

**PS 4318: Politics of International Terrorism
Fall Semester, 2019
Tu, Th, 9:35 – 10:55 AM – Stillman Hall 235**

SYLLABUS

Instructor: Andrew Goodhart

Office: 2185 Derby Hall

Email address: Goodhart.19@osu.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00-12:00, and by appointment

Course Description and Objectives

Course Description: This course focuses on the international political, organizational, and political psychological influences on terrorism, as well as governmental perspectives and policies to confront terrorism. There are no formal prerequisites for this course but it is not open to students with credit for 548.

Course Goal: Develop an in-depth knowledge of terrorism as a political force in the 20th and 21st centuries.

- Objective - Students will be able to understand the history of terrorism as a tool by non-state actors.
- Objective - Students will be able to place aspects of terrorist activity and international responses into a larger context with a deeper understanding of driving forces.

Course Goal: Develop critical understanding of how terrorism fits within the political science and international relations fields.

- Objective - Students will be able to analyze and criticize arguments, explanations, and theories for terrorist recruitment, organization, and external activities.
- Objective - Students will be able to construct and defend their own arguments and interpretations of terrorism in the modern world.

Disability

The University strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. **SLDS contact information:** slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; slds.osu.edu; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

Academic Honesty

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>.

Students at The Ohio State University are accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Therefore, you should be familiar with the guidelines provided by the [Committee on Academic Misconduct \(COAM\)](#) and [Section A of OSU's Code of Student Conduct](#) in order to meet the academic expectations concerning appropriate documentation of sources. In addition, OSU has made Turnitin, a learning tool and plagiarism prevention system, available to instructors. For this class, you will submit your papers to Turnitin from Carmen. When grading your work, I will interpret the originality report, following [Section A of OSU's Code of Student Conduct](#) as appropriate. For more information about Turnitin, please see [the vendor's guide for students](#). Note that submitted final papers become part of the OSU database.

Mental Health:

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student’s ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the **Office of Student Life’s Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS)** by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling [614-292-5766](tel:614-292-5766). CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on call counselor when CCS is closed at [614-292-5766](tel:614-292-5766) and 24 hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273--TALK or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

Course Requirements:

Students are expected to attend class and participate in class discussions. Quizzes that cover the readings, lectures, and news material will be given approximately every 3 weeks (see dates below). Each student is also required to complete a **midterm paper and a final examination** (see deadlines below).

Grades are based on the following:

Attendance/Participation	5%
Quizzes (approximately every 3 class sessions):	30%
Paper Topic (1 paragraph: Due: September 10th)	5%
Midterm Paper (Paper due: October 13th):	30%
Final (cumulative) Exam (Dec 6, 2019, 8am-9:45am):	30%

Unexcused absences on days when an exam or quiz is administered will result in a zero for that exam or quiz. **Note that I will drop your lowest 2 quiz grades.** That means that if you don't do as well on a quiz as you would have liked or if you miss a class, that quiz grade will be dropped as one of your 2 lowest quiz scores. **This policy does not apply to your final exam;** it only applies to quizzes. If you need to miss class on exam day, you must have your absence approved by me in advance so that we can make alternative arrangements.

Note that class will not be held on October 10th because of OSU's Autumn Break, or on November 28th because of Thanksgiving. In addition, there are several, yet-to-be-scheduled guest speakers. The dates in the syllabus may change as a result but your deadlines will not be moved earlier.

Policy on Late Assignments: A student submitting an assignment late will lose half of a letter grade on that assignment for each day that it is late.

Carmen:

The most current version of this syllabus will always be available on this course's Carmen home page. If you're confused about something or find an error, please let me know.

Required Materials

Martin, Gus, *Essentials of Terrorism: Concepts and Controversies, 5th Edition*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2019, ISBN 978-1-544342931.

Crenshaw, Martha, *Explaining Terrorism: Causes, Processes, and Consequences*. New York: Routledge, 2011, ISBN 978-0-415-78051-3.

Each of these two books should be available at campus area bookstores or online. Purchasing or renting used or electronic copies of the books (as long as they are the correct edition) is satisfactory as well.

Students are expected to regularly read and watch <http://www.aljazeera.com/> (Choose "English" edition, since US edition is no longer updated); and <http://www.bbc.com/>.

We will discuss the latest news in class and topics from the news may be included on quizzes. An understanding of the news from the days preceding each class will also help you to understand the lectures and do well on quizzes and the exam. Some news items may be confusing so plan to ask questions in class.

We will use TopHat (<https://tophat.com/>) in this course for attendance & in-class activities. Please make sure that you are able to access and use TopHat during class, and let me know if you have any difficulties.

Paper Assignment:

Each student is required to write one paper in this course. For this paper, each student is to **begin by choosing a non - U.S. based terrorist group that has operated at some point during the last 60 years.** You are welcome to use class readings where appropriate, but you must bring in additional research, with the majority of your research based on materials other than those assigned in this course. After you have chosen the group that you will examine, address each of the following aspects of that group's activity:

- **individual / psychological explanations of the group's terrorism**
- **organizational explanations of the group's terrorism**
- **strategic political explanations of terrorism**
- **the relationship (if any) between religion and the group's terrorism**
- **the role of media as it relates to the group's activities – both media usage of the group and media coverage about the group**

Lengthy introductions and conclusions are not appropriate. The paper should be focused on the five bullet points above, with a brief conclusion addressing which of the explanations of their activity seemed most influential.

Use whatever citation style that you prefer as long as a full citation is given for all quoted and paraphrased material. It must be clear to a reader what source quoted or paraphrased material is drawn from.

Up until a week before the paper is due, Mr. Goodhart is very open to helping with the paper. In the last week, Mr. Goodhart will be less helpful in fielding initial contacts about the paper, so please plan in advance and don't delay working on the paper until the last minute.

Maximum paper length is eight pages. Papers should be typed and double spaced. All ideas, phrases, and sentences which come from another source must be cited, whether they are paraphrased or quoted.

Students are required to submit (through Carmen) 1 paragraph plus references (worth 5% of the course grade) by 11:59pm on September 10th. For this assignment, you should (1) give the name of the group you plan to write about; (2) summarize what interests you about that group (i.e., why you chose it); and (3) list at least 5 high-quality sources you plan to use for your

research (these should be sources that are not part of our class reading). Your list of sources should provide a full citation for each. Please choose a citation style and stick with it for the duration of the project (for info, see: <https://guides.osu.edu/citation>).

Students are required to upload an electronic copy of their paper by 11:59 PM on October 13th on Carmen. If you experience a problem uploading your paper file, email the paper immediately to Goodhart.19@osu.edu and let me know that you were unable to upload it.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READINGS

I. Defining Terrorism

Dates: August 20th, 22nd, 27th

Crenshaw, pp. 1 - 66.

Martin, pp. 2 - 22.

Quiz on Aug 27th

II. Individual / Psychological Explanations of Terrorism

Dates: August 29th, September 3rd, September 5th

Crenshaw, pp. 88 – 134.

Martin, pp. 48 – 50.

Quiz on September 5th

III. Organizational Explanations of Terrorism

Dates: September 10th, 12th, and 17th

Crenshaw, pp. 69 – 87.

Quiz on September 17th

*****Topic Paragraph for Midterm Paper due September 10th, 11:59pm*****

IV. Strategic Political Explanations of Terrorism

Dates: September 19th, 24th and 26th, and October 1st.

Crenshaw, pp. 135 – 190 (ch 8-10).

Martin, pp. 81 – 102 (ch 5), 203 – 229 (ch 10).

Quiz on September 26th

V. Terrorism and Religion

Dates: October 3rd, 8th, and 15th

(No class on October 10th)

Martin, pp. 133 – 156 (ch 7).

Quiz on October 15th

*****MIDTERM PAPER DUE OCTOBER 13TH, 11:59PM*****

VI. Terrorism and the Media

Dates: October 17th and 22nd

Martin, pp. 65 – 79 (ch 4).

***Quiz on October 22nd (first quiz to include map questions)**

VII. Examining Specific Terrorist Groups, Part I

Dates: October 24th, 29th, 31st (Guest speaker on Oct 24th)

Martin, pp. 103 – 132 (ch 6), and 157 – 176 (ch 8).

Quiz on October 31st

VIII. Examining Specific Terrorist Groups, Part II

Dates: November 5th, 7th, and 12th

Readings: to be announced.

Quiz on November 12thst

VIII. Looking at the Big, Complex Picture and the Future

Dates: November 14th, 19th, and 21st

Crenshaw, pp. 193 – 222 (ch 11-12).

Martin, pp. 260 – 277 (ch 12).

Quiz on November 21st

(November 26th: We will meet for class, content is TBD)

(November 28th: No class (Happy Thanksgiving))

(December 3rd: Review session for the Final Exam)

FINAL EXAMINATION: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, FROM 8 – 9:45AM