

SEC 6314 Terrorism and National Security Syllabus

Course Overview/Description

The course introduces the student to terrorism in the contemporary world and the strategic challenges it poses for global and U.S. security. Among some of the key issues explored are terrorism's causes, terrorist ideology, types of terror groups and their strategic goals and practices. The course analyzes regional terrorist groups and examines the development of U.S. and international counter terror policy. It concludes by examining how different states have responded to terror organizations and how successful these strategies have been. 3 CR

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

As a result of completing this course, the student will have:

- An enhanced understanding of the causes of terrorism and the personal motives of terrorist actors.
- Greater knowledge of the organizational and psychological dynamics that affect terrorist groups.
- Improved comprehension of global and regional terrorist organizations and their ideological agendas.
- Greater knowledge of the relationship between state actors, criminal organizations and terrorist groups.
- Improved understanding of the dangers associated with possible terrorist use of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons.
- Greater knowledge of counterterror strategies and their impact on terrorist organizations.

Grading Policies

Course Assignment	Percentage of Grade	Due Dates and Assignment Description
Discussion Board Commentary	20%	Weekly, but there are no discussion questions during weeks when presentations or exams are due. The instructor will post a discussion question based on weekly topics and students are expected to make a robust (no more than 350 words) response to the question and a minimum of two subsequent commentaries on classmate posts on the assigned topic. Initial responses are due by Midnight (CT) on Friday of the weekly lesson and a minimum of 2 observations on classmate's responses are due by midnight on Sunday.
Power Point Presentation	20%	Friday of Week 3 by 9 pm CT. Students are to develop a 5-7 slide presentation based on the assigned topic. Presentations must be based on class readings and include annotations for each slide.
Midterm Exam	20%	Friday of Week 8 by 9 pm CT. Students are expected to write a 7-9 page paper based on four questions assigned by the instructor. The paper must include a bibliography that corresponds to the paper required format. Reference materials must be based on assigned readings only.
Final Exam	40%	Friday of Week 8 by 9 pm CT. Students are expected to write a 12-15 page paper based on five questions assigned by the instructor. The paper must include a bibliography that corresponds to the paper required format. Reference materials must be based on assigned readings only.

Angelo State University employs a letter grade system. Grades are determined on a percentage scale

(A=90-100%) (B=80-89%) (C= 70-79%) (D=60-69%) (F=0-59%)

Course Organization/Bibliography/Required Readings

Required e-books

Students are expected to purchase two texts that form the bulk of the readings. Effective performance in discussion board, presentation and exam requirements is preconditioned upon understanding of assigned readings. Both are available on Kindle. Listed below are the two required e-books and the site where they can be purchased:

Bruce Hoffman, *Inside Terrorism* (Columbia University Press: New York, 2006) available at <http://www.amazon.com/Inside-Terrorism-ebook/dp/B005CAPLCU>

John Horgan and Kurt Braddock (editors), *Terrorism Studies: A Reader* (Routledge: New York, 2012) available at <http://www.amazon.com/Terrorism-Studies=a-Reader-ebook/dp/B00B9K>

Jeffery Kaplan, *Terrorist Groups and the New Tribalism: Terrorism's Fifth Wave* (New York: Routledge, Taylor & Francis: 2010) {Kindle Edition}

Lesson 1: Conceptualizing Terrorism and Explaining its Causes

Required Readings

Inside Terrorism

Hoffman, Chapters 1, 2 and 8

Terrorism Studies: A Reader

Jack P. Gibbs, 4 "Conceptualization of Terrorism"

Leonard Weinberg, Ami Pedahzur, and Sivan Hirsch-Hoeffler, 5 "The Challenges of Conceptualizing Terrorism"

Martha Crenshaw, 7 "The Causes of Terrorism"

Donatella Della Porta, 15 "On individual motivations in underground organizations"

Lesson 2: Historical Case Studies: Past as Prologue to the Future

Required Readings

Terrorism Studies : A Reader

David Rapoport, 1 "Fear and Trembling: Terrorism in three religious traditions"

Isabelle Duyvestevn: 2 "How new is the new terrorism?"

David Rapoport, 3 "The Four waves of modern terrorism"

Jeffery Kaplan, Part 1 Theory

E-Reading: Parameters (Spring 2005) 69-79 [PDF]

Christopher Henzel, The Origins of Al Qaeda's Ideology: Implications for U.S. Policy

Lesson Three: Terrorist Organizations, State Sponsors, Crime and the WMD Nexus

Required Readings

Terrorism Studies: A Reader

Magnus Ranstorp, 10 "Hizbullah command leadership: Its structure of decision-making, and relationship with Iranian clergy and institutions"

Jennifer Holms, Shelia Amin Gutiérrez De Piñeres and Kevin Cutter, 13" A subnational study of insurgency: FARC violence in the 1990's"

Gary Akerman, 24 "WMD terrorism research: Where to from here?"

Chris Dishman, 20 "The leaderless nexus: when crime and terror converge"

John Haines, Iran, DAESH and the Rising Specter of Radiological Warfare in the Middle East, FPRI E-Note July 2015 [PDF]

Jeffery Kaplan, Terrorist Groups and the New Tribalism

Jeffery Kaplan, 5, The Sudan and the Janjaweed

FPRI Readings

George Grayson, Los Zetas: the Ruthless Army Spawned by a Mexican Drug Cartel" (May 2008) access at <http://www.fpri.org/enotes/200805.grayson.loszetas.html>

Center for Special Studies

Intelligence and Terrorism Center, "Hezbollah as a Strategic Arm of Iran", report by Center for Special Studies (September 6, 2005) [PDF]

Power Point Presentation due Friday at 9 pm

Lesson Four: Ethno-Nationalist Tribal, Rightwing and Secular Revolutionary Terrorism

Required Readings

Inside Terrorism

Hoffman, Chapter 3

Terrorism Studies: A Reader

Charles J. M. Drake, 11 “The Provisional IRA: a case study”

Ehud Sprinik, 12 “Rightwing Terrorism in a comparative perspective: The case of split de-legitimation”

Michael Barkun, 30 “Appropriated martyrs: the Branch Dividians and the radical right”

Jeffery Kaplan, Terrorist Groups and the New Tribalism

4: The Lord’s Resistance Army

Lesson Five: Modern Religious Terrorism

Required Readings

Inside Terrorism

Hoffman, Chapters 4 and 5

Terrorism Studies: A Reader

Robert A. Pape, 17 “The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism”

Mia Bloom, 18 “Palestinian Suicide Bombing: Public support, market share and outbidding”

Mohammad M. Hafez, “Martyrdom Mythology in Iraq: How jihadists frame suicide terrorism I videos and biographies”

M. Cherif Bassiouni, “Evolving Approaches to Jihad: From Self-Defense to Regime Change Political Violence” *Chicago Journal of International Law* 8:1 [PDF]

Naser Ghabadzeh and Sharam A. Kbarzadea, “Sectarianism and the Prevalence of ‘othering’ in Islamic Thought” *Third World Journal* 36:4 691-704 [PDF]

Hassam S. Timoni, “The Islamic Context of Global Jihadism : Why Ibn Taymiyyah Matters? I Chapter 3 in *The Root of All Evil: Religious Perspectives on Terrorism* ed Lori Underwood [PDF]

Anthony Celso, "Islamic State and Boko Haram : Fifth Wave Terror Groups" *Orbis* (Spring 2015) [PDF]

Essay due Friday Night 9 pm U.S. Central Time

Lesson Six: Al Qaeda, The Islamic State with the United States

Inside Terrorism

Hoffman, Chapter 9

FPRI Reading

Foreign Fighter Problem, Recent Trends and Case Studies: Selected Essays [PDF]

Terrorism Studies: A Reader

Lorenzo Vidino, 29 "Homegrown Jihadist terrorism in the United States: A new and occasional phenomena?"

E-Readings: The Rise of the Islamic State: Apocalyptic Ideology, the Caliphate and the Enduring Problem of Home-Grown Terrorism

Anthony Celso, "Dabiq: the Islamic State's 21st Century Apocalyptic Manifesto" *Journal of Political Science and Public Policy* [PDF]

Charles Lister, "Profiling the Islamic State" *Brookings Institution Report* [PDF]

Peter Nesser and Anne Sternerson , The Modus Operandi of Jihadi Terrorists in Europe *Perspectives on Terrorism* 8: 6 (December 2014) [PDF]

Lesson Seven: Counter-terrorism Policies: Can Terrorist Organizations be Defeated?

Terrorism Studies: A Reader

Ami Pedahzur and Mangus Ranstorp, 19 A tertiary model for countering terrorism in liberal democracies: The case of Israel

Andrew Silke, 21 Fire of Iolous; the role of state countermeasures in causing terrorism and what needs to be done

Bruce Hoffman, 24 The Changing face of Al Qaeda and the global war on terrorism

FPRI E-notes

Clint Watts, "Major Nidal Hasan and the Fort Hood Tragedy: Implications for U.S. Armed forces" (June 2011) [PDF]

Clint Watts, "What if there is no Al Qaeda? Preparing for Future Terrorism" (July 2012) [PDF]

Combating Terrorism Center at West Point Analysis

"Letters from Abbottabad: Bin Laden Sidelined?" (May 3, 2012) [PDF]

Long War Journal (LWJ) Statistical Study of the CIA Drone Program's Attacks on Al Qaeda and Taliban

U.S. Covert Air War in Pakistan access at: <http://www.longwarjournal.org/pakistan-strikes.php>

Bryan Glynn Williams, The CIA Predator Drone War in Pakistan 2004-2010 *Conflict and Terrorism Studies* 33, 2010 [PDF]

Jeffery Kaplan, Terrorist Groups and the New Tribalism

6 Conclusion: the Fifth Wave?

Lesson Eight: Assessment

Final Exam due Friday night 9 pm U.S. Central Time