

Terrorism and Counterterrorism

College/Division: Southern Illinois University- Edwardsville, College of Arts and Sciences, Department of Political Science

Illinois State University, College of Applied Sciences and Technology, Department of Criminal Justice Studies

Course Designator/Number: POLS 479-500 (*SIU-E*) and CJS 360 (*ISU*)

Credit Hours: 3

Instructor/Originator Name: Dr. Denise DeGarmo (*SIU-E*); Dr. Cara Rabe-Hemp (*ISU*)

Course Description: This course examines the principal issues associated with modern international terrorism, its effect on the national security of the United States, and U.S. efforts to counter it. The course addresses the history, evolution, objectives, tactics, and organization of terrorism and terrorist groups.

Prerequisites: None

Restrictions/Suggestions: None

Rationale: The objective of the course is twofold. First, the course will provide students with a broad understanding of international terrorism and of the available ways to counter it. Secondly, it will enhance their ability to engage knowledgeably in discussion and debate on the subject of national security and counterterrorism. Students should expect to acquire in the course a basic knowledge of such things as terrorist organizations and US counterterrorist programs, while also developing their critical thinking skills to be able to assess the challenges in providing national security in an age of terrorism.

Intended Audience: Undergraduate and graduate students at the local, state, and national levels.

Expected Student Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- 1) Develop an understanding of the historical and conceptual frameworks that precipitate terrorism in the modern world.
- 2) Illustrate ideology, method, and motivation of numerous modern terrorist groups, in both domestic and non-Western societies, including how global problems impact a group's decision to engage in terrorist activities.
- 3) Recognize the interconnection between actors in the international system and the affects that terrorism in one country have on other countries. Identify the role of cooperation in solving complex international problems.

- 4) Interpret the social, political, and economic precedents which cultivate terror and the psychological results that follow terrorist attacks in order to understand shared international problems related to national security and terrorism and to compare and contrast the advantages and disadvantages of potential solutions.
- 5) Demonstrate oral and written communication skills and critical thinking in the negotiation of strategic international issues while collaborating with your peers, actively participating in the online setting.
- 6) Evaluate theories regarding the methods decision-makers use to resolve conflict and better understand the nature of value judgments.
- 7) Justify the importance of being a citizen of the global community.

Required Texts:

Jonathan R. White. *Terrorism: An Introduction, 3rd edition*. Stamford, CT: Wadsworth Thomson Learning, 2002.

Annual Editions: Violence and Terrorism, 99/07. Guilford, CT: Dushkin/McGraw-Hill, 2007.

Recommended Texts:

Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon, *The Age of Sacred Terror* (New York: Random House, paperback edition 2003).

Audrey Kurth Cronin and James M. Ludes, eds., *Attacking Terrorism: Elements of a Grand Strategy* (Washington: Georgetown University Press, 2004).

Richard A. Falkenrath, Robert D. Newman, and Bradley Thayer, *America's Achilles' Heel: Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Terrorism and Covert Attack* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1999).

Philip B. Heymann, *Terrorism, Freedom, and Security: Winning Without War* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, paperback edition 2004).

Bruce Hoffman, *Inside Terrorism* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1999).

James F. Hoge Jr. and Gideon Rose, eds., *Understanding the War on Terror* (New York: W.W. Norton for the Council on Foreign Relations, 2005).

Paul R. Pillar, *Terrorism and U.S. Foreign Policy* (Washington: Brookings Institution Press, paperback edition, 2003).

Walter Reich, ed., *Origins of Terrorism: Psychologies, Ideologies, Theologies, States of Mind* (Washington: Woodrow Wilson Center Press, 1998).

Topical/Subject Matter Outline/Course Content:

- 1) Differences between terrorism and other forms of political violence
- 2) Motivation for using terrorism

- 3) Relationship between terrorism and religion
- 4) State supported terrorism
- 5) Recent efforts by the United States to combat terrorism
- 6) Strengths and weaknesses of counterterrorist tools, including intelligence, diplomacy, law enforcement, and military force
- 7) Policy challenges in erecting security countermeasures
- 8) Issues of civil liberties and morality in countering terrorism
- 9) Recommendations for revising US counterterrorist programs

Course Activities: Student readings, lectures, written assignments (Terrorist Hot Spots, Nationalism as a cause of war, Chemical weapons, Comparing & contrasting terrorist networks, Terrorism and religion, Responding to terrorist attack webpage), discussion sessions, student exam.

Evaluation/Assessment: Homework assignments, discussions, tests, and simulations will be used to measure student success in this course. Grades will be based on the following scale:

Written assignments 6 @ 25 pts each	150 pts
Student participation in discussion	25 pts
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>100 pts</u>
Total points	275 pts

Points	Grade
275-247	A
246-220	B
219-192	C
191-165	D
164 & below	F

Bibliography/References:

Christopher Bellavita and Ellen M. Gordon (2006) Changing Homeland Security: Teaching the Core Homeland Security Affairs, Volume II, Issue 1, Article 1.

CNN (2005). *Balancing act [videorecording]: security and liberty post - 9/11*. Princeton, NJ : Films for the Humanities & Sciences.

Forest, J.F. (2006). *The making of a terrorist : recruitment, training, and root causes*. Westport, Conn. : Praeger Security International

Hudson, R.A. (1999). *Who becomes a terrorist and why: the 1999 government report on profiling terrorist*. Guilford, CT: The Lyons Press.

Institute for National Security and Counterterrorism at Syracuse University
http://insct.syr.edu/Academic_Programs/Programs.htm

Johnstone, R.W. (2006). *9/11 and the future of transportation security*. Westport, Conn.: Praeger Security International.

Kean, T.H. & Hamilton, L.H. (2004). *The 9/11 Commission report : final report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States*. Washington, DC: National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States

Kegley, C. W. Jr. & Raymond, G.A. (2007). *After Iraq: the imperiled American imperium*. NY: Oxford University Press.

Posner, G. (2003). *Why America Slept: The failure to prevent 9/11*. NY, NY: Ballantine Books.

Richardson, L. (2006). *The roots of terrorism*. New York : Routledge.

Sauter, M. (2005). *Homeland security : a complete guide to understanding, preventing, and surviving terrorism*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Teaching Terror, <http://teachingterror.net/>