INR 4084.0002: POLITICS OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

Instructor: Marcos Degaut
Class Meetings: TuTh, 4:30-5:45 PM at CB1 0318
Credit: 3 units
Office Hours: 3:30 – 4:20 PM, TuTh at Philips Hall 313 or by appointment
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Terrorism dominates the headlines today, but how much do we really know about this form of political violence? What is terrorism? Who is a terrorist, and in the eyes of whom? What drives an individual to join a violent political group? What are the characteristics of terrorism? Why do some groups engage in terrorism and others don't? What are common causes of terrorism? This course will address these and many other questions, while introducing students to relevant analytical frameworks, theories, and cases concerning terrorism and providing a general introduction to important facets of terrorism, such as its historical development, its strategic logics, contemporary methodologies, and political roots, as well as the challenges facing counter-terrorism today.

Course Goals:

As a result of this course, the student will:

- be able to identify, analyze, and describe the major causes of terrorism.
- be able to identify, analyze, and describe the major consequences of terrorism.
- be able to identify, analyze and describe why individuals connect with and join terrorist groups.
- acquire an understanding of the historical foundations of contemporary international terrorism.
- acquire a thorough understanding of modern terrorism as a political, military, social, and economic phenomenon.
- become familiar with characteristics of major terrorist organizations, including their political ideologies and efforts by opponents to counter them.
- learn how to improve their analytical thinking, conduct quality research, and present an effective argument, both orally and in writing.

Course Design

This course will provide a variety of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes/objectives for the course, reason why it involves a combination of class sessions which includes lecture and discussion, directed readings, papers, exams, and opportunities for informal discussion during office hours. Each part serves a purpose, be it information transmission and retention, promoting rigorous analysis, or encouraging the development of new ideas. Failing to engage with all parts will diminish the return on your efforts. For this reason, pre-class preparation is essential for this course. Students are expected to have read and considered the assigned material prior to the course, and be prepared to discuss it in class. Please remember that that the material of the course is delivered in *both* texts and in-class discussion, which means that the texts contain valuable ideas and information which may not be specifically addressed in class, and discussions and lectures will go beyond the readings. You are responsible for understanding both, so please be sure to raise questions about things you are unsure about.

Assignments:

Course grades will be the product of the following:

Class Preparation and Participation: *10%.*
Note that "Class Preparation and Participation" represents 10% of your overall grade. Your active participation in class is therefore necessary if this class is to be a successful learning experience. This means you must come in having read the assignments and join in the class-room discussion of them, making evident that you have read and thought about them. While attendance is not graded as such, excessive truancy can affect this grade, since you are unable to participate when absent. I document and grade class participation after every class meeting.

5 1-page papers: *15%.* Topics will be distributed in class.

Midterm Exam: *25%,* **3 March,** at normal class time.

Course Paper: *25%,* Due **26 April**. Write an 8-page paper advancing an argument about a subject related to terrorism. Further instructions will be distributed.

Final Exam: *25%*, Monday, **28 April**, cumulative.

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups

Papers and assignments must be turned in by class time on the day they are due. They should be in hardcopy unless unforeseen circumstances prevent printing them in or handing them in a timely manner. Exams may not be rescheduled or postponed. ***Exceptions will be allowed only under extreme, documented circumstances***. Under such circumstances, you are required to notify me (or, if I am unavailable, the Department of Political Science) prior to the date or as soon as possible if prior notice is impossible. Late papers are generally not accepted. If I accept a late paper because of circumstances, I will make substantial reductions in the paper grade for every day it is late, up to a maximum of 75% reduction.

Ungraded Assignment

First Week 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 28. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid. To complete the assignment (it's simple, based on the first reading), go to the webcourses webpage, select quizzes, and complete the 1-question quiz.

Evaluation and Grading

Grades are assigned to both individual pieces of work and cumulatively. The grade scale I use for both is below (note that "g" refers to the numerical grade you receive). I do not usually curve grades, but reserve the right to do so if I deem it necessary. All material is graded on its own terms, rather than through comparison with other students' work.

100>g≥93: A	90>g≥88: B+	80>g≥78: C+	70>g≥68: D+	60>g: E
	88>g≥83: B	78>g≥73: C	68>g≥63: D	
93>g≥90: A-	83>g≥80: B	73>g≥70: C-	63>g≥60: D	

Academic Honesty

As reflected in the UCF creed, integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the UCF community. Plagiarism and cheating contradict these values, and so are very serious academic offenses. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, or suspension or expulsion from the university. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the University's Rules of Conduct (see http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu/).

Plagiarism and Cheating of any kind on an examination, paper, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the UCF Golden Rule for further information. I will assume for this course that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words, don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change (or expect me to change) your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone.

Disabilities Accommodations

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, Ferrell Commons Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Changes to the Syllabus

In the event that there is a need for there to be any changes to the syllabus, an e-mail will be sent to all students' knights-mail accounts (as maintained by the registrar), and will be mentioned in class meetings. Changes become effective immediately after their mention in class, or the sending of the e-mail.

Cancellation of Class: In the event that the instructor needs to cancel class, an e-mail will be sent to all students' knights-mail accounts (as maintained by the registrar) prior to class time.

Copyright
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Readings

The following book should be purchased:

Russell Howard and Bruce Hoffman, *Terrorism and Counter Terrorism: Understanding the New Security Environment, Readings and Interpretations*, 4th edition. Mcgraw-Hill.

All other course materials will be available online, via the webcourses@ucf website.

Course Schedule

12 January
Overview of the course
No reading required

14 January
What is terrorism?
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 1.1, "Defining Terrorism", by Bruce Hoffman.
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 1.2, "Terrorism: Theirs & Ours," by Eqbal Ahmad.

19 January
Characteristics of terrorism
Cindy C. Combs (2006), "An Idea Whose Time Has Come?", pp. 8-19.
Paul Pillar (2001), "The Dimensions of Terrorism and Counterterrorism", pp. 24-36.

21 January
The Pre History of Terrorism and the Roots of Modern Terrorism

Gérard Chaliand & Arnaud Blin (2007), "Zealots and Assassins", pp. 55-78, and "The invention of Modern Terror", pp. 95-112.
Olivier Hubac-Occhipinti (2007), "Anarchist Terrorists of the Nineteenth Century", pp. 113-131; and Gérard Chaliand & Arnaud Blin (2007), "Russian Terrorism, 1878-1908", pp. 132-174.

26 January
The Roots of Modern Terrorism – A New Terrorism?
David Rapoport (2004), "The Four Waves of Modern Terrorism", pp. 46-73.
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 3.1, "The New Terrorism", by Russell Howard and Margaret J. Nencheck;
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 3.2, "The Debate over `New' vs. `Old' Terrorism, by Martha Crenshaw.

Optional Reading:
Paul Wilkinson (2003), "Why Modern Terrorism?", pp. 106-134.

28 January
Why Terrorism?
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 1.3, "The Logic of Terrorism: Terrorist Behavior as a Product of Strategic Choice," by Martha Crenshaw;
Martha Crenshaw (2003), "The Causes of Terrorism", pp. 92-103.

Optional Reading:
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 2.4, "Terrorism as a Product of Choices and Perceptions, by James Forest;

2 February
Why Terrorism?
Rex A. Hudson (1999), "The Sociology and Psychology of Terrorism: Who Becomes a Terrorist and Why?" pp. 19-55;

Optional Readings:
Edward Newman, "Weak States, State Failure, and Terrorism", *Terrorism and Political Violence*, 2007, Vol. 19, issue 4;
Alan Krueger & Jitka Maleckova, "Education, Poverty and Terrorism: Is There a Causal Connection?", *Journal of Economic Perspectives,* 2003, Vol. 17, n. 4.

4 February
The Strategies of Terrorism
Andrew Kydd and Barbara F. Walter, "The Strategies of Terrorism," *International Security*, Vol. 31, n. 1, Summer 2006, pp. 49-80.
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 3.3, "Networks, Netwar, and Information-Age Terrorism", by John Arquilla, David Ronfeldt, and Michele Zanini;

Optional Reading:
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 5.2, "The Logic of Suicide Terrorism," by Bruce Hoffman.
Robert Pape (2003), "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism", American Political Science Review, Vol 97, n. 3, pp. 343-361.

9 February
A Typology of Terrorism: Revolutionary and Sub-Revolutionary Terrorism
Dennis A. Pluchinsky, "Germany's red army faction: An obituary," *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, 1993, Vol. 16, Issue 2.
Xavier Raufer, "The red brigades: Farewell to arms," *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, 1993, Vol. 16, issue 4.

Optional Reading:
Brenda Lutz & James Lutz (2013), "Terrorism", pp. 273-288.

11 February

A Typology of Terrorism: Repressive and Separatist Terrorism

Ignacio Sànchez-Cuenca, 'The Dynamics Of Nationalist Terrorism: ETA and the IRA', *Terrorism and Political Violence*, 2007, Vol. 19, n. 3.

Drazen Petrovic, "Ethnic Cleansing – An Attempt at Methodology", *European Journal of International Law*, n. 3, 1994, pp. 342-259.

Optional Reading:

Rony Blum et al., "Ethnic cleansing' bleaches the atrocities of genocide", *European Journal of Public Health*, 2007, Vol. 1, n. 6.

Daniel Byman (1997), "The Logic of Ethnic Terrorism", 1997, Rand Corporation.

16 February

A Typology of Terrorism: International Terrorism

Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 2.1, "Behind the Curve: Globalization and International Terrorism", by Audrey Kurth Cronin.

Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 2.2, "Do Terrorist Networks Need a Home?", by Ray Takeyh and Nikolas K. Gvosdev**;**

Optional Readings:

Justin Conrad (2011), "Interstate Rivalry and Terrorism," *Journal of Conflict Resolution,* Vol. 50, n. 6, pp. 889-

Belgin San Akca (2009), "'Supporting Non-State Armed Groups: A Resort to Illegality?", Journal of Strategic Studies, Vol. 32, issue 4, pp. 589-613.

Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 2.3, "Weak States and Global Threats: Fact or Fiction?, by Stewart Patrick. 925.

18 February

A Typology of Terrorism: Narco-Terrorism

Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 5.7, "The Nexus of Extremism and Trafficking: Scourge of the World or so Much Hype", by Russell D. Howard and Colleen M. Traughber.

James Piazza, "The Illicit Drug Trade, Counternarcotics Strategies, and Terrorism," *Public Choice*, 2011, Vol. 149, issue 3, pp. 297-314.

Optional Reading:

Vera Eccarius-Kelly, "Surreptitious Lifelines: A Structural Analysis of the FARC and the PKK," *Terrorism and Political Violence*, 2012, Vol. 24, issue 2.

23 February

A Typology of Terrorism: Religious Terrorism

David Rapoport (1984), "Fear and Trembling: Terrorism in Three Religious Traditions"*, American Political Science Review*, Vol. 78, n. 3, pp. 658-677.

Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 4.1, "Terrorism in the Name of Religion", by Magnus Ranstorp;

Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 4.2, "A Genealogy of Radical Islam," by Quintan Wiktorowicz;

Optional Readings:

Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 4.3, "The Clash within Islam", by Emmanuel Sivan.

Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 3.4, "Al Qaeda's Trajectory during and After Bin Laden, by Rohan Gunaratna;

25 February
A Typology of Terrorism: Religious Terrorism
Harold Brackman (2011), "Hamas – Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow", pp. 6-20.
Beverley Milton-Edwards (2013), "Hamas and the Arab Spring: Strategic Shifts?" Middle East Policy, vol. XX, N. 3, pp. 60-72.
Krista E. Wiegand (2009), "Reformation of a Terrorist Group: Hezbollah as a Lebanese Political Party", *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, 32: 8

Optional reading:
Graeme Wood (2015), "What ISIS Really Wants", *The Atlantic*, available at
http://www.theatlantic.com/features/archive/2015/02/what-isis-really-wants/384980/

1st March
Mid-Term Review

3 March
MIDTERM EXAM

7 March to 12 March
SPRING BREAK
NO CLASSES

15 March
Cyberterrorism
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter *5.5*, "www.terror.net: How Modern Terrorism Uses the Internet," by Gabriel Weimann;
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter *5.6,* "Going Viral: Al-Qaeda's Use of Online Social Media, by Jarret M. Brachman.

Optional Readings
Myriam Dunn Cavelty (2013), "Cyber Security", *Contemporary Security Studies*, pp. 362-378;
Gregory J. Rattray (2001), "The Cyberterrorism Threat", pp. 221-244.

17 March
Financing Terror
James Piazza, "The Opium Trade and Patterns of Terrorism in Afghanistan," *Terrorism and Political Violence.*
Michael Freeman (2011), "The Sources of Terrorist Financing: Theory and Typology," *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, n. 34, pp. 461-475.

Optional Reading:
Joshua Prober (2005), "Accounting for Terror: Debunking the Paradigm of Inexpensive Terrorism", Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Policy Watch #1041.
Matthew Levitt (2012), "Hizbullah Narco-Terrorism", IHS Defense, Risk and Security Consulting, The Washington Institute.

22 March October
The Lone Wolves/ Recruitment, Training, Tactics, and Techniques

Rafaello Pantucci (2011), "A Typology of Lone Wolves", *The International Centre for the Study of Radicalization and Political Violence*.
Cindy C. Combs (2006), "Terrorist Training", pp. 136-152;

Optional Reading:
Sarah Teich (2013), "Trends and Developments in Lone Wolf Terrorism in the Western World", *International Institute for Counter Terrorism*.

24 March
WMD's
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 5.1, "Assessing the Post-9/11 Threat of CBRN Terrorism", by Gavin Cameron and Natasha E. Bajema;
Gregory Koblentz (2011), "Predicting Peril or the Peril of Prediction? Assessing the Risk of CBRN Terrorism", *Terrorism and Political Violence*, vol. 23, issue. 4, pp 501-520.

29 March
Organizing to Fight Terrorism
Richard. K Betts (2002), "Fixing Intelligence", Foreign Affairs.
Marcos Degaut (2015), "Spies and Policymakers: Intelligence in the Information Age", *Intelligence and National Security Journal*.

31 March
Organizing to Fight Terrorism
Loch K. Johnson (2003) "Strategic Intelligence: The Weakest Link in the War against World Terrorism", pp. 239-252.
Joshua Rovner (2011), "Fixing the Facts or Missing the Mark? Intelligence, Policy, and the War in Iraq", Foreign Policy Research Institute;

5 April
Strategies for Combating Terrorism
Erik Dahl (2011), "The Plots that Failed: Intelligence Lessons Learned from Unsuccessful Terrorist Attacks Against the US," *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, Vol. 34, pp. 621-648,

7 April
Approaches to Countering Terrorism
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 7.6, "U.S. Counterterrorism Policy and Strategy: The Early Obama Administration," by Christopher C. Harmon
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 7.4, "No Path to Glory: Deterring Homegrown Terrorism", by Brian Michael Jenkins

12 April
Approaches to Countering Terrorism
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 7.2, "US Counter-terrorism Options: A Taxonomy," by Daniel Byman;
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 8.2 , "Counterterrorism Strategy Initiative Policy Paper: The Year of the Drone, by Peter Bergen and Katherine Tiedemann;

14 April
Approaches to Countering Terrorism
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 8.3, "Assessing the Success of Leadership Targeting," by Austin Long;
Bryan Price (2012), "Targeting Top Terrorists: How Leadership Decapitation Contributes to Counterterrorism," *International Security*, Vol. 36, n. 4, pp. 9-46.

Optional Reading:
Jenna Jordan (2009), "When Heads Roll: Assessing the Effectiveness of Leadership Decapitation", *Security Studies*, Vol. 18, pp. 719-755.

19 April
Approaches to Countering Terrorism
Howard & Hoffman, Chapter 8.4, "Preemptive Military Doctrine: No Other Choice, by Russell D. Howard;
Anthony Clark Arend (2003), "International Law and the Preemptive Use of Military Force", *The Washington Quarterly,* Vol. 26, Issue 2, pp. 89-103.

21 April
Final Review

26 April
TERM PAPER DUE

28 April
FINAL EXAM