



The Violence Prevention and Transformation Research Collaborative
School of Social Work and Criminal Justice
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON | TACOMA

School Threat Assessment Certificate Program

BTAM 101

Foundations of School Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management

Fall 2027, Instructor: Jason Matlock

Course Description:

Provides a comprehensive introduction to the principles, practices, and frameworks used in school behavioral threat assessment and management. Examines how educational institutions identify, evaluate, and respond to potential threats of violence, with a focus on prevention, early intervention, multidisciplinary collaboration, and supportive school climates.

Over the course of the quarter, students will:

- 1) Examine core principles and terminology in school behavioral threat assessment and management
- 2) Learn how to differentiate types of threats and levels of concern
- 3) Identify behavioral and contextual indicators associated with potential violence
- 4) Apply structured threat assessment models to case scenarios
- 5) Explore the functions of digital investigations in BTAM
- 6) Analyze legal, ethical, and privacy considerations in school settings, including issues of cultural competence, bias awareness, and student rights
- 7) Describe the roles of multidisciplinary teams in prevention and response