Course Description

Examines the various types of terrorism and known terrorist groups deemed to be a probable threat against the citizens of the United States, and explores various techniques and resources designed to counterterrorist threats in the United States.

Course Textbook


In addition to the textbook, the following articles and videos are provided as required reading:


Are We Safer? (http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/are-we-safer?)

Nevada Fusion Center Tour (cironline.org/reports/what-fusion-center-2951)

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Utilize the knowledge, typologies, and concepts of terrorism and terrorist threats to form prevention and response tactics.
2. Examine the historical influence from trends in terrorism and reactionary response recognizing how it affects modern terrorist acts and plans to defeat those acts of terrorism.
3. Identify the positive and negative roles the media play in combating terrorism as well as how terrorist play upon media reaction to further their cause.
4. Create innovative counterterrorist strategies while considering the terrorist approach and other proven counterterrorist strategies.
5. Define the al Qaeda group and Palestinian Movement in respect to international terrorism and influence in counter terror planning.
6. Analyze foreign terrorist organizations and examine interrelations between major terrorist cell groups as well as common goals and targets.
7. Examine the dynamic details of hostage situations and use those details toward effective negotiation process.
8. Define terrorism and bombing.
9. Identify several types of terrorism, and describe how and why weapons of mass destruction serve as the weapons of choice.
10. List worldwide issues associated with suicide bombers, and differentiate the intention of such incidents versus the outcome.
11. Discuss the trends occurring within terrorist organizations and how these trends will affect the future of counter terrorism.

Credits

Upon completion of this course, the students will earn three (3) hours of college credit.

Course Structure

1. **Unit Learning Objectives:** Each unit contains Unit Learning Objectives that specify the measurable skills and knowledge students should gain upon completion of the unit.
2. **Unit Lesson:** Each unit contains a Unit Lesson, which discusses unit material.
3. **Reading Assignments:** Each unit may contain Reading Assignments from one or more chapters from the textbook, articles, or videos. Unit presentations and transcripts are provided in each unit study guide to aid students their course of study. Supplemental Readings are provided in the study guides for Units III and VIII to aid students in their course of study. The readings themselves are not provided in the course, but students are encouraged to read the resources listed if the opportunity arises as they have valuable information that expands upon the lesson material.
4. **Key Terms:** Key Terms are intended to guide students in their course of study. Students should pay particular attention to Key Terms as they represent important concepts within the unit material and reading.
5. **Discussion Boards:** Discussion Boards are a part of all CSU term courses. Information and specifications regarding these assignments are provided in the Academic Policies listed in the Course Menu bar.
6. **Unit Assessments:** This course contains four Unit Assessments, one to be completed at the end of Units I, III, V, and VI. Assessments are composed of written response questions.
7. **Unit Assignments:** Students are required to submit for grading Unit Assignments in Units II and IV. Specific information and instructions regarding these assignments are provided below. A grading rubric is included with assignment instructions to provide you with a guideline your professor will use to assess your assignment. Specific information about accessing these rubrics is provided below.
8. **Research Paper:** Students are required to submit for grading a Research Paper in Unit VII. Specific information and instructions regarding this assignment are provided below. Specific information about accessing these rubrics is provided below.
9. **Final Exam (Proctored):** Students are to complete a Final Exam in Unit VIII. All Final Exams are proctored - see below for additional information. You are permitted four (4) hours to complete this exam, in the presence of your approved proctor. This is an open book exam. Only course textbooks and a calculator, if necessary, are allowed when taking proctored exams. The Final Exam is composed of written response questions.
10. **Ask the Professor:** This communication forum provides you with an opportunity to ask your professor general or course content related questions.
11. **Student Break Room:** This communication forum allows for casual conversation with your classmates.

CSU Online Library

There is a virtual library with resources, including both journals and ebooks, to support your program and your course at Columbia Southern University. eResources are accessible 24 hours a day/7 days a week from the CSU Online Library gateway page. To access the library, log into myCSU, and then click on CSU Online Library. Resources are organized in the library by title, but if you click on Research Guides, you will find eResources arranged by subject.

The Library Reference service is available 7 days a week; you can reach CSU’s virtual librarians by emailing thevirtuallibrarian@columbiasouthern.edu. These professional librarians will be glad to help you develop your research plan or to assist you in any way in finding relevant, appropriate, and timely information.
Librarian responses may occur within minutes or hours, but it will never take more than 24 hours for a librarian to send a response to the email address you have provided. Replies to reference requests may include customized keyword search strategies, links to videos, research guides, screen captures, attachments, a phone call, live screen sharing, and meeting room appointments, as well as other forms of instruction.

**Unit Assignments**

**Research Paper Overview**

The project for this course requires students to select a pre-9/11 terrorist event and a post-9/11 terrorist event, which will be used as a basis for examining how terrorist activities have evolved over time.

This Research Paper is broken down into the following three components that will be completed during the course:

1. During Unit II, students will submit their topic for approval. As part of this submission, students must identify the two terrorist events that will serve as the basis of their comparison and a brief explanation of why these events are appropriate.
2. During Unit IV students will submit an Annotated Bibliography.
3. During Unit VII students will submit the Research Paper.

More detailed descriptions of each component are provided below. Students will be expected to incorporate into the Research Paper any recommended changes to resources being utilized that were listed in the Annotated Bibliography during Unit IV based upon the feedback provided by their instructor.

**Unit II Project Topic**

Part 1 of the Research Paper requires students to submit their topic for review and approval by their instructor. Students must identify a pre-9/11 terrorist event and a post-9/11 terrorist event that will be the focus of their research paper. **Note:** The two terrorisit events that are selected must have occurred at least five years apart.

In addition to identifying the two terrorist events that will serve as the basis for the Research Paper, the student must provide a brief description that explains why they believe the selected events will serve as good comparison points for evaluating how terrorist activities have evolved over time.

Part 1 of the Research Paper should be no more than one page in length. Please review the general guidelines for papers to obtain a description of other formatting requirements. Students are not required to utilize cited resources for the assignment in Unit II.

Information about accessing the Blackboard Grading Rubric for this assignment is provided below.

**Unit IV Annotated Bibliography**

Part 2 of the Research Paper requires students to submit an Annotated Bibliography. The Annotated Bibliography must include a minimum of eight scholarly resources that the student plans to utilize in the Research Paper. Each resource must be formatted per APA (6th ed.) guidelines and include a brief description of the information included in the resource, as well as why it is relevant to the Research Paper. Students will be allowed to utilize more scholarly resources in the final version of the Research Paper as appropriate. The intent of the Annotated Bibliography is to demonstrate that the student is headed in the right direction with their research for the paper.

Information about accessing the Blackboard Grading Rubric for this assignment is provided below.

**Research Paper**

During Unit VII students will submit the Research Paper. The Research Paper must be written using the following outline structure:

1. Cover page
2. Introduction – In this section the student must identify the two terrorist events that have been selected and briefly explain why these events serve as good comparison points for evaluating how terrorist activities have evolved over time. This section should not exceed one page in length.
3. Pre-9/11 Terrorist Event – In this section the student must describe the first terrorist event that is being used for comparison. The description of this terrorist event must include the nature of the event, methods used by the terrorists, and eventual outcome of the event. This section should be no more than two pages in length.

4. Post-9/11 Terrorist Event – In this section the student must describe the second terrorist event that is being used for comparison. The description of this terrorist event must include the nature of the event, methods used by the terrorists, and eventual outcome of the event. This section should be no more than two pages in length.

5. Terrorist Events Comparison – In this section the student must compare and contrast the two terrorist events that were described in the previous sections. Suggested areas for comparison include: (1) motivations for attacks, (2) methods of attack, (3) impact on society, and (4) lessons learned from attacks that can be used to develop counterterrorist strategies. Students should also discuss how terrorist strategies have evolved from the first event to the second event. This section of the paper should be three to five pages in length.

6. Summary and Conclusions – In this section the student must summarize the evolution of terrorism based upon the two selected events. This section should be no more than two pages in length.

7. References – The student must provide a reference list that is formatted per APA (6th ed.) guidelines.

While the level of detail in each section of the Research Paper will vary, it is anticipated that the final paper will be approximately 7 – 12 pages in length, not counting the cover and reference pages. Please click here to review the guidelines for the Research Paper and to obtain a description of other formatting requirements.

Information about accessing the Blackboard Grading Rubric for this assignment is provided below.

APA Guidelines

CSU requires that students use the APA style for papers and projects. Therefore, the APA rules for formatting, quoting, paraphrasing, citing, and listing of sources are to be followed. A document titled “APA Guide” is available for you to download from the APA Guide link, found in the Learning Resources area of the myCSU Student Portal. It may also be accessed from the Student Resources link on the Course Menu. This document includes examples and sample papers and provides links to The CSU Success Center and the CSU Online Library staff.

Blackboard Grading Rubrics

Assignment Rubrics

One or more assignments in this course utilizes a Blackboard Grading Rubric. A rubric is a tool that lists evaluation criteria and can help you organize your efforts to meet the requirements of an assignment. Your professor will use the Blackboard Grading Rubric to assign points and provide feedback for the assignment.

You are encouraged to view the assignment rubric before submitting your work. This will allow you to review the evaluation criteria as you prepare your assignments. You may access the rubric in “My Grades” through the “Tools” button in your course menu. Click the “View Rubric” link to see the evaluation criteria for the assignment. Upon receiving your assignment grade, you may view your grade breakdown and feedback in the rubric.

Final Examination Guidelines

Final Exams are to be administered to students by an approved Proctor. CSU approves two, flexible proctoring options: a standard Proctor, who is chosen by the student and approved by the university, or Remote Proctor Now (RP Now), an on-demand, third-party testing service that proctors examinations for a small fee.

Students choosing RP Now must have an operational webcam/video with audio, a high-speed internet connection, and the appropriate system rights required to download and install software. To review the complete Examination Proctor Policy, including a list of acceptable Proctors, Proctor responsibilities, Proctor approval procedures, and the Proctor Agreement Form, go to the myCSU Student Portal from the link below.

http://mycsu.columbiasouthern.edu

You are permitted four (4) hours to complete this exam in the presence of your approved Proctor. This is an open book exam. Only course textbooks, writing utensils, and a calculator, if necessary, are allowed when taking proctored exams.
Other materials are not permitted unless specified in the examination instructions and only the sources identified in the instructions may be used as source material.

**Communication Forums**

These are non-graded discussion forums that allow you to communicate with your professor and other students. Participation in these discussion forums is encouraged, but not required. You can access these forums with the buttons in the Course Menu. Instructions for subscribing/unsubscribing to these forums are provided below.

[Click here for instructions on how to subscribe/unsubscribe and post to the Communication Forums.](#)

**Ask the Professor**

This communication forum provides you with an opportunity to ask your professor general or course content questions. Questions may focus on Blackboard locations of online course components, textbook or course content elaboration, additional guidance on assessment requirements, or general advice from other students.

Questions that are specific in nature, such as inquiries regarding assessment/assignment grades or personal accommodation requests, are NOT to be posted on this forum. If you have questions, comments, or concerns of a non-public nature, please feel free to email your professor. Responses to your post will be addressed or emailed by the professor within 48 hours.

Before posting, please ensure that you have read all relevant course documentation, including the syllabus, assessment/assignment instructions, faculty feedback, and other important information.

**Student Break Room**

This communication forum allows for casual conversation with your classmates. Communication on this forum should always maintain a standard of appropriateness and respect for your fellow classmates. This forum should NOT be used to share assessment answers.

**Grading**

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<tr>
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<td>Unit Assessments (4 @ 10%)</td>
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<td>Unit IV Annotated Bibliography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit VII Research Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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**Course Schedule/Checklist (PLEASE PRINT)**

The following pages contain a printable Course Schedule to assist you through this course. By following this schedule, you will be assured that you will complete the course within the time allotted.
# HLS 2301, Introduction to Terrorism

## Course Schedule

By following this schedule, you will be assured that you will complete the course within the time allotted. Please keep this schedule for reference as you progress through your course.

### Unit I  Overview and History of Terrorism

| Review: | ☐ Unit Study Guide |
| Read: | ☐ Chapter 1: Concepts of Terror and Terrorism  
☐ Chapter 2: Historical Antecedents of Terrorism and Violence  
☐ Video Presentations: See Study Guide |
| Discuss: | ☐ Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, Midnight (Central Time)  
☐ Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time) |
| Submit: | ☐ Assessment by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time) |

### Notes/Goals:

### Unit II  Foreign Terrorism

| Review: | ☐ Unit Study Guide |
| Read: | ☐ Chapter 4: The Palestinian Question and Al Qaeda  
☐ Chapter 5: Designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations: The “A List”  
☐ Article: See Study Guide  
☐ Video Presentations: See Study Guide |
| Discuss: | ☐ Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, Midnight (Central Time)  
☐ Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time) |
| Submit: | ☐ Project Topic by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time)  
☐ Proctor Approval Form |

### Notes/Goals:

### Unit III  Domestic Terrorism

| Review: | ☐ Unit Study Guide |
| Read: | ☐ Articles: See Study Guide  
☐ Videos: See Study Guide |
| Discuss: | ☐ Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, Midnight (Central Time)  
☐ Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time) |
| Submit: | ☐ Assessment by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time) |

### Notes/Goals:
## HLS 2301, Introduction to Terrorism

### Course Schedule

#### Unit IV: Terrorist Bombers

**Review:**
- [ ] Unit Study Guide

**Read:**
- [ ] **Chapter 7:** Contemporary Terrorism and Bombing
- [ ] **Chapter 8:** Suicide Bombers: A Global Problem
- [ ] **Articles:** See Study Guide
- [ ] **Videos:** See Study Guide

**Discuss:**
- [ ] **Discussion Board Response:** Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, Midnight (Central Time)
- [ ] **Discussion Board Comment:** Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time)

**Submit:**
- [ ] **Annotated Bibliography** by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time)

**Notes/Goals:**

#### Unit V: Terrorism Hostage Situations

**Review:**
- [ ] Unit Study Guide

**Read:**
- [ ] **Chapter 6:** The Dynamics of Hostage Taking and Negotiation
- [ ] **Article:** See Study Guide
- [ ] **Video:** See Study Guide

**Discuss:**
- [ ] **Discussion Board Response:** Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, Midnight (Central Time)
- [ ] **Discussion Board Comment:** Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time)

**Submit:**
- [ ] **Assessment** by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time)

**Notes/Goals:**

#### Unit VI: Counterterrorism Measures

**Review:**
- [ ] Unit Study Guide

**Read:**
- [ ] **Chapter 9:** Counterterrorism Measures: The Response
- [ ] **Article:** See Study Guide
- [ ] **Video:** See Study Guide

**Discuss:**
- [ ] **Discussion Board Response:** Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, Midnight (Central Time)
- [ ] **Discussion Board Comment:** Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time)

**Submit:**
- [ ] **Assessment** by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time)

**Notes/Goals:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit VII</th>
<th>Terrorism and the Media</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Review:</strong></td>
<td>□ Unit Study Guide</td>
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</table>
| **Read:** | □ Chapter 3: Violence and Terrorism: The Role of the Mass Media  
□ Articles: See Study Guide  
□ Video: See Study Guide |
| **Discuss:** | □ Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, Midnight (Central Time)  
□ Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time) |
| **Submit:** | □ Research Paper by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time)  
□ Request to take Final Exam |
| **Notes/Goals:** | |

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<th>Unit VIII</th>
<th>The Future of Terrorism</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Review:</strong></td>
<td>□ Unit Study Guide</td>
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</table>
| **Read:** | □ Chapter 10: Future of Terrorism  
□ Video: See Study Guide  
□ Supplemental Reading: See Study Guide |
| **Discuss:** | □ Discussion Board Response: Submit your response to the Discussion Board question by Saturday, Midnight (Central Time)  
□ Discussion Board Comment: Comment on another student’s Discussion Board response by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time) |
| **Submit:** | □ Final Exam by Tuesday, Midnight (Central Time) |
| **Notes/Goals:** | |