

JS133 TERRORISM Spring Semester 2005

Instructor: William Cleveland, Jr., JD

Office: Room MH529

Office Hours: Tuesdays/Thursdays 9:30-10:30am and 3 – 5pm.

Office Telephone: no phone (do not leave messages on the listed office phone)

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Class Meeting Days/Hours: Tuesdays, 5:30 – 8:15pm, room MH520

Course Description:

This course covers the history of domestic and international terrorism, the current issues and threats, the transnational actors, and governmental responses. Special attention will be paid to the responsibilities of the US government in combating terrorism, including the current developments in response to the 9/11 Commission Report and other studies.

Required Text:

Understanding Terrorism: Groups, Strategies, and Responses by James M. Poland, 2d edition, Pearson Prentice Hall (2005).

Course Format:

The primary mode of delivery of this course is lecture. Students should augment their lecture notes with outside sources, as indicated in lectures and in the text. There will be one mid-term exam, two quizzes and a final exam. There will also be a required research paper on a topic assigned by the instructor. Oral reports to the class will be assigned to student groups, and will satisfy the class participation portion of the course grade.

Class Participation:

Students are responsible for keeping up with the assigned reading, and being prepared to discuss it in class. Students will be divided into teams to research and report orally to the class on assigned topics. All team members must participate to receive credit. (A printed schedule will be provided in class.)

Exams and quizzes:

Examinations and quizzes will cover material from the lectures, the assigned readings, and from the oral reports. In addition to the text readings, individual on-line articles of special interest may be chosen from time to time for reading assignments.

The student's grade will be determined by the results of two exams, two quizzes, one paper, and class participation (oral reports), as follows:

mid-term exam	20%	
quizzes (2)	20%	10% each
threat assessment paper	20%	Phase 1 = 10%; Phase 2 = 10%
class participation	05%	
final exam	35%	
Course grade total	100%	All grades are based on 100 points, then weighted according to the stated percentage, to form an overall grade based on 100 points. A standard ten-point scale determines the letter grades. (Details of the grade scale will be provided in class.)

(A SCANTRON form [Form 882-E] will be needed for all quizzes and exams. A BLUE BOOK will be needed, as well, for the mid-term and final exams.)

Research Paper

The paper will be a threat assessment on one of the terror groups listed on the State Department's List of Terrorist Organizations. The instructor will assign the groups to the students. The threat assessment will be submitted in two phases:

Phase 1: A detailed research questionnaire: **due March 8.** (Retain a copy, as this document will not be returned before the Phase 2 document is due.)

Format: See Poland, pp. 141-142. Use Poland's outline for parts A and B as subheadings. (Length: 3 pages max.; font: 12 point "Times"; one inch margins.) Submit in hard copy.

Sources: at least five in number, two of which must be scholarly or professional sources, and no more than one anonymous. Cite sources in text in APA format.

Grading: questionnaire will be graded as 50% of total paper grade. *Penalty for late submission:* **10-point deduction** for every class day late. Phase 1 papers will not be accepted after April 12, since the penalties will have reduced the score to "0".

Sources list: in APA style format, submitted with the questionnaire on a separate page.

Phase 2: The final threat assessment: **due April 19.**

Format: Use the outline (Poland, pp. 141-142) for parts C, D and E, as subheadings. Length: 3 pages max. (not including any cover page, sources pages or appendices), 12-point "Times" font, and one-inch margins.

Sources to be cited in text using APA style.

Updated References List (sources page): must be submitted (again) with the paper, in APA, and may be amended or augmented after its earlier submission.

(For APA style, see, for example, <http://www2.sjsu.edu/orgs/pkp/resources.htm>. Then click on "APA Citation Style – Cornell University".)

Grading: 50% of paper grade. (Further details will be provided in class.) *Penalty for late submission:* **10-point deduction** for every class day it is late. Phase 2 papers submitted after May 24 will not be accepted. By that date, the penalties will have reduced the grade to "0".

Extra Credit Work

After the mid-term exam, extra credit work may be done to improve your grade on that exam only. The work will be selected and assigned by the instructor, and will be graded for quality. Further details will be announced at mid-semester.

Missed exams and quizzes:

Missing an exam or quiz is a serious matter. Taking an exam after others have taken it may give one an undue advantage. If a student misses an exam or quiz, a make-up exam or quiz will be afforded; but, there will be a *five-point deduction* from the exam or quiz grade, *unless* the student has a medical doctor's note explaining the absence on the scheduled exam day, or documentation of the student's participation in a University-sponsored activity, or documentation of a serious family emergency.

Failure to complete any of the quizzes, exams or the paper assignments will result in a score of "0" for that assignment, or an "I" for the course, at the instructor's discretion (depending upon the circumstances). Extra credit points cannot be used in lieu of any of the required assignments.

In accordance with University policy, any student caught cheating or plagiarizing can be given a score of "0" for that exam or paper, and, at minimum, will be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs with appropriate recommendations for disciplinary action.

Order of topics, reading assignments and exam/paper deadlines:

- Introduction to the international terrorism problem. (Reading: Poland, pp. 1-20.)
- Significant historical events shaping contemporary problems; foreign terrorism against the US, 1979 - 2001. (Reading: Poland, pp. 25-49.)
- Al Qaeda and Osama bin Laden (reading: Poland, pp. 102-108)

February 22: Quiz #1 (bring Scantron card and #2 pencil)

- The Palestine Question (reading: Poland, pp. 83-101)
- Terror methodologies: Hostage taking, bombings, suicide bombings, airliner hijackings; (reading: Poland, pp. 148-176, and pp. 208-227)
- Terrorism and US foreign policy; State Dept. List of Terror Organizations (readings online: www.9-11commission.gov/staff_statements/index.htm
9/11 Commission Staff Statement No. 5, *Diplomacy*;
9/11 Commission Staff Statement No. 8, *National Policy Coordination*.)

March 8: Research Paper Phase 1 due

March 22: Mid-term Exam (bring Blue Book and Scantron form)

- Terrorism and the mass media. (readings: Poland, pp. 55-78; online: R. Perl, *Terrorism, the Media, and the Government: Perspectives, Trends and Options for Policymakers*, CRS Issue Brief, found at <http://www.fas.org/irp/crs/crs-terror.htm>)

April 19: Research Paper Phase 2 due

April 26: Quiz #2 (bring Scantron and #2 pencil)

- Domestic and foreign terrorism and the role of the FBI (reading online: 9/11 Commission Staff Statement No. 9, *Law Enforcement, Counterterrorism and Intelligence Collection in the United States Prior to 9/11*.)

**May 17: Review for final exam
May 24: Final Exam (5:15pm in Room 520)**