2009 to ensure that the active learning environment created this past Spring is transferable; that is, to become part of the actual content for all future CRJ 346: Terrorism and Society courses.

