

Seminar in Security and Terrorism
PACE 413

Office Hours: TBA

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Course Description

This course is designed primarily to introduce students to the basic concepts and questions, major theoretical traditions and perspectives, significant debates, and current topics in the study of security and terrorism. The course has two goals: (a) to provide a systematic review of the state-of-the-art work on the relationship between politics, security, and terrorism and (b) to explore how terrorism is framed within the context of the national security state.

Readings

The readings were selected based on a number of criteria. There is a variety of perspectives reflected within each week's reading as well as across the entire course. I encourage you to draw on the richness of these connections to help you "map" your own understanding of security policy formation and the framing of terrorism.

Requirements/Assignments

This is a writing intensive seminar and as such what you learn depends on the time you commit to reading the material, the effort you make to understand the material, and the quality of your contributions to the discussion. You are required to attend seminar every week having read the assignments in their entirety so that you are prepared to participate in a thoughtful and informed manner in discussion. I suggest that you read the assignments well in advance so that you have ample time to think about them prior to the class meeting.

Given that this is a writing intensive class, students are required to submit a one to two-page, double-spaced, journal exercise every week, due in my e-mail by 2 pm the Monday of the class session. These journals shall be reaction papers to the individual reading assignments and will give students a neutral arena to explore individual questions on the readings for the week. These journals will also help guide class discussions.

Each student will be responsible for leading seminar two times each semester. This will entail a 10-15 minute presentation at the beginning of class that highlights important arguments, questions, and concepts of the week's readings. Your presentation should not merely be a list of your questions on the reading, though you are welcome to wrap up your presentation by posing a question or two for discussion. You are welcome (and encouraged) to prepare notes for the presentation, but please do not read a prepared statement.

Each student will write a critical essay during the semester. This essay should be between 15 - 20 pages double-spaced and should focus on a major topic that interests you in the conflation of politics, security, and terrorism. You are encouraged to submit a draft of your paper, so that I can comment on your writing and provide feedback.

Critical Essay 40%
Weekly Journals 20%
Class Participation 20%
Class Presentations 20%

“Students must adequately complete all writing assignments to pass the course with a D grade or better. Students who do not complete all writing assignments will get a D- or an F and will not earn W Focus credit.”

The Instructor reserves the right to modify and/or change reading assignments at any time during the course. However, written/graded assignments will be changed only in consultation with seminar participants.

Required Books:

Monday, August 24 – Week One: Introduction to Security

Week one will be an introduction to the course, review of requirements and expectations, developing a framework for the course and your study, and finally an opportunity for you to ask questions about the course.

Monday, August 31 – Week Two: Introduction to Security

Objective: Introduce students to the concept that security is no longer seen as a relatively static attribute of large states, but rather as an incessantly contested field of discourses produced by actors who have uneven access to power (economic and political resources). Introduce some of the key writings on security studies in the social sciences. The implications of these new conceptualizations of security/insecurity for the understanding of political phenomena are considered.

Required readings -

- D. Baldwin, “Security Studies and the End of the Cold War,” *World Politics* 48, no.1 (Oct. 1995): 117-41
- M. Klare, “Redefining Security: The New Global Schisms,” in *Approaches to Peace*, edited by David Barash (New York: OUP, 2001)
- K. Krause and M. William, “Broadening the Agenda of Security Studies: Politics and Methods,” *Mershon International Studies Review* 40 (1996),229-254
- L. Freedman, “International Security: Changing Targets,” *Foreign Policy* (Spring 1998): 48-63

Monday, September 7 – Week Three: Labor Day Holiday

Monday, September 14 – Week Four: Power and Collective Security

Required readings:

- P. Bourdieu. 1991. "On Symbolic Power," in *Language and Symbolic Power*. 163-70.
- R. Jervis, "From Balance to Concert: A Study of International Security Cooperation," *World Politics* 38, no.1 (October 1985), 58-79
- L. H. Miller, "The Idea and Reality of Collective Security," in Paul F. Diehl (ed.), *The Politics of Global Governance: International Organizations in an Interdependent World*

Monday, September 21 – Week Five: Defining Terrorism

Required readings:

- A. Schmid and A. Jongman, et al., "Terrorism and Related Concepts: Definition" in *Political Terrorism*, 1988, 1-38.
- B. Hoffman, "Defining Terrorism" in *Inside Terrorism*, 1998, 13-44.
- C. Combs, "An Idea Whose Time has Come? And Not a Modern Phenomenon" in *Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century*, 1997, 3-35.

Monday, September 28 – Week Six: Reconceptualizing the Definition of Terrorism

Required readings:

- J. Zulaika and W. Douglas, "Terror, Taboo, and the Wild Man" in *Terror and Taboo: The Follies, Fables, and Faces of Terrorism*, 1996, 149-190.
- P. Berman, "Wishful Thinking" in *Terror and Liberalism*, 2003, 121-153
- G. Borradori and J. Habermas, "Reconstructing Terrorism" in *Philosophy in a Time of Terror: Dialogues with Jürgen Habermas and Jacques Derrida*, 2003, 45-81

Film: *The Devil's Own*

Monday, October 5 – Week Seven: National Security Discourse and Framing Terrorism

Required readings:

- J. Campos II, "National Security Discourse on Terrorism in Cold War Presidential Rhetoric" and "National Security Discourse on Terrorism in Post-Cold War Presidential Rhetoric" in *The State and Terrorism: National Security Discourse and the Mobilization of Power*, 2007, 31-82.

Film: *In the Name of the Father*

Monday, October 12 – Week Eight: Root Causes of Terrorism

Required readings:

- To be determined

Monday, October 19 – Week Nine: Root Causes of Terrorism, Part Two

Required readings:

- To be determined

Monday, October 26 – Week Ten: Class Discussion on Paper Topics

For this week you will be required to submit a four-page outline of your final paper and present your topic to the class. This will give me an opportunity to make sure you are on track to completing your paper and will provide you a chance to receive feedback from the entire class.

Monday, November 2 – Week Eleven: Psychology of Terrorism and Religion

Required readings:

- J. Piven, “On the Psychosis (Religion) of Terrorists” in *The Psychology of Terrorism*, 2002, 120-148
- M. Juergensmyer, “Terror and God” in *Terror in the Mind of God: The Rise of Religious Global Violence*, 2003, 3-15
- M. Juergensmyer, “The Logic of Religious Violence” in *Terrorism and Counter Terrorism: Understanding the New Security Environment*, 2002, 136-155
- M. Ranstorp, “Terrorism in the Name of Religion” in *Terrorism and Counter Terrorism: Understanding the New Security Environment*, 2002, 121-135

Monday, November 9 – Week Twelve: Challenges to Current Concepts

Required readings:

- S. Huntington, “The Clash of Civilizations?” *Foreign Affairs* (Summer 1993): 22-49
- Bradley Klein, “After Strategy: The Search for a Post-Modern Politics of Peace,” *Alternatives* 13 July 1988
- R. B. J. Walker, “The Subject of Security,” in *Critical Security Studies*, edited by K. Kraus and M. Williams
- Simon Dalby, “Contesting an Essential Concept: Reading the Dilemmas in Contemporary Security Studies,” in *Critical Security Studies*, edited by K. Kraus and M. Williams

Media: *The Myth of the Clash of Civilization* by Edward Said

Monday, November 16 – Week Thirteen: Peace Studies

- David P. Barash, “International Law,” in *Approaches to Peace* Murrack Goulding, “The Evolution of United Nations Peacekeeping,” in David P. Barash, “Human Rights,” in *Approaches to Peace*
- Richard Falk, “On Humane Governance,” in *Approaches to Peace*
- Johan Galtung, “Violence, Peace and Peace Research,” *Journal of Peace Research* 6 (1969): 167-9
- Andy Knight, “Evaluating recent trends in peacebuilding research,” *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific* 3, no.2 (2003), pp.241-64

Monday, November 23 – Week Fourteen: The Future of Terrorism

Required readings:

- A. Kydd and B. Walter, "The Strategies of Terrorism," *International Security* 31, no.1 (Summer 2006): 49-80.
- T. Homer-Dixon, "The Rise of Complex Terrorism," *Foreign Policy* (Jan.-Feb., 2002), 52-62
- J. Deutch and J. Smith, "Smarter Intelligence," *Foreign Policy* (Jan.-Feb. 2002), 64-69
- W. Laqueur, *The New Terrorism: Fanaticism and the Arms of Mass*
- J. Stern, *The Ultimate Terrorists*
- C. Combs, *Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century*, 36-98
- D. Claridge, "The Terrorism Threat to Trade and Commerce," in *Terrorism in the Asia-Pacific: Threat and Response*, edited by Rohan Gunaratna
- D. Schwarz, "Environmental Terrorism: Analyzing the Concept," *Journal of Peace Research* 35, no.4 (1998), 483-496

Monday, November 30 – Week Fifteen:

Monday, December 7 – Week Sixteen: