

International Terrorism
Political Science 379R, section 003
Fall semester 2007

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Office hours:
TTh 9-10:30 AM
781 SWKT

Class:
MWF 4-4:50
280 SWKT

Syllabus version 1.1 -- revised September 12, 2007.

Course description

This course is a study of terrorism in the international system. Students will learn how to define terrorism, why individuals and groups choose terrorism, the methods terrorists and counter-terrorists use, as well as the consequences of fighting terror. By studying the ideas and information presented throughout the class, students can gain both a better understanding of the world around them and a greater capacity to affect the world for good. Students should see this course not just as a means to acquire specialized knowledge, but also as an opportunity to develop important academic and life skills, including critical thinking and communication.

For more information on the learning outcomes sought by the department of political science, as well as the department's statement of purpose, please visit the following web page: https://learningoutcomes.byu.edu/wiki/index.php/Political_Science_BA

Required texts

Five books are required for purchase. Reading assignments will be drawn almost exclusively from these texts, and students are expected to bring them to class.

1. Russell D. Howard and Reid L. Sawyer, Terrorism and counterterrorism: Understanding the new security environment, readings and interpretations, 2nd ed. (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2005).
2. Steve Simon and Daniel Benjamin, The age of sacred terror (New York: Random House, 2002).
3. Philip B. Heymann, Terrorism, freedom and security: Winning without war (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2003).
4. Paul R. Pillar, Terrorism and U.S. foreign policy (Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution, 2003).
5. Bruce Hoffman, Inside terrorism (New York: Columbia University Press, 1998).

There are two other texts you may use in this course, which will be of great help to you in researching and writing your papers. They are recommended, but not required.

- Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations:

Chicago Style for Students and Researchers, 7th ed., rev. Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, Joseph M. Williams, and the University of Chicago Press editorial staff (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2007).

- Stephen Van Evera, Guide to Methods for Students of Political Science (Cornell: Cornell University Press, 1997).

Course requirements

Twenty percent of your total grade will be determined by your participation in class. I expect every student to be actively involved, so please be sure to read each day’s assignment before coming to class. Students should also be aware that several unannounced quizzes have been planned, and should prepare accordingly. Tardy students will not get extra time to finish their quizzes.

Forty percent of your grade in this course will come from exams. Exams will test students’ knowledge of the theories presented in the readings and discussed in class; the use of books or notes will not be permitted. A midterm exam, worth fifteen percent of your total grade, will be administered October 23-25 in the testing center. The final exam will be worth twenty-five percent of your total grade. The university has designated Tuesday, Dec 18, from 7 to 10 PM, as the time for the final exam. The exam will be administered in the regular class room (346 MARB). Students who can not take the exam at this time will receive an incomplete in the class and take a make-up exam after the end of the semester.

Students are also required to write two papers, which together comprise the remaining forty percent of the total grade. For each paper, there are two possible topics, each of which has its own due date. Approximately half of the class will write on each topic. (The mechanics for choosing between these options will be discussed at a later date.) For the first paper, students may either define terrorism, or analyze what motivates groups and individuals to perform suicide terrorism. For the second paper, students can either evaluate the threat of WMD use in terror or evaluate a specific historical terrorist attack and the counter-terrorist response. See the table below for more details about the papers.

	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>paper due</u>	<u>length</u>	<u>worth</u>
1	Defining terrorism	Weds., Sept. 26	10-12 pp.	20%
	Motivations for suicide terrorism	Weds., Oct 3		
2	Weapons of mass destruction and terrorism	Weds., Nov. 14	10-12 pp.	20%
	Evaluating an attack / response	Weds., Nov. 28		

Students who have special interests in international terrorism or counter-terrorism may be permitted to write papers on other subjects that fall within the purview of this course. If this is your wish, please speak to the instructor as soon as possible.

Honesty

Dishonesty is bad (see 2 Nephi 9:34). Students found plagiarizing or cheating will fail the course, unless it is possible to arrange a more severe punishment. If you are unsure what plagiarism is, or whether a given action is dishonest, please speak with the instructor. For specific examples of fabrication, falsification, and both intentional and inadvertent plagiarism, please consult the university's Honor Code website:
http://honorcode.byu.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=5302&Itemid=5698

Timeliness

Being late is human, but it is also unprofessional (see D/C 107:100). Please turn your work in before 5 PM on due date. Late papers will be penalized one third of a letter grade per day. If you anticipate difficulty with a due date, please speak to me about this as soon as possible. Those who seek help early are more likely to find a solution to their problem.

Political Science department policies

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds. The act is intended to eliminate sex discrimination in education. Title IX covers discrimination in programs, admissions, activities, and student-to-student harassment. BYU's policy against sexual harassment extends not only to employees of the university but to students as well. If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender based discrimination, please talk to your professor; contact the Equal Employment Office at 378-5895 or 367-5689 (24 hours); or contact the Honor Code Office at 378-2847.

Brigham Young University is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere which reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office (378-2767). Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by the SSD office. If you need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures. You should contact the Equal Employment Office at 378-5895, D-282 ASB.

PL SC 379R - International Terrorism
Prof. John D. Payne
September 5, 2007

MEMO ON WRITING

1. Please follow Turabian's *Manual for Writers*, 7th ed., on matters of format and style. For tips on clear and thoughtful writing, you are advised to read George Orwell's seminal essay, "Politics and the English Language," available in various places on the web. You are also advised to read the Appendix (p.123-8) in Van Evera's *Guide to Methods*.
2. All papers should be submitted electronically as PDF documents *and* as (stapled) hard copies. You may wish to use pdfonline.com to publish your paper in PDF format.
3. Papers should be submitted before 5 PM on the due date. You may slide the paper under the door if it is locked. Late papers will be penalized as explained in the course syllabus.
4. You may use a cover page. This page should not be numbered, and does not count against the page limits. Number all other pages at the bottom center of the page. On the first page of your paper (or the cover page), please include the following information: your name, the course number and title, the name of the instructor, the date, and the title of your paper. No other information is necessary.
5. Please stay within page limits, both minimum and maximum. Use 12 point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with one inch margins.
6. Maintain an academic tone throughout your paper. Be formal, not conversational. Be a social scientist, not a pundit or op-ed columnist. Do not use contractions.
7. A research paper is not a mystery story or a voyage of discovery. Your argument should therefore be presented on the first page of your paper, preferably in the first paragraph.
8. Use footnotes to cite your sources. Do not use parenthetical references. Do not include a works cited page or a bibliography. (In this, you will be deviating from Turabian.)
9. Do not plagiarize. If you got the information from someone else, cite the source. Remember: the point of citing sources is to help readers *find* the information to which you are referring. If you are not sure how to cite anything, ask yourself if you have written down everything necessary to find the information you have cited.
10. Read and cite only reputable sources, like peer-reviewed journals, scholarly books, and major newspapers when appropriate. Citing web sources is permitted, but they should be of the same quality. This means no personal web pages, and no Wikipedia. Please make sure that the majority of your sources are not internet sources.

SCHEDULE OF CLASS READINGS

Note: due to space limitations, reading assignments are presented here using an abridged citation format. The required texts are abbreviated as follows:

- * TCT = Terrorism and counterterrorism: Understanding the new security environment, readings and interpretations
- AST = The age of sacred terror
- TFS = Terrorism, freedom and security: Winning without war
- TUFP = Terrorism and U.S. foreign policy
- IT = Inside terrorism

Weds., Sept. 5	Welcome to the class. There is no assigned reading today.
Fri., Sept. 7	Introduction to terror and counter-terror Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon, "Daybreak," (<u>AST</u> 3-37). Paul Pillar, "Introduction to the paperback edition," (<u>TUFP</u> vii-l).
Mon., Sept. 10	Defining terror: How and why Bruce Hoffman, "Defining terrorism," (<u>IT</u> 1-41).
Weds., Sept. 12	Paul Pillar, "The dimensions of terrorism and counterterrorism," (<u>TUFP</u> 12-40).
Fri., Sept. 13	Eqbal Ahmad and David Barsamian, "Terrorism: Theirs & ours," (<u>TCT</u> 46-52). Philip B. Heymann, "Does it help to define our dangers from terrorism as 'war'?" (<u>TFS</u> 19-34).
Mon., Sept. 17	A brief history of terrorism Bruce Hoffman, "The end of empire and the origins of contemporary terrorism," (<u>IT</u> 43-62).
Weds., Sept. 19	Bruce Hoffman, "The internationalization of terrorism," (<u>IT</u> 63-80).
Fri., Sept. 21	Paul Pillar, "Terrorism, the United States, and the world order," (<u>TUFP</u> 41-72).
Mon., Sept. 24	Motives: Groups Martha Crenshaw, "The logic of terrorism: Terrorist behavior as a product of strategic choice," (<u>TCT</u> 54-66). Mark Juergensmeyer, "The logic of religious violence," (<u>TCT</u> 168-186).

Weds., Sept. 26	Bruce Hoffman, "The logic of suicide terrorism," (<u>TCT</u> 337-347). Ami Pedahzur, "Toward an Analytical model of suicide terrorism—a comment," (<u>TCT</u> 348-351).
Fri., Sept. 28	Bruce Hoffman, "The modern terrorist mind-set," (<u>IT</u> 229-256).
Mon., Oct. 1	Motives: Individuals Audrey Kurth Cronin, "Behind the curve: Globalization and international terrorism," (<u>TCT</u> 67-88). Madeleine Gruen, "Terrorism indoctrination and radicalization on the internet," (<u>TCT</u> 352-366).
Weds., Oct. 3	Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon, "Raiders on the path of God," (<u>AST</u> 134-166).
Fri., Oct. 5	Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon, "Fields of jihad," (<u>AST</u> 167-215).
Mon., Oct. 8	Hearts and minds Bruce Hoffman, "The old media, terrorism, and public opinion," (<u>IT</u> 173-195). Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon, "A failure of intelligence," (<u>AST</u> 350-383).
Weds., Oct. 10	Paul Pillar, "Publics," (<u>TUFP</u> 197-216). Boaz Ganor, "Dilemmas concerning media coverage of terrorist attacks," (<u>TCT</u> 408-415).
Fri., Oct. 12	Bruce Hoffman, "The new media, terrorism, and the shaping of global opinion," (<u>IT</u> 197-228).
Mon., Oct. 15	Religious terrorism Bruce Hoffman, "Religion and terrorism," (<u>IT</u> 87-130).
Weds., Oct. 17	Magnus Ranstorp, "Terrorism in the name of religion," (<u>TCT</u> 153-167).
Fri., Oct. 19	Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon, "A world of terror," (<u>AST</u> 417-446).
Mon., Oct. 22	Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon, "Ibn Tamiyya and his children," (<u>AST</u> 38-94).
Weds., Oct. 24	Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon, "The warrior prince," (<u>AST</u> 95-133)
Fri., Oct. 26	Mark Sedgwick, "Al-Qaeda and the nature of religious terrorism," (<u>TCT</u> 187-206).
Mon., Oct. 29	Terrorism in the 21st century Bruce Hoffman, "Terrorism today and tomorrow," (<u>IT</u> 258-295). Philip B. Heymann, "Terrorism after September 11," (<u>TFS</u> 3-18).

Weds., Oct. 31	John Arquilla, David Ronfeldt, and Michele Zanini, "Networks, netwar, and information-age terrorism," (TCT 107-129). Chris Dishman, "The leaderless nexus: When crime and terror converge," (TCT 367-382).
Fri., Nov. 2	Matthew Levitt, Untangling the terror web: Identifying and counteracting the phenomenon of crossover between terrorist groups," (TCT 137-150). Gen. Russell D. Howard, "Understanding al Qaeda's application of the new terrorism—the key to victory in the current campaign," (TCT 91-106).
Mon., Nov. 5	Terrorism and WMD Richard F. Pilch, "The bioterrorist threat in the United States," (TCT 263-297). Adam Dolnik, "All God's poisons: Re-evaluating the threat of religious terrorism with respect to non-conventional weapons," (TCT 242-262).
Weds., Nov. 7	Richard K. Betts, "The new threat of mass destruction," (TCT 232-241). John Ellis, "Terrorism in the genomic age," (TCT 313-319).
Fri., Nov. 9	Readings to be announced.
Mon., Nov. 12	Counter-terrorism Philip B. Heymann, "Protection against unidentified terrorists," (TFS 37-60). Bruce Hoffman, "A nasty business," (TCT 402-407).
Weds., Nov. 14	Paul Pillar, "Counterterrorist instruments," (TUF 73-129).
Fri., Nov. 16	Mark Basile, "Going to the source: Why al Qaeda's financial network is likely to withstand the current war on terror financing," (TCT 416-432). Rob de Wijk, "The limits of military power," (TCT 505-517).
Mon., Nov. 19	Philip B. Heymann, "Intelligence," (TFS 61-84). Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon, "How great a failure?" (AST 384-389).
<i>TUES., Nov. 20</i>	Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon, "Terror and strategy," (AST 393-418). Paul R. Pillar, "Counterterrorism after al Qaeda," (TCT 474-483).
Mon., Nov. 26	Terrorism and democracy Philip B. Heymann, "Civil liberties," (TFS 87-113).
Weds., Nov. 28	Philip B. Heymann, "The problem of drifting into an 'intelligence state,'" (TFS 133-157).
Fri., Nov. 30	Philip B. Heymann, "Values and security," (TFS 158-179).

<p>Mon., Dec. 3</p>	<p>Case study: Balancing competing demands in the GWOT Gen. Russel D. Howard, “Preemptive military doctrine: No other choice,” (TCT 454-460). Barry R. Posen, “The struggle against terrorism: Grand strategy, strategy, and tactics,” (TCT 461-473).</p>
<p>Weds., Dec. 5</p>	<p>Paul R. Pillar, “Lessons and futures,” (TUFPP 217-235).</p>
<p>Fri., Dec. 7</p>	<p>Daniel Benjamin and Steven Simon, “The war thus far: A status report,” (AST 447-488).</p>
<p>Mon., Dec. 10</p>	<p>Rohan Gunaratna, “Post-Madrid face of al Qaeda,” (TCT 130-136). Steven Simon and Jeff Martini, “Terrorism: denying al Qaeda its popular support,” (TCT 484-494). Gen. Wayne A. Downing, “The Global War on Terrorism: Refocusing the national strategy,” (TCT 435-453).</p>
<p>Weds., Dec. 12 LAST DAY OF CLASS</p>	<p>Readings to be announced.</p>