PADM 5381.W01: Modern Terrorism and Counterterrorism

Summer I 2019 Course Syllabus

Instructor Information: Dr. Isla A. Schuchs Carr, Assistant Professor of Public Administration

Office Location: 304 Bay Hall; Office Phone Number: (361) 825-2215

Office Hours: By appointment

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Course Information: This course meets online. In order to take this course, you must:

- Have regular access to a computer and broadband Internet access.
- Have a familiarity with the Blackboard course management system.
- Have the ability and permission to install plug-ins (e.g. Adobe Reader or Flash) and software.
- Have the ability to download and save files and documents to a computer.
- Have the ability to create, save, open and edit Microsoft Office files and documents (.doc, .docx, .ppt, .pptx, .xls, .xlsx, etc.).

Course Description: This course will provide an introduction to the operational and organizational dynamics of modern terrorism from the Cold War to the present. This course will study terrorist organizations to understand the ideologies, cultures, structures and causative factors behind major movements. This course will also focus on U.S. Efforts to counter terrorism from the Cold War to the Global War on Terrorism.

Course Materials: The following textbook is required. Any additional readings and/or educational videos will be posted in Blackboard or can be accessed through the library online catalog.

(1) Understanding Terrorism: Challenges, Perspectives, and Issues / Edition: 6TH; Author: Gus Martin; ISBN: 978-1506385815 (readings referenced as Martin)

For more information on ordering the required text, visit the university bookstore webpage: <http://tamucc.bncollege.com>.

Website: Your class will be using the Blackboard platform. If you have trouble with your log-in to Backboard, please contact Island Online Support:

Hours of Operation: -- 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. Every day (U.S. Central)
By Phone: 361-825-2825 (Local); 1-866-353-2491 (Long Distance)
By E-mail: islandonline@tamucc.edu
Note: This syllabus is subject to change. Students will be notified of any changes via e-mail and the most recent edition of this course syllabus will be posted on the course Blackboard site.

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:
1. Demonstrate the ability to utilize tools and knowledge to explain the changing security landscape throughout the world with respect to terrorism and its causes.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of political, economic, and social causes of terrorism in diverse political systems through the use of theory, concepts, and case analysis.
3. Demonstrate the ability to identify and discuss the means and methods of terrorists and assess their impact on U.S. counterterrorism strategy.
4. Demonstrate the ability to evaluate a variety of U.S. Counterterrorism strategies and their impact on civil rights and democratic institutions.
5. Demonstrate the ability to critically analyze national counterterrorism strategy through written assignments and class discussion.

Course Requirements: Students may earn a total of 500 possible points throughout the course by completing the following assessments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Type</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Possible Point Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation Events</td>
<td>On-going, See Course Schedule</td>
<td>10 pts each for 150 pts total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>June 16th</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrorism Event Analysis Paper</td>
<td>June 30th</td>
<td>150 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>July 3rd</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>500 pts</td>
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Grading Scale:
A  90-100%  449-500 points
B  80-89%   398-448 points
C  70-79%   348-397 points
D  60-69%   298-347 points
F  59% and below  297 and below

All assignments must be turned in using the appropriate Blackboard assignment portal. Acceptance of late turn-ins or postings is at the sole discretion of the instructor. Points (10% per day) will be deducted for late assignments.

Class Participation Events [150 pts—30%] Discussion board posts will be used to engage students every week in this course. Participation in online discussions is very important as they make up 30% of your total grade in the course. In each of the CPE online discussions, you are required to post ONE response to the discussion topic and respond to at least TWO student or instructor posts for each discussion topic (THREE posts minimum per discussion topic). Responses to the initial questions must be posted before midnight of the first due date. Responses to subsequent student and instructor posts should be posted by the second due date. All students are expected to participate in the threaded discussions. The quality of your posts and responses will be evaluated to determine your discussion grade (10 points possible...
per discussion topic) and the rubric used to assess your grade for these assignments can be found in Blackboard under the “Rubrics” link.

Discussion posts and responses should be thorough, critical, and well written. Make sure to provide complete references (in APA) for authors you cite in the body of your response, including the textbook. When you are referring to specific information from the textbook, be sure to include the page number in your citation. Make sure references are correctly cited in APA, including websites. You need to provide the correct website link in APA so that it is easy for your classmates (and me) to locate. Whenever possible, apply textbook concepts to real world issues. I encourage you to provide examples and experiences from the real world; your own experiences, something you read in the news, etc. A more familiar, conversational tone is acceptable (unlike papers which require a more academic or professional tone). However, make sure to proofread your responses prior to posting. Look for spelling and grammatical errors. You are encouraged to critically examine what you read!

Midterm Exam [100 pts—20%] The Midterm Exam will consist of multiple-choice questions drawn from the required readings. The Midterm Exam will cover Chapters 1-7. The exams will be given in Blackboard. Each student will have 60 minutes to complete 50 randomly assigned multiple choice questions from a pool of around 150 possible questions. It is suggested that you utilize the online chapter quizzes (student resources for this book) to help you prepare for the exam.

Final Exam [100 pts—20% total Two Exams [20% each] The Final Exam will consist of multiple-choice questions drawn from the required readings. The Final Exam will cover Chapters 8-15. The exams will be given in Blackboard. Each student will have 60 minutes to complete 50 randomly assigned multiple choice questions from a pool of around 150 possible questions. It is suggested that you utilize the online chapter quizzes (student resources for this book) to help you prepare for the exam.

Terrorism Event Analysis Paper [150 pts—30%] Each student will prepare a written analysis (no less than) 8-12 pages double-spaced, typed pages of a terrorist attack against the United States or its NATO allies. Students can select any domestic or international terrorist event within the last 20 years. Students must submit a bibliography that includes a minimum of 12 scholarly references. This paper will be worth 30% of the final grade.

The analysis should include the following:

a) A brief description of the event and how it was handled;

b) A description of the terrorist organization including ideology, tactics and strategy, how they used the media, method of attack (bombing, assassination, arson), types of weapons used (explosives, trucks), selection of victims and targets, and other terrorist activities.

c) The number of human casualties and amount of property damage if known or other economic impact.

d) Identify two government organizations who responded to the attack. Identify who they were and how they were involved in response, recovery and US counterterrorism strategy.

e) Identify at least policy issue raised by this case (e.g., lack of airport security, lack of intelligence, lack of international cooperation)

f) Identify at least one strategy that was initiated by the US or other nation state in which the terrorist attack occurred to prevent such an attack from occurring in the future. (e.g. more stringent airport security, national identification cards).
g) Must include a bibliography using APA style format.
h) Paper must include at least 12 scholarly sources or references.

Additional Paper Guidelines

Ten percentage points deduction per day for late papers.

Format: Your paper should be double-spaced, 12-pt Times New Roman or 11-pt Calibri font with 1-inch margins all around. Failure to do so will result in an email asking you to reformat it, and hand it in again. It will be marked late and lose one letter-grade.

References or sources of information for papers must consist of scholarly (peer reviewed) articles or journals, government reports, or the readings for the class. On occasion assignments will necessitate agency websites, newspaper or magazine articles, but these types of sources should not constitute most of your sources. The use of Wikipedia or other Internet encyclopedia for any paper is not acceptable for graduate level work and will not be accepted.

For more information on APA style citations, access this useful guide:
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/

Attribution: You must give proper attribution to another author’s work you are citing. This means that in parentheses you should place the author’s last name and the page from which you are citing at the end of the sentence. When you use a direct quote, paraphrase or refer to a specific page or section of the textbook you must include a page number in the citation. I expect quotations marks for direct quotes. Use quotes sparingly; rely mostly on your own words. Long quotations, more than two lines, should be indented 1 inch on the left and right and treated as a block quote. Excessive use of quotes will result in a reduction in points as they are not your own words and thus do not count toward your page requirements. I recommend no more than three long direct quotes per paper. Please use the APA guidelines for your works cited page. Please note the examples below for in text citations.

Quote: “Several recent studies have confirmed the idea that women are more likely to vote for women candidates than are men” (Dolan, 2004 p.14).

Non-Quote: Prior research has provided evidence to support the long-held notion that women are more likely than men to vote for women candidates (Dolan, 2004).

Grammar, Punctuation, Construction and other mistakes: I expect you to proofread your paper and I encourage you to write more than one draft.

Formal Writing: Contractions should be avoided in formal writing unless it is part of a quote.

Passive Voice: Avoid using passive voice; the subject should be performing the action.

Example of Passive: Candidate image is often considered by voters.

Revised non-passive: Voters often consider candidate image.

Writing is a process, and improvement takes time and practice. If you are receiving feedback on
assignments that your work does not meet graduate-level expectations, you should make an appointment with the TAMUCC Writing Center and begin working with them to improve your writing skills. Please note that the Writing Center will not edit your work for you, they will work with you to identify your own errors. More than likely you will need multiple sessions with the Writing Center to see improvement.

**Course Policies:**

1. In order for us, as a class, to maturely discuss controversial issues you must respect the opinions and values held by others. Disagreement is allowed. Disrespect will not be tolerated.

2. Do not cheat or plagiarize. I will strongly enforce the University's academic misconduct policies (for more information see section on academic misconduct). Collaboration or discussion about individual assignments with other persons other than your instructor or other persons approved by your instructor is considered cheating.

3. I will regularly post information (grades, assignment information, announcements, etc.) on the course website. Please check this on a regular basis.

**Nettiquette:** When you contact me via e-mail make sure to include your first, last name, and course name or number. Knowing this information will make it easier (and quicker) for me to respond to your e-mail. Every e-mail should have an appropriate subject title and should be from your Islander email account. I will not respond to emails sent from personal email accounts. If you do not get a reply after two business days (not counting weekends) then make sure you followed these basic netiquette rules before contacting me again. I will ignore unprofessional e-mails.

**Attendance:** Class Participation Events will be used to count attendance twice each week. I will not drop any students from my roster for non-attendance.

**Late Assignments:** I only accept late assignments with a valid university excuse, additional documentation such as a doctor’s excuse, or for a reduced assignment grade. Late submissions will be subject to a ten-percent points deduction per day late.

**Texas A&M University Corpus Christi Policies:**

**Disabilities Accommodations**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**Academic Advising**

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Degree plans are prepared in the CLA Academic Advising Center. The
University uses an online Degree Audit system. Any amendment must be approved by the Department Chair and the Office of the Dean. All courses and requirements specified in the final degree plan audit must be completed before a degree will be granted. The CLA Academic Advising Office is located in Driftwood #203. For more information please call 361-825-3466.

**Dropping a Class**

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. **Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course.** Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. June 21st is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of "W" this term. View the academic calendar for a full detailed schedule of events for the semester, if necessary.

**Grade Appeals**

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, **Student Grade Appeals**, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.03, **Student Grade Appeals**. These documents are accessible online at: [http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf](http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/rules_procedures/assets/13.02.99.C0.03_student_grade_appeals.pdf). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Associate Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught. For complete details on the process of submitting a formal grade appeal in CLA, please visit the College of Liberal Arts website, [http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html](http://cla.tamucc.edu/about/student-resources.html).

**Classroom/professional behavior**

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

**Academic Integrity/Plagiarism**

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. **Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms**
of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a ‘0’ on the assignment in question and a warning from the professor for the first offense. The second offense will result in an ‘F’ in the course a referral to the university for further disciplinary action.

**Academic Honesty/Plagiarism**

**Definition:** In an instructional setting, plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else’s language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source. Plagiarism is a violation of academic expectations, but it is sometimes difficult to understand what plagiarism actually is. Often, students commit unintentional plagiarism (not citing sources properly, for example), because they are unaware of the standards that apply. Plagiarism includes:

- Using the work of another as your own,
- Downloading or purchasing ready-made essays off the web and using them as your own,
- Using resource materials without correct documentation,
- Using the organization or language of a source without using quote marks and proper citation.
- Turning in a researched project without citing sources in an appropriate documentation style.

When you are confused about citation of quotes or ideas, please visit the Writing Center or me to get help. Information on APA documentation rules is available at Purdue University’s OWL: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/, and from our local Writing Center at CASA.

**Statement of Academic Continuity**

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.
Course Schedule:

This syllabus and course schedule are subject to change. Any changes will be announced via a Blackboard course message.

Class 1: Wednesday, June 5th:

   Introductions and overview of course expectations and materials
   Terrorism: First Impressions—Martin Chapter 01

   Submit Introduction Discussion Forum Post and Class Participation Event 01
   before midnight on 06/05/19

Class 2: Friday, June 7th:

   The Nature of the Beast: Defining Terrorism—Martin Chapter 02
   Beginnings: The Causes of Terrorism—Martin Chapter 03

   Submit Class Participation Event 02 and 03 before midnight on 06/07/19

Class 3: Wednesday, June 12th:

   Terror from Above: Terrorism by the State—Martin Chapter 04
   Terror from Above: Terrorism by Dissidents—Martin Chapter 05

   Submit Class Participation Event 04 and 05 before midnight on 06/12/19

Class 4: Friday, June 14th:

   Violence in the Name of the Faith: Religious Terrorism—Martin Chapter 06
   Violent Ideologies: Terrorism from the Left and Right—Martin Chapter 07

   Submit Class Participation Event 06 and 07 before midnight on 06/14/19

   Midterm Exam must be completed and submitted in Blackboard before midnight on
   06/16/2019
Class 5: Wednesday, June 19th:
  - Terrorist Spillovers: International Terrorism—Martin Chapter 08
  - Emerging Terrorist Environments—Martin Chapter 09

  *Submit Class Participation Event 08 and 09 before midnight on 06/19/19*

Class 6: Friday, June 21st:
  - Tools of the Trade: Tactics and Targets of Terrorists—Martin Chapter 10
  - The Information Battleground: The Role of the Media—Martin Chapter 11

  *Submit Class Participation Event 10 and 11 before midnight on 06/21/19*

Class 3: Wednesday, June 26th:
  - The American Case: Terrorism in the United States—Martin Chapter 12
  - Counterterrorism: The Options—Martin Chapter 13

  *Submit Class Participation Event 12 and 13 before midnight on 06/26/19*

Class 8: Friday, June 28th:
  - A New Era: Homeland Security—Martin Chapter 14
  - What’s Next? The Future of Terrorism—Martin Chapter 15

  *Submit Class Participation Event 14 and 15 before midnight on 06/28/19*

  *Submit Terrorism Event Analysis Paper before midnight on 06/30/19*

Final Class: Thursday, July 3rd:

  *Final Exam must be completed and submitted in Blackboard before midnight on 07/03/2019*