

INTL 4410E: Terrorism

Summer Short Session 2: July 6 - July 30th

Summer 2020

INSTRUCTOR:

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Online Office Hours: Zoom - <https://zoom.us/join/joinurl?secret=9292056099&pwd=3904251852> - 2:00 to 4:00 on Tuesdays and by appointment

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Course Description and Objectives

What motivates a terrorist? When are people likely to rebel? Are counterterrorism or repression efforts successful? This course focuses on the social scientific study of terrorism. We will focus on scientific explanations for rebellion, the rise of terrorist organizations, political and economic explanations for terrorist attacks, and the effects of efforts to combat terrorism. After this class, you will have not only an understanding of the major players and factors influencing terrorism, but a base understanding of the social scientific processes which govern political violence and rebellion more generally. As such, this class is **not** a history class or a class on current events. Though current and historical events will be discussed, your grade will not depend on your rote memorization of these events. Instead, the focus will be on understanding the underlying interests of important actors for international security, the arenas in which these actors interact, and the rules which govern their interactions. This focus on the basic principles will provide you with a rich practical knowledge of the study of terrorism.

This course will be divided into four major sections: (1) terrorism basics, (2) what motivates terrorists, (3) the logic of terrorism, and (4) the consequences of terrorism and counterterrorism. At the end of the course, you should be able to convey an advanced understanding of terrorism and insurgency research to prospective employers, including government security and intelligence agencies, risk analyst organizations, and think tanks.

Online Course Format

This course is completely online! All materials are available online through UGA's eLearning Commons (ELC) portal. The course is asynchronous; you can work on the materials at your own scheduled time throughout the week.

The course consists of four modules, one module for every week of the four-week course. Each module consists of four topics. Each topic will include:

1. A reading of current or canonical academic research on topic;
2. A short video (around 5-10 minutes) of me explaining the key concepts of the day;

3. A longer set of slides for you to go through at your own pace;
4. A set of additional materials/video links you could explore for further information on the topic.

You will have to complete a module a week. With the exception of the last week, the module assignments will be due by Sunday night at 11:59 pm (Eastern Standard Time). One way to complete the course would be to focus on a topic a day throughout the five-day work week. You could then spend the final day of the work week taking the quiz and contributing to the discussion board. Or, you could wait until the weekend and complete two topics a day on Saturday and Sunday and then take the quiz and contribute to the discussion board on Sunday evenings. For the last week, due to the shorted schedule, the module will be due at 11:59 pm on July 31st. You are welcome to work ahead.

Any way you want to tackle the work of the week is fine with me! As long as each module is completed before the weekly deadline, you can work whenever and wherever works for you best!

I'm here to help however I can. Please feel free to email at any time. I strive to answer all emails within 24 hours. I'll also have weekly sessions in Zoom. I'm also happy to schedule a time to chat on the phone or over video.

Grading

Your course grade is calculated from the following components:

- 40% - Four quizzes (one for each module) - Due by Sunday at 11:59 pm (EST) each week except for final week of the course when it is due on Friday, July 31st by 11:59 pm (EST)
- 40% - Four discussion board contributions (one for each module) - Due by Sunday at 11:59 pm (EST) each week except for final week of the course when it is due on Friday, July 31st by 11:59 pm (EST)
- 20% - Final paper (5-10 pages, double spaced) on a terrorist event or organization - Uploaded to eLC by Thursday, July 30th by 11:59 pm (EST)

Quizzes

At the end of each module, there will be a short (around 10 questions) multiple choice quiz for you to complete. These quizzes will be graded automatically within eLC. Doing the reading, watching the short video, and going over the longer set of slides for each of the module's four topics should prepare you for each quiz.

Discussion Board Contributions

There will be a discussion board for each module. I will start off the discussion board with some question about the topics for that week. For each module, you will contribute at least one thoughtful response to the discussion board question that references the course materials. I will grade these contributions after the module closes at the end of the week. A rubric can be found on eLC.

Final Paper

As much as it is necessary to have a broad understanding of the dynamics and logic of terrorism, it is also important to have an in-depth knowledge of certain terrorist events or groups. On a group or event of your choosing, please write a 5-10 page paper (double spaced) on one of the following topics covered in the course:

- (1) Group grievances - Why is this group fighting?
- (2) Group leadership and recruitment - Who is in charge of the group? How does the group get its members?
- (3) Group funding and attention - How does this group get its funds? How does the group get media attention?
- (4) Group attacks - What type of attacks has the group carried out? Why were these attacks carried out?
- (5) Counterterrorism efforts - What efforts have countries taken to stop this group and its activities? Were these efforts successful?

In your paper, you will outline the information you have found on this topic and how your findings relate to the readings we have covered in the course. A rubric for this assignment is available on the UGA eLC page for this course. This paper is due on July 30th by 11:59 pm. I am happy to discuss the group/event of your choosing and offer suggestions over email.

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be calculated on the following scale. Please note that I do not round grades.

- 94 to 100 - A
- 90 to 93 - A-
- 87 to 89 - B+
- 84 to 87 - B
- 80 to 83 - B-
- 77 to 79 - C+
- 74 to 77 - C
- 70 to 73 - C-
- 67 to 69 - D+
- 64 to 67 - D
- 60 to 63 - D-
- 59 and below - F

Useful Information and University Policies

University Honor Code and Academic Honesty Policy

The following is taken verbatim from <https://curriculumsystems.uga.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus>:

UGA Student Honor Code: "I will be academically honest in all of my academic work and will not tolerate academic dishonesty of others." A Culture of Honesty, the University's policy and procedures for handling cases of suspected dishonesty, can be found at www.uga.edu/ovpi.

I expect that the Student Honor Code will guide your efforts in this course. A lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy does not explain a violation. Please direct any questions to Dr. Murdie.

Changes to the Syllabus Could Occur

The following is taken verbatim from <https://curriculumsystems.uga.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus>:

“The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.”

Disability Services

The following is taken verbatim from https://drc.uga.edu/content__page/sample-access-statements:

“If you plan to request accommodations for a disability, please register with the Disability Resource Center. They can be reached by visiting Clark Howell Hall, calling 706-542-8719 (voice) or 706-542-8778 (TTY), or by visiting <http://drc.uga.edu>”

The following is taken verbatim from <https://online.uga.edu/documents/ugasyllabusguidelines.pdf>:

“Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations in order to participate in course activities or meet course requirements should contact the instructor or designate during regular office hours or by appointment.”

I want to help all students succeed in this course!

Mental Health and Wellness Resources

The following is taken verbatim from <https://curriculumsystems.uga.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus>:

“If you or someone you know needs assistance, you are encouraged to contact Student Care and Outreach in the Division of Student Affairs at 706-542-7774 or visit <https://sco.uga.edu>. They will help you navigate any difficult circumstances you may be facing by connecting you with the appropriate resources or services.

UGA has several resources for a student seeking mental health services (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga>) or crisis support (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/info/emergencies>). If you need help managing stress anxiety, relationships, etc., please visit BeWellUGA (<https://www.uhs.uga.edu/bewelluga/bewelluga>) for a list of FREE workshops, classes, mentoring, and health coaching led by licensed clinicians and health educators in the University Health Center. Additional resources can be accessed through the UGA App.”

Some material in this course contains references to violence. I urge you to take your mental health seriously. There are campus resources to help.

Course Readings

No textbook is necessary for this class. All of the readings come from academic journal articles and book chapters. These readings can all be found on the eLC page for this course. I would plan on reading the assigned reading **before** watching the video for the day. When doing all of your readings, it works best to identify each reading’s research question, theory, hypotheses, empirical analysis, and conclusion. Also, try to identify one or two problems or questions you have with the work. I remember readings best when I’ve actually taken the time to write out some notes; it might work for you, too. If nothing else, it will definitely help in preparing for the quizzes.

Course Outline

Module 1: Terrorism Basics

Topic 1: Intro to Course

- **Required Reading:** Syllabus
- **Video:** Topic 1: Introduction to the course
- **Slides:** Topic 1: Introduction to the course
- **Recommended Readings/Links:** None

Topic 2: Intro to Social Science and Defining Terrorism

- **Required Reading:** Ganor, B. 2002. "Defining Terrorism: Is One Man's Terrorist another Man's Freedom Fighter?" *Policy Practice and Research*. 3(4): 287-304.
- **Video:** Topic 2: Defining terrorism
- **Slides:** Topic 2: Reviewing social science basics and defining terrorism
- **Recommended Readings/Links:**
 - Video: Terrorism Research Before and After 9/11, Gary LaFree - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f24TfnQeIG>
 - Blogpost: Was what happened in Charleston terrorism? - https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2015/06/18/was-what-happened-in-charleston-terrorism/?utm_term=.d6c40800f888
 - Blogpost: Inspired or Directed? Why This Distinction Matters in Recent Terrorist Attack in Orlando - https://www.huffpost.com/entry/inspired-or-directed-why-this-distinction-matters_b_57616631e4b07d4d
 - LaFree, Gary, and Laura Dugan. 2007. "Introducing the Global Terrorism Database." *Terrorism and Political Violence* 19(2): 181-204.

Topic 3: History of Terrorism & Common Ideologies of Terrorists.

- **Required Reading:** Shughart II, William F. 2006. "An Analytical History of Terrorism, 1945–2000." *Public Choice* 128(1-2): 7-39.
- **Video:** Topic 3: History of terrorism in 10 minutes
- **Slides:** Topic 3: History of terrorism & common ideologies of terrorists
- **Recommended Readings/Links:**
 - Video: Terrorism Time Lapse - <https://www.vox.com/world/2015/12/1/9831356/terrorism-time-lapse>
 - Masters, Daniel. 2008. "The Origin of Terrorist Threats: Religious, Separatist, or Something Else?." *Terrorism and Political Violence* 20(3): 396-414.
 - Piazza, James A. 2009. "Is Islamist Terrorism More Dangerous? An Empirical Study of Group Ideology, Organization, and Goal Structure," *Terrorism and Political Violence* 21(1): 62-88.
 - Simon, Jeffrey D. 2008. "The Forgotten Terrorists: Lessons from the History of Terrorism." *Terrorism and Political Violence* 20(2): 195-214.

Topic 4: Mobilization for Violence.

- **Required Reading:** Van Belle, Douglas A. 1996. "Leadership and Collective Action: the Case of Revolution." *International Studies Quarterly* 40(1): 107-132.
- **Video:** Topic 4: How to mobilize an insurgency
- **Slides:** Topic 4: Mobilization for Violence
- **Recommended Readings/Links:**
 - Video: The rise of ISIS, explained in 6 minutes - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pzmO6RWy1v8>
 - Gurr, Ted. 1968. "A Causal Model of Civil Strife: A Comparative Analysis Using New Indices." *American Political Science Review* 62(4): 1104-1124.
 - Rasler, Karen. 1996. "Concessions, Repression, and Political Protest in the Iranian Revolution." *American Sociological Review*. 61(Feb): 132-152.
 - Finkel, Steven E. and Edward N. Muller. 1998. "Rational Choice and the Dynamics of Collective Political Action: Evaluating Alternative Models with Panel Data." *American Political Science Review* 92(1):37-49.

Module 2: What Motivates Terrorists

Topic 5: Terrorism Truisms to Remember and Strategies of Terrorism.

- **Required Reading:** Kydd, Andrew and Barbara Walter. 2006. "Strategies of Terrorism" *International Security*. 31(1): 49-80.
- **Video:** Topic 5: Terrorism truisms and strategies of terrorism
- **Slides:** Topic 5: Terrorism Truisms to Remember and Strategies of Terrorism
- **Recommended Readings/Links:**
 - Asal, Victor, and R. Karl Rethemeyer. 2008. "The Nature of the Beast: Terrorist Organizational Characteristics and Organizational Lethality." *Journal of Politics* 70(2): 437-449.
 - Conrad, Justin, and James Igoe Walsh. 2014. "International Cooperation, Spoiling, and Transnational Terrorism." *International Interactions* 40(4): 453-476.
 - Bloom, Mia M. 2004. "Palestinian Suicide Bombing: Public Support, Market Share, and Outbidding." *Political Science Quarterly* 119(1): 61-88.

Topic 6: Causes/Goals of Terrorism 1: Psychological Theories of Terrorism & The Role of Religion.

- **Required Reading:** Victoroff, Jeff. 2008. "The Mind of the Terrorist: A Review and Critique of Psychological Approaches." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 49(1): 3-42.
- **Video:** Topic 6: Causes of terrorism - looking at religion and psychology
- **Slides:** Topic 6: Causes/Goals of Terrorism 1: Psychological Theories of Terrorism & The Role of Religion
- **Recommended Readings/Links:**
 - Berman, Eli and David D. Laitin. 2008. "Religion, Terrorism, and Public Goods: Testing the Club Model." *Journal of Public Economics*. 92(10-11): 1942-1967.

- Post, Jerrold M. 2005. "When Hatred is Bred in the Bone: Psycho-cultural Foundations of Contemporary Terrorism." *Political Psychology* 26(4): 615-636.
- Juergensmeyer, Mark. 1997. "Terror Mandated by God." *Terrorism and Political Violence*. 9(2): 16-23.

Topic 7: Causes/Goals of Terrorism 2: Poverty & Belonging/Brotherhood.

- **Required Reading:** Kruger, Alan B. and Jitka Maleckova. 2003. "Education, Poverty, and Terrorism: Is there a Causal Connection?" *Journal of Economic Perspectives*. 17(4): 119-44.
- **Video:** Topic 7: Causes of terrorism - poverty and belonging
- **Slides:** Topic 7: Causes/Goals of Terrorism 2: Poverty & Belonging/Brotherhood
- **Recommended Readings/Links:**
 - Blogpost: Today's Highly Educated Terrorists - <https://nationalinterest.org/blog/bruce-hoffman/todays-highly-educated-terrorists-4080?page=0%2C1>
 - Abrahms, Max. 2008. "What Terrorists Really Want: Terrorist Motives and Counterterrorism Strategy." *International Security* 32(4): 78-105.
 - Chenoweth, Erica, Nicholas Miller, Elizabeth McClellan, Hillel Frisch, Paul Staniland, and Max Abrahms. 2009. "What Makes Terrorists Tick." *International Security* 33(4): 180-202.
 - Piazza, James A. 2006. "Rooted in Poverty?: Terrorism, Poor Economic Development, and Social Cleavages." *Terrorism and Political Violence* 18(1): 159-177.

Topic 8: Female Terrorists.

- **Required Reading:** Jacques, Karen, and Paul J. Taylor. 2009. "Female Terrorism: A Review." *Terrorism and Political Violence* 21(3): 499-515.
- **Video:** Topic 8: Female terrorists
- **Slides:** Topic 8: Female Terrorists
- **Recommended Readings/Links:**
 - Video: TEDxPSU - Mia Bloom - Seeing the New Face of Terrorism - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KOTyVE>
 - Video: Why Are Women Joining ISIS? - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HfJqkX59iuc>
 - Nacos, Brigitte L. 2005. "The Portrayal of Female Terrorists in the Media: Similar Framing Patterns in the News Coverage of Women in Politics and in Terrorism." *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism* 28(5): 435-451.
 - Jacques, Karen, and Paul J. Taylor. 2013. "Myths and Realities of Female-Perpetrated Terrorism." *Law and Human Behavior* 37(1): 35.
 - Speckhard, Anne. 2008. "The Emergence of Female Suicide Terrorists." *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism* 31(11): 995-1023.

Module 3: The Logic of Terrorism

Topic 9: Suicide Terrorism.

- **Required Reading:** Pape, Robert A. 2003. "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism." *American Political Science Review* 97(3): 343-361.

- **Video:** Topic 9: Why suicide terrorism can be logical
- **Slides:** Topic 9: Suicide Terrorism
- **Recommended Readings/Links:**
 - Horowitz, Michael. 2010. "Nonstate Actors and the Diffusion of Innovations: The Case of Suicide Terrorism" *International Organization*. 64:33-64.
 - Crenshaw, Martha. 2007. "Explaining Suicide Terrorism: A Review Essay." *Security Studies* 16(1): 133-162.
 - Abrahms, Max. 2006. "Why Terrorism Does Not Work." *International Security* 31(2): 42-78.

Topic 10: Terrorism and the Media.

- **Required Reading:** Bell, Sam R., K. Chad Clay, Amanda Murdie, and James Piazza. 2014. "Opening Yourself Up: The Role of External and Internal Transparency in Terrorism Attacks." *Political Research Quarterly* 67(3): 603-614.
- **Video:** Topic 10: How the media can help terrorism
- **Slides:** Topic 10: Terrorism and the Media
- **Recommended Readings/Links:**
 - Video: Terrorism and the media | Ariela Marcus-Sells - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YwDcRfY9D4>
 - Gadarian, Shana Kushner. 2010. "The Politics of Threat: How Terrorism News Shapes Foreign Policy Attitudes." *Journal of Politics* 72(2): 469-483.
 - Savun, Burcu, and Brian J. Phillips. 2009. "Democracy, Foreign Policy, and Terrorism." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 53(6): 878-904.
 - Chenoweth, Erica. 2010. "Democratic Competition and Terrorist Activity." *Journal of Politics* 72(1): 16-30.

Topic 11: Terrorists and Money/Sponsorship.

- **Required Reading:** Byman, Daniel, and Sarah E. Kreps. 2010. "Agents of Destruction? Applying Principal-Agent Analysis to State-Sponsored Terrorism." *International Studies Perspectives* 11(1): 1-18.
- **Video:** Topic 11: How to get the money necessary for terrorism
- **Slides:** Topic 11: Terrorists and Money/Sponsorship
- **Recommended Readings/Links:**
 - Video: Which Countries Are Accused of Supporting Terrorism? - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nF0D36sSb>
 - Video: How fake handbags fund terrorism and organized crime | Alastair Gray - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v>
 - Bahney, Benjamin W., Radha K. Iyengar, Patrick B. Johnston, Danielle F. Jung, Jacob N. Shapiro, and Howard J. Shatz. 2013. "Insurgent Compensation: Evidence from Iraq." *American Economic Review* 103(3): 518-522.
 - Byman, Daniel. 2005. "Passive Sponsors of Terrorism." *Survival* 47(4): 117-144.
 - Baradaran, Shima, Michael Findley, Daniel Nielson, and Jason Sahrman. 2013. "Funding Terror." *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*. 162(3): 477-536.

Topic 12: “New” Forms of Terrorism: CBRN and Cyberterrorism.

- **Required Reading:** Asal, Victor, Jacob Mauslein, Amanda Murdie, Joseph Young, Ken Cousins, and Chris Bronk. 2016. "Repression, Education, and Politically Motivated Cyberattacks." *Journal of Global Security Studies* 1(3): 235-247.
- **Video:** Topic 12: “New” methods of terrorism
- **Slides:** Topic 12: “New” Forms of Terrorism: CBRN and Cyberterrorism
- **Recommended Readings/Links:**
 - Video: Governments don’t understand cyber warfare. We need hackers | Rodrigo Bijou - <https://www.youtube.com>
 - Video: Forensic Files - Season 7, Ep 8: Bio-Attack -<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DP-u5nfh2jE>
 - Gartzke, Erik. 2013. "The Myth of Cyberwar: Bringing War in Cyberspace Back Down to Earth." *International Security* 38(2): 41-73.
 - Ivanova, Kate, and Todd Sandler. 2007. "CBRN Attack Perpetrators: An Empirical Study." *Foreign Policy Analysis* 3(4): 273-294.
 - Ackerman, Gary A., Victor Asal, Mila Johns, Markus K. Binder, Amanda Murdie, Jeffrey M. Bale, and R. Karl Rethemeyer. 2014. "Anatomizing Chemical and Biological Non-State Adversaries Identifying the Adversary, Final Report." Pages 88-106.

Module 4: The Consequences of Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Topic 13: Consequences of Terrorism - Psychological & Political.

- **Required Reading:** Huddy, Leonie and Stanley Feldman, Theresa Capelos, Colin Provost. 2002. "The Consequences of Terrorism: Disentangling the Effects of Personal and National Threat." *Political Psychology*. 23(3): 485-509.
- **Video:** Topic 13: What happens after an attack
- **Slides:** Topic 13: Consequences of Terrorism
- **Recommended Readings/Links:**
 - Blogpost: Psychiatric and Societal Impacts of Terrorism - <https://www.psychiatrictimes.com/disaster-psychiatry/psychiatric-and-societal-impacts-terrorism>
 - Kam, Cindy D., and Donald R. Kinder. 2007. "Terror and ethnocentrism: Foundations of American Support for the War on Terrorism." *Journal of Politics* 69(2): 320-338.
 - Berrebi, Claude and Esteban F. Klor. 2006. "On Terrorism and Electoral Outcomes." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 50(6) 899-925.
 - Kibris, Arzu. 2011. "Funerals and Elections: The Effects of Terrorism on Voting Behavior in Turkey." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 220-247.

Topic 14: Counterterrorism Options and Strategy 1 - Harden Targets and Hearts and Minds.

- **Required Reading:** Byman, Daniel. 2007. "US Counter-Terrorism Options: A Taxonomy." *Survival* 49(3): 121-150.
- **Video:** Topic 14: The tools to fight terrorism

