INR 3930H: Global Perspectives on Terrorism

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

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor:	Ted Reynolds	Term:	Fall 2014
Office:	PH 206B	Class Meeting Days:	Tuesday/Thursday
Phone:	407-823-2608	Class Meeting Hours:	3-4:15pm
E-Mail:	teddy.reynolds@ucf.edu	Class Location:	BA1-221
Office Hours:	Tuesday/Thursday 1-2:30pm, or by Appt.		

Introduction

Terrorism has existed in society for millennia and has been called one of the world's oldest "professions." Although terrorism has had an international component, it has often been national or regional in scope and linked to specific groups with motivations that included a specific ideology, economics, or religion. Many of those organizations no longer exist, but terrorists in the 21st century, whose objectives can at times be unclear, have moved in a truly global direction. Taking advantage of advances in globalization, modern terrorists make effective use of communications, technology, and travel toward the goal of creating a global network of affiliates committed to a common cause. They mount well-coordinated, high-profile attacks that may involve different organizations. This course approaches terrorism as a global challenge, delving into and understanding terrorists' reasons for being/acting and considering the effectiveness of various counterterrorism policies.

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 minute 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

C. Augustus and Gus Martin. *Understanding Terrorism: Challenges, Perspectives, and Issues*. 4th Edition. Sage Publications.
ISBN: 978-1452205823

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
Class Participation	10%
Midterm	25%
Presentation	15%
Paper	25%
Final Exam	25%
	100%

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

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.

Grade Dissemination

Graded tests and materials in this course will be returned once assessment is completed.

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.

Academic Activity

As of Fall 2014, all faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete the following academic activity by the end of the first week of classes, or as soon as possible after adding the course, but no later than August 27. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid. Assignment is available on Webcourses and should be submitted as directed.

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:

Week	Readings/Topic for Tuesday	Readings/Topic for Thursday
August 18-22	Review syllabus / Questions	Discussion of terrorism and resources
August 25-29	Martin: Chapter 1 Introduction to Terrorism	Martin: Chapter 2 What is Terrorism
Sept. 1-5	Martin: Chapter 3 Root causes of terrorism	Hamid: First half
Sept. 8-12	Complete: *Hamid*	Discussion on Radicalization
Sept. 15-19	Martin: Chapter 4 State sponsored terrorism	Martin: Chapter 4 State sponsored terrorism (cont.)
Sept. 22-26	Martin: Chapter 5 Organic Terrorism	Martin: Chapter 6 Religious Terrorism
Sept. 29 Oct. 3	Martin: Chapter 7 Ideological terrorism	Discussion of Terrorism vs. Violence
Oct. 6-10	Martin: Chapter 8 International terrorism and globalization	Martin: Chapter 8 (cont.) International terrorism and globalization **Receive Midterm Exam**
Oct. 13-17	Martin: Chapter 9 Emerging Threats	**TURN IN MIDTERM EXAM**
Oct. 20-24	Martin: Chapter 10 Tactics and targets	Martin: Chapter 11 The role of media
Oct. 27-31	Martin: Chapter 12 Terrorism in the U.S.	Martin: Chapter 13 Countering Terrorism
Nov. 3-7	Martin: Chapter 14 Terrorism and Homeland Security	Martin: Chapter 15 The future of Terrorism
Nov. 10-14	PRESENTATIONS	PRESENTATIONS
Nov. 17-21	PRESENTATIONS	PRESENTATIONS
Nov. 24-28	**PROJECT PAPERS DUE** **Receive Final Exam**	**NO CLASS** **Happy Thanksgiving**
Dec. 1-4	**NO CLASS**	December 4th **SUBMIT FINAL EXAM**

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