Course program and reading list

School: Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy M.A

Terrorism and Counter - Terrorism

Lecturer:

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Teaching Assistant:

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Course No.:	Course Type :	Weekly Hours :	Credit:
24009	Lecture	2	2

Course Requirements :	Group Code :	Language:
Final Paper	241400902	English

Course Description

The course will overview the fundamental terrorism issues - the definition of terrorism, terrorism typology, terrorism modus operandi (lone actor terrorism, suicide terrorism, hostage barricade and kidnapping), the terrorism equation, hybrid terrorist organizations as well as topics related to counter-terrorism (offensive activities, proportionality, counter-terrorism decision-making) focusing on the typical dilemmas at the heart of the debate. By drawing on a substantial amount of reading material, the course will present both practical and theoretical perspectives on a range of topics, such as intelligence gathering, targeted killings, international cooperation, and the balance between liberal democratic values and effective counter-terrorism measures. Students will engage in the dilemmas facing decision-makers and counter-terrorism experts by participating in a simulation exercise. Focusing on real-life scenarios in counter-terrorism, students will individually prepare policy paper(s) that will include recommendations and analysis.

Course Goals

The scope of terrorist attacks launched in the US post-September 11, the growing threat of the use of unconventional weapons, and the spread of a radical-Islamic network of terrorism have transformed the once localized threat of terrorism into an international problem. By intentionally targeting civilians while exploiting the freedom embedded in liberal-democratic values, terrorism presents a difficult and complex challenge to decision-makers and counter-terrorism experts. In order to effectively deal with the phenomenon of terrorism, decision-makers must address various dilemmas related to counter-terrorism: coping with the threat on an offensive, preemptive, and defensive level; collecting intelligence; and responding to terrorism through deterrent, punitive, and legislative measures.

Grading

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One-Two policy papers: Students are required to individually write one-two short policy papers (maximum 5 pages) on the following topics*:

  a. Media & Terrorism
  b. Terrorist use of the Internet
  c. Public Resilience
  d. Suicide Attacks
  e. Non-Conventional Terrorism
  f. Racial Profiling
  g. Torture
  h. Targeted Killings
  i. Domestic Collaboration
  j. International Cooperation
  k. Countering Domestic Terrorism
  l. Countering Lone Actor Terrorism

Grading Criteria:

35: Background (including Statement of the Issue/Problem)
35: Pre-Existing Policies
20: Policy Options (including Pros & Cons)
10: Technicalities (including executive summary, bibliography, writing style, etc)

* Please note that only the highest grade will count towards your final grade. If you are satisfy with your first grades, you can thus skip the second policy paper.

See: How to Write a Policy Paper on your Moodle Website for guidelines and more information

Tutor Office Hours

Via email: stevie@ict.org.il

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Reading List

List of Selected Useful Websites

- The International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT) –
  www.ict.org.il
- ICT's Jihadi Websites Monitoring Group (JWMG) –
  http://www.ict.org.il/ResearchPublications/JihadiWebsitesMonitoring/
  JWMGPeriodicalReviews/tabid/344/Default.aspx
- Intelligence & Terrorism Information Center –
  http://www.terrorism-info.org.il/site/home/default.asp
- The Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI) –
  www.memri.org
- Library of Congress: Portals to the world- terrorism –
  http://www.loc.gov/rr/international/hispanic/terrorism/terrorism.html
- The Long War Journal –
  http://www.longwarjournal.org
- National Counter Terrorism Center: World Wide Incidents Tracking System (WITS)
  http://www.nctc.gov/site/other/wits.html
- RAND Database of Worldwide Terrorism Incidents –
  http://www.rand.org/nsrd/projects/terrorism-incidents/index.html
- South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP) –
  http://www.satp.org
- START: Global Terrorism Database –
  http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/
- University of Chicago Project on Security and Terrorism (CPOST): Suicide Terrorism
  Database –
  http://cpost.uchicago.edu/search.php
- National Security Archive, September 11th-George Washington University
  http://www.gwu.edu/~archive/NSAEBB/#911
- The Avalon project of Yale's Law School –
  http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/21st.asp
- US Department of State: Counterterrorism
  http://www.state.gov/s/ct/index.htm
- Combating Terrorism Center at West Point: Sentinel –
  http://ctc.usma.edu/
- Jamestown Foundation: Terrorism Monitor –
  http://www.jamestown.org
- Brookings Institution-Project on Terrorism and American Foreign Policy –
  http://www.brookings.org/terrorism/
- Center for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence, University of St. Andrews

(UK) –

http://www.st–and.ac.uk/academic/intel/research/cstpv

- Council on Foreign Relations –
http://www.cfr.org/issue/135/
- Federation of American Scientists (FAS) –
http://www.fas.org/terrorism/index.html
- Forsvarets forskningsinstitutt (FFI) [Norwegian Defence Research Establishment] –
http://www.ffi.no
- Foundation for Defense of Democracies –
http://www.defenddemocracy.org
- RAND Corporation
http://www.RAND.org/research_areas/terrorism
- Jihadica –
www.jihadica.com
- Jihadology net: a clearing house for jihadi primary source material
http://jihadology.net
- SITE Intelligence Group –
https://wwwsiteintelgroup.com/Pages/Default.aspx