The bottom line: Senior leaders who aspire to become strategically minded leaders must have a conceptual framework for situating weapons of mass destruction (WMD) issues in their thinking. Why? Because:

- Almost every current major national security challenge facing the United States today contains some significant WMD dimension.
- Every major adversary of the United States is in some way involved with WMD.

The Weapons of Mass Destruction Studies Concentration provides that conceptual framework. And that’s why it’s one of the most popular academic concentrations at NDU.

See the back for The WMD Studies Concentration requirements
Take two elective courses as follows:

One “foundations” course:

NDU 6014: Contemporary Issues in Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction: Through the Film-maker’s Lens OR (i.e., only one of the two courses is required—not both)
NDU 6015: The Gravest Danger: Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction

And one additional elective course from among the following:

NDU 6014: Contemporary Issues in Combatting Weapons of Mass Destruction: Through the Film-maker’s Lens* (offered Fall and Spring)
NDU 6015: The Gravest Danger: Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction*
NDU 6066: Deterrence Theory and National Security
NDU 6070: From the War Zone to the Hot Zone: Rapidly Evolving Challenges in Biodefense
NDU 6071: Thinking about the “UNTHINKABLE”: Strategic Weapons, Strategic Warfare, and Enduringly Consequential Choices
NDU 6900: Independent Research Study
NWC 6009: Nuclear Weapons and National Security in the 21st Century
CISA 6005: Nuclear Statecraft: Diplomacy, Summitry, and Collective Action
CISA 6910: Nuclear Threats and Responses: Addressing Nuclear Risks in a Dangerous World

*If you take NDU 6014 as the required course, you can take NDU 6015 as the additional course, and vice-versa.

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