

**SYLLABUS**  
**Capstone Workshop (Spring 2012)**  
**Prof. Abraham Wagner**

**Full Course Title:**

Client Name: The Markle Foundation

Project Title: **Data Sharing in Support of U.S. Counter-Terrorism Efforts**

**Course Title for Registration System:** Markle Fdn./C-T Data Sharing

**Course Number:** SIPAU####

**Faculty Advisor:** Dr. Abraham R. Wagner

**Columbia Email Address:** aw2243@columbia.edu

**Meeting Date/s Times:** Monday – 2:00 – 4:10 pm

**Location:** TBD

**Office Hours:** Monday – 1:00 – 2:00 pm (or by appointment)

**Credits:** 3

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Overview:**

**Brief description of client:**

The Markle Foundation works to realize the full potential of information and technology to address critical public needs, particularly in the areas of health and national security. Here the Markle Foundation has as one of its major objectives programs that seek to advance national security in a “connected world.” Markle’s work in national security has focused on how best to mobilize information and technology to advance national security while protecting civil liberties. Previously the Markle Task Force on National Security in the Information Age considered the national security challenges by enabling exchange and discovery of information across government in a trusted manner, suggesting the development of particularized privacy policies and the adoption of an “authorized use” concept. The Foundation continues to explore programs in information sharing that promote enhanced homeland and national security.

**Summary of project:**

In the decade following the 9/11 attacks the U.S. and allied nations have developed a multitude of data bases to support counter-terrorism efforts and enhance homeland security. Intelligence

and law enforcement agencies have attempted to move to an information-sharing environment, both domestically and internationally, to achieve these ends. The results thus far have been mixed. Security, privacy and political concerns have all posed problems to achieving an idea information environment. At the same time, significant progress has been made toward the overall objective. The overall objective of this Capstone effort will be to have the team review the various components of the information-sharing environment and provide the client with a current analysis of where such efforts stand as well as existing impediments to achieving a more effective environment.

**Deliverables to client:**

Detailed Work Plan:	January 20, 2011
Draft Report Outline:	March 15, 2012
Draft Report	April 1, 2012
Final Report	April 20, 2012

**Special skills/knowledge needed by team members:** None

**Initial meeting(s) with student team:** TBD

**Dates for meetings with client:** TBD

**Field component:** None

**Student selection:**

All eligible students may apply through the special online application process in October. Assignment of students will be coordinated by the Office of Academic Affairs, and the faculty advisor.

**Grading (students receive an individual grade):**

Grades for the workshop will be based on the following criteria:

- Quality of individual written work (30%)
- Quality of participation in class, Peer review (10%)
- Feedback from the client (10%)
- Overall professionalism, including timeliness, ability to work with team, etc. (20%)
- Quality of team’s final report and briefing (30%)

**Readings:**

All readings will be posted on CourseWorks as pdf files.

“Mobilizing Information to Prevent Terrorism”

“Nation at Risk: Policy Makers Need Better Information to Protect the Country”

“Meeting the Threat of Terrorism: Authorized Use”

“Meeting the Threat of Terrorism: New Thinking on Information Sharing Critical to Strengthening National Security”

“Meeting the Threat of Terrorism: Protecting Privacy and Civil Liberties in a Networked Information Sharing Environment”

“Meeting the Threat of Terrorism: Improve Information Sharing, Created a Trusted System, Facilitate Access to Critical Data”

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