INR 3930H: Global Perspectives on Terrorism

Department of Political Science
College of Arts and Sciences, University of Central Florida

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor:	Ted W Reynolds	Term:	Spring 2013
Office:	PH 206B	Class Meeting Days:	Tuesday
Phone:	407-823-2608	Class Meeting Hours:	6-8:50pm
E-Mail:	twreynol@mail.ucf.edu	Class Location:	BCH -131
Office Hours:	Tuesday 3-5:30pm		

Introduction

Terrorism has existed in society for millennia and has been called one of the world's oldest "professions." Although terrorism has always had an international component, it has often been national or regional in scope and linked to specific groups with motivations ranging from self-determination to ideology to economics to religion. Many of those organizations still exist, and their goals remain unchanged. But other terrorists in the 21st century, whose objectives can be unclear, have moved in a truly global direction. Taking advantage of advances provided by globalization, modern terrorists make effective use of communications, technology and travel. They mount well-coordinated, high-profile attacks that may involve different organizations. This course approaches terrorism as a global challenge, delves into the terrorists' reasons for being and considers approaches to dealing with the phenomenon.

Course requirements:

This course will feature a combination of lectures and discussions, with an emphasis on interactive learning. Presentation material – including talks by guest speakers, public forums and other special programs (when available) – will often not be found in reading assignments. Students will be expected to prepare for class discussions by completing the reading assignments and staying informed about current developments as they pertain to terrorism/counter terrorism.

Students will be responsible for a research project consisting of a paper/case study (10-12 pages). Further each student will do one 10-15 minute class presentation relating to their research topic.

Required Texts and Materials

Mohsin Hamid. *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2008.
ISBN: 978-0-15-603402-9

Gabriel Weimann. *Terror on the Internet: The New Arena, the New Challenges*. United States Institute of Peace Press, 2006.
ISBN: 978-1-929223-71-8

Marc Sageman. *Terror Networks in the Twenty-First Century*. University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008.
ISBN: 978-0-8122-4065-8

John Horgan. The Psychology of Terrorism. Routledge, 2005.
ISBN: 978-0-714-65239-6

Supplementary (Optional) Texts and Materials: Additional online readings will be provided during the term to support discussions.

Basis for Final Grade

Assessment	Percent of Final Grade
Weekly assignment	20%
Midterm	25%
Presentation	15%
Paper	15%
Final Exam	25%
	100%

The weekly papers will be the submission of two substantive questions, pertaining to the week's readings, with your corresponding answers, for class discussion. These will be submitted via e-mail on the Monday immediately preceding the class associated with the readings. You are required to submit seven (7) sets of questions for the term on the reading for that week.

The project topic will be approved by the instructor and will culminate in a 15 minute presentation and a term paper. The rubric for this project will be provided under separate cover.

Midterm and final exams will be essay exams.

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

Grade Dissemination

Graded tests and materials in this course will be returned individually only by request. You can access your scores at any time using "myUCF Grades" in the portal. Please note that scores returned mid-semester are unofficial grades. If you need help accessing myUCF Grades, see the online tutorial: https://myucfgrades.ucf.edu/help/.

Late Work Policy:
There are no make-ups for any graded assessments. Papers/exams turned in late will be assessed a penalty: a full letter grade per day late. Writing assignments will not be accepted if overdue by more than four calendar days.

Grades of "Incomplete":
The current university policy concerning incomplete grades will be followed in this course. Incomplete grades are given only in situations where unexpected emergencies prevent a student from completing the course and the remaining work can be completed the next semester. Your instructor is the final authority on whether you qualify for an incomplete. Incomplete work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester or the "I" will automatically be recorded as an "F" on your transcript.

Disability Access:
The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is mandatory and unauthorized or unexcused absences will result in a reduction of the final grade.

Professionalism Policy:
Per university policy and classroom etiquette; mobile phones, iPods, *etc*. **must be silenced** during all classroom and lab lectures. Those not heeding this rule will be asked to leave the classroom/lab immediately so as to not disrupt the learning environment. Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, *etc*., and have been warned will be removed from the class and may suffer a reduction in their final class grade.

Academic Conduct Policy:
Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. If you are uncertain as to what constitutes academic dishonesty, please consult The Golden Rule, the University of Central Florida's Student Handbook (http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/) for further details. As in all University courses, The Golden Rule Rules of Conduct will be applied. Violations of these rules will result in a record of the infraction being placed in your file and receiving a zero on the work in question AT A MINIMUM. At the instructor's discretion, you may also receive a failing grade for the course. Confirmation of such incidents can also result in expulsion from the University

University Writing Center:
The University Writing Center (UWC) is a free resource for UCF undergraduates and graduates. At the UWC, a trained writing consultant will work individually with you on anything you're writing (in or out of class), at any point in the writing process from brainstorming to editing. Appointments are recommended, but not required. For more information or to make an appointment, visit the UWC website at http://www.uwc.ucf.edu, stop by MOD 608, or call 407.823.2197.

Schedule:

Date	Finish This Homework Before Class	Topics to be Discussed in Class
1/8	First day of class; no homework is due	Overview of class objectives and syllabus.
1/15	Read Chapters 1-6 in The Reluctant Fundamentalist	Discussion of issues relating to reading
1/22	Read Chapters 7-12 The Reluctant Fundamentalist	Discussion of issues relating to reading
1/29	Horgan-Preface + Chapters 1&2	Terrorism
2/5	Sageman – Into + Chapters 1&2	What is Terrorism
2/12	Horgan –Chapters 3&4 Sageman –Chapters 3&4	Who and what are the Terrorists

2/19	Horgan –Chapter 5-7 Receive Take home Midterm Exam	Being a terrorist and disengagement Strategies/issues
2/27	**MIDTERM EXAM** **Due in class**	Discussion of exam and viewing of related film
3/5	**SPRING BREAK**	**SPRING BREAK**
3/12	Sageman – Chapters 5&6 Weimann – Into + Chapter 1	The Global nature of Terrorism
3/19	Sageman –Chapters 7&8 Weimann -Chapter 2	The psychological impact of New Media
3/26	Weimann –Chapters 3&4 **Begin Presentations**	The power of the internet as a tool for terrorists/terrorism
4/2	Weimann –Chapter 5 Other readings to be provided **Presentations**	Cyber-terrorism Fact or fiction
4/9	Weimann –Chapter 6 Other readings to be provided **Presentations**	Counter Terrorism in Cyber Space
4/16	Weimann –Chapter 7 **Presentations**	Security vs. Civil Liberties
4/23	**Presentations** **TURN IN TERM PAPER** **Receive FINAL EXAM**	**TURN IN TERM PAPER** **RECEIVE TAKE HOME FINAL EXAM**
4/30	**FINAL EXAM DUE IN CLASS**	

*** Note: The Schedule is subject to revision**