Course Description and Learning Objectives:

The purpose of this course is to examine terrorism as an alternative political action—not to pass moral judgment on the tactic of terrorism nor on the terrorists themselves. As such, these considerations are outside the scope of this class and will not be discussed. Rather, the course looks at terrorism as a special type of political action involving the use of extreme violence against civilians for political purposes. While focused on modern rebel terrorism—movements for national liberation, new-left groups fighting liberal democracy, neo-fascist organizations, and religious fundamentalist movements—the course also examines the historical and ideological origins of terrorism, and issues like state terrorism, state-supported terrorism, and international terrorism. Additionally, the course is comparative in nature and includes cases from Europe, the United States, Latin America, Africa, and the Middle East.

After completing this course, students should be able to

- Trace the progression and development of international terrorism
- Understand why certain groups adopt terror tactics
- Compare and contrast characteristics of terror movements across the globe

Required Texts:

- Walter Laqueur (ed), Voices of Terror: Manifestos, Writings and Manuals of Al Qaeda, Hamas, and Other Terrorists from Around the World and Throughout the Ages, (New York: Reed Press, 2004).

Additional readings will be available through Blackboard, on reserve at the library, or will be distributed in class. Ultimately, it is your responsibility to obtain the required reading for each class, and come to class prepared to discuss that day’s readings.

A Note On the Readings

There is a substantial amount of reading required for this course. However, not all days/weeks have an equal amount of reading. Due to the varying nature of the topics discussed, some days/weeks have relatively light (or heavy) reading assignments. The best, and ultimately most rewarding, strategy to employ is to keep up with the reading as it is assigned. If you are having problems with the readings or the course material, please come and talk to me during my office hours or make an appointment.

Assignments

Exam 1 will be given on March 8, and Exam 2 will be on Tuesday May 6, from 10:45 am – 1:15 pm. The exams are not multiple choice, and it is important that you read and study the course material very carefully so that you can answer the exam questions that are actually asked. In other words, to pass the class (or to get the grade that you may want), you must make sure that you actually answer the questions that are asked on the exams. Answers that may be correct with respect to content, but fail to answer the question that was asked, will not be given credit.
Periodic quizzes covering the course material may also be given. There will be no make-ups given for exams or quizzes except for absences due to extreme and documented emergencies. Make-up exams or quizzes may differ in both form and content than the scheduled exams. Additionally, any requests for make-up exams or quizzes must be made as quickly as possible, but no later than 2 class sessions after the exam or quiz. In other words, if an emergency arises and you cannot take an exam or quiz, you need to let me know ASAP.

Additionally, throughout the semester you will have two writing assignments addressing different issues related to international terrorism. More information on these assignments will be given in class.

You should come to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings. Additionally, you are encouraged to bring any questions about the course readings or relevant current events to class as well. While attendance is not taken, per se, you cannot get credit for an in-class activity, nor can you take a quiz, should one be given, if you are not in class. Fifteen percent of your total grade is based on quizzes and in-class activities. In other words, your grade in the course will be directly impacted by not attending class. Additionally, material may be covered during class that is not in the reading but will be on the exams. If you have to miss class, it is strongly recommended that you get a copy of the notes from a classmate.

Blackboard
This class will be utilizing Blackboard. Course readings (other than the assigned text books) will be posted in Blackboard, and all assignments must be submitted via SafeAssign in Blackboard. If you experience any problems logging into Blackboard, you should seek help from Campus Computing. Their office is located in BUS 101, and they can be reached by email at itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu. Please include your full name, student ID number and date of birth in any communications you send to them.

You will not be able to successfully complete this course without reliable access to Blackboard. If you are experiencing problems with Blackboard, please contact Campus Computing as soon as possible to get the issues resolved. A Blackboard Wiki is also available that may help you resolve some problems with Blackboard.

Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Profiles</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes and In-class activities</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exams 1 and 2, and the group profiles, all constitute compulsory and fundamental elements of the course. Failure to complete any of these elements will result in an automatic failure for the course.

Final Grades

A: 90 - 100%
B: 80 – 89.9%
C: 70 – 79.9%
D: 60 – 69.9%
F: Below 59%

Classroom Etiquette
In order for everyone to get the most out of the semester, it is essential that we all follow some simple rules of classroom behavior. Students who repeatedly engage in disruptive behavior may be asked to leave the classroom.
1. Please be respectful of your fellow students. The classroom is an environment for everyone to explore new topics and ideas—and it is also an opportunity for everyone to share his or her thoughts about these topics. A vibrant discussion is one of the unique elements of the university environment, but it will only work if everyone is respectful of the thoughts and opinions of the others.

2. Please turn off your cell phones and other electronic devices. No calls, incoming or outgoing, or text messaging are allowed. Texting during class is not only disrespectful, but if you are paying attention to your phone, you are not paying attention to class. If your phone or pager rings during an exam, you will have to turn in your exam at that time. **No questions asked, no exceptions.**

3. Please do not read newspapers or any other publications (including materials for other courses) in the classroom. Also, please do not play games, surf on the web, or IM when you use a laptop computer. Reading other materials, playing on your computer, and chatting with your friends online during class not only distracts those around you, but removes you from the active classroom environment.

4. Please refrain from having side conversations, eating, or other disruptive activity during class including the use of chewing tobacco or electronic cigarettes.

5. Please come to class on time and stay for the entire class. If you know that you are going to be late, or if you have to leave early, let me know beforehand and please sit near the door so your entrance/exit will be less disruptive. Leaving early without letting me know ahead of time may result in the forfeiture of points for course participation on that day.

6. Please make sure that come to class prepared to be an active participant in all classroom activities. This includes having paper and either a pen or pencil. There may be instances where we do activities in class that require you **not** to use your computer. If you do not have other means of communication with you at the time, you cannot complete the activity.

**Academic Integrity**

The UT Tyler community regards cheating as an extremely serious matter, and deals severely with those who violate the standards of academic integrity.

The following are some examples of academic dishonesty:

- **Plagiarism** is when you use the language, ideas, thoughts, or work of someone else as your own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:
  - the use of direct quotations without quotation marks and without credit to the source;
  - paraphrasing or using direct quotations within quotation marks without credit to the source;
  - failure to provide adequate citations for material obtained through electronic or traditional research;
  - downloading and submitting work from electronic databases without citation;
  - submitting material created/written by someone else as your own, including purchased term/research papers;
  - allowing someone to copy or submit your work as his or her own;
  - participation in a group project which presents plagiarized materials;
  - submitting the same paper in more than one course without the knowledge and approval of all instructors involved;
  - assisting in the act of plagiarism by allowing your work to be used in this fashion;
  - aiding and abetting another student’s dishonesty.
• **Cheating** is defined generally as copying from someone else’s exam, homework, laboratory work, or any other form or coursework (including online assignments and quizzes). Types of cheating include but are not limited to:
  o using notes or other materials during a quiz, test, or exam without authorization;
  o obtaining or providing unauthorized information during an examination or assignment through verbal, visual, or unauthorized use of books, notes, texts, or other materials;
  o obtaining or providing information concerning all or part of an examination or quiz prior to that examination or quiz;
  o taking an examination or quiz for another student or arranging for another person to take an exam or quiz in one’s place;
  o altering or changing test or quiz answers after submitting it for grading or after grades have been awarded;
  o releasing information about an examination or quiz to anyone who has yet to take the examination or quiz.

UT Tyler reserves the right to impose disciplinary action for a violation of university rules.

Additional information on Academic Integrity at UT Tyler can be found here: [http://www.uttyler.edu/mainsite/conduct.html](http://www.uttyler.edu/mainsite/conduct.html).

**University Policies**

**Students Rights and Responsibilities**
To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: [http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/StudentRightsandResponsibilities.html](http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/StudentRightsandResponsibilities.html)

**Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies**
Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at [http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar](http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar). Each semester’s Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:
  • Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
  • Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
  • Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
  • Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
  • Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid
State-Mandated Course Drop Policy
Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability Services
In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu

Student Absence due to Religious Observance
Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities
If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement:
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation:
Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classes Begin</td>
<td>January 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Census Date</td>
<td>January 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day to Drop/Withdraw</td>
<td>March 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>March 10-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campus Study Day</td>
<td>May 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>March 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>May 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Papers Due</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Schedule of Readings:**

You should have the readings completed by the date listed on the syllabus. Additionally, the schedule of readings is subject to change. You will be notified of any changes to the schedule of readings as soon as possible.

*Please note that the syllabus is arranged by topic, and not date*

**Topic 1: Introduction**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 14</td>
<td>No Readings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 16</td>
<td>Martin, Chapter 1, “Defining Terrorism,” pp. 2-22</td>
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</table>

**Topic 2: Strategies and Tactics**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 23</td>
<td>Martin, Chapter 1, “Defining Terrorism,” pp. 2-22</td>
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</table>

**Topic 3: Psychology and Dynamics of Insurgent Terrorism**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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**Topic 4: Historical Context**

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<th>Readings</th>
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**Topic 5: Terrorism from Below**

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<tr>
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<th>Readings</th>
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POLS 4305, Spring 2014

Feb. 27 | Catch up and review

Mar. 4 | EXAM 1

**Topic 6: State Terrorism**

Mar. 6: | Martin, Chapter 5, “Terrorism by the State,” pp. 84-106.  
Thomas Friedman, *From Beirut to Jerusalem,* pp. 76-105.

Mar. 13 & 15 | Spring Break, no class

**Topic 7: Palestinian Terrorism**

“Platform of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine,” in Laqueur (ed), *Voices of Terror.*  

**Topic 8: Religious Terrorism**

Part I: Jewish, Christian, Sikh, and Hindu Religious Terrorism

Mar. 20: | Martin, Chapter 6, “Religious Terrorism,” pp. 130-156  

Part II: Muslim Fundamentalist Terrorism

“Introductory Note: Terrorism in the Muslim World,” in Laqueur (ed), *Voices of Terror.*  

**Topic 9: Suicide Terrorism**


Apr. 1-3 | Film: “Battle of Algiers”

**Topic 10: Other Types of Terrorism**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 10</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Topic 11: Terrorism and the Media</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part I: Terrorism and the Traditional Media</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 15</td>
<td>Martin, Chapter 4, “Terrorist Violence and the Role of the Media,” pp. 68-82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part II: Terrorism and the Internet</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Topic 12: Women and Terrorism</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 22</td>
<td>Sue Mahan and Pamala L. Grist, “Women Terrorists,” in <em>Terrorism in Perspective</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Topic 13: Terrorism after September 11</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Apr. 24 | Jason Burke, “Think Again: Al Qaeda.” *Foreign Policy*, Number 142 (May/June 2004), 18-23.  
*National Strategy for Counterterrorism* (2011)  
Martin, Chapter 12, “Future Trends and Projections,” pp. 261-278 |
| **Topic 14: Group Transformations** |                                           |
| May 1   | Catch up and review                         |
| **May 6** | Exam 2: Time **10:45-1:15**               |

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