

UMBC UGC New Course Request: HIST208: Global Terrorism

Date Submitted: 3/8/2016

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2016

	Name	Email	Phone	Dept
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COURSE INFORMATION:

Course Number(s)	HIST 208
Formal Title	Global Terrorism
Transcript Title (≤30c)	Global Terrorism
Recommended Course Preparation	NA
Prerequisite NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.	NA
Credits	3
Repeatable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Max. Total Credits	<small>This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade.</small>
Grading Method(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (no longer than 75 words):

This course provides a survey of the post-world War II upsurge of domestic and international terrorism. It examines the nature of, reasons for and consequences of terrorism. We will also study the nature and consequences of counter-terrorism.

RATIONALE FOR NEW COURSE:

This course has been taught several times as a topics course (HIST 200). Because topics courses cannot receive GEP credit, we are moving all our HIST200 topic courses to their own numbers. This is the last one, for the moment anyway. It will be taught every couple of years, depending what other faculty members are available to teach one of the former HIST200s. The course is a required course (HIST 200 was required), and now the individual courses are, so one is taught every semester. We put it at the 200 level to indicate that it is not quite our lowest level course, but it is not meant to be an upper-level course. Dr. Howard Smead is a long term adjunct, who teaches courses as needed. This course, which is very popular, is one of his favorites.

ATTACH COURSE OUTLINE (mandatory):

See attached.

HIST208 GLOBAL TERRORISM

Instructor:

Dr. Howard Smead

Phone:

410-455-2045

Email:

smead@umbc.edu

Office Location:

527 N Fine Arts Bldg.

Office Hours:

T/Th 10–11:15pm; & by appt.

From President Bush’s September 20, 2001 speech:

“We have seen their kind before. They are the heirs of all the murderous ideologies of the 20th century. By sacrificing human life to serve their radical visions — by abandoning every value except the will to power — they follow in the path of fascism, and Nazism, and totalitarianism. And they will follow that path all the way, to where it ends: in history's unmarked grave of discarded lies.”

Course Overview

FALL 2016 (0101)

Information Technology xxx

T/Th 11:30am – 12:45pm

GEP/GFR: Meets SS

Terrorism is the intentional use of violence or threat of violence usually against civilians and noncombatants by private individuals or groups, acting with or without state sponsorship, to intimidate, persuade, influence or destroy.

The UMD’s “Global Terrorism Database defines a terrorist attack as *the threatened or actual use of illegal force and violence by a non-state actor to attain a political, economic, religious, or social goal through fear, coercion, or intimidation.*”

Course Description: This course provides a survey of the post-world War II upsurge of domestic and international terrorism. It examines the nature of, reasons for and consequences of terrorism. It also looks at the nature and consequences of counter-terrorism.

Course Purpose: This course has several goals. First, it will provide students with an overview of the history of terrorism during the 20th and 21st centuries. It will also present students with a history of the causes and consequences of terrorism in several different settings: Russia, Western Europe, the U.S. and the Middle East. Last, it will present students with an in-depth examination of the nature of Arab terrorism since the 1970s, with the ultimate goals of challenging students to develop critical thinking of this subject in its present and historic context.

Course requirements:

There will be a total of SIX graded assignments/exams.

- 1) Two Hour Exams
- 2) Two Reaction Essays of 500-750-words each any assigned reading up to that date.
Due dates: 1st reaction paper, (*Before 1st Hour Exam*)
2nd reaction paper, (*Before 2nd Hour Exam*)
- 3) Terrorism Journal: A compilation of your written reactions and thoughts about the various topics and ideas presented and discussed this semester. This assignment will be handed-in at the end of the semester and will take the form of a written essay, possibly broken into various topics as you see fit. **I will discuss the exact format in class.**

4) Final Exam

Course Grading Percentages:

Exam I	15%
Exam II	15%
Reaction Papers	20% (10% each)
Journal	15%
Final Exam	25%

All exams are Essay and Identification.

Attendance Expectations:

- You are expected to attend all class sessions.
- There is no specific grade for class participation, but active involvement in the class sessions in the form of questions, observations, and other contributions will have a positive affect on your course grade.

Required Texts

Charles W. Townshend, *Terrorism: a Very Short Introduction* (978-0-19-960394-7)

Martin Bunton, *The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict: a Very Short Introduction* (978-0-19-960393-0)

Recommended texts

Bruce Hoffman, *Inside Terrorism, 2nd edition* (0-231-12699-9)

Michael Burleigh, *Blood & Rage* (978-0-06-117385-1)

Resources

UMD START Program: Global Terrorism Database: <http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/>

UMBC Center for Cybersecurity: <http://cybersecurity.umbc.edu/>

Other Useful Websites: <http://www.pbs.org/americaresponds/>

<http://www.investigativeproject.org/>

www.terrorism.com

<http://www2.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/sept11/>

Weekly Lecture Topics

Course Introduction:

Terrorism 101: Common threads:

- [Planned Parenthood, Colorado Springs](#) (11/27/15)
- [San Bernardino](#) (12/2/15)
- [Paris](#) (11/13/15)
- [Charlie Hebdo \(2014\)](#)
- [Weather Underground \(1970s\)](#)
- [Ku Klux Klan](#)
- [Beirut, Lebanon, 1983](#)
- [Claude Neal Lynching \(1934\)](#)
- [London bombing 2007](#)
- [Abortion clinic bombings \(1980s\)](#)
- [King David Hotel bombing, 1946](#)
- [Baruch Goldstein Massacre \(2/25/94\)](#)
- [Mumbai, India, 2008](#)
- [Aum Shimrikyo](#)

—[September 11, 2001](#)

Terrorism 102: What is terrorism?

Reading: Townshend, chapters 1-2

Erin Miller (START), [Is This Terrorism? / Why Does It Matter?](#)

Michael Kinsley, “[Defining Terrorism](#)”

Adam Roberts, [The Changing Faces of Terrorism](#)

Max Boot, [“The Evolution of Irregular War”](#) (excellent historical overview)

Scott

Stewart, “[Terrorism Tradecraft, part 1, part 2](#)”

Terrorism 103: Religion and terrorism

Reading: Townshend, Chapter 6

Jack R. Fischel, [“Face-to-Face with Terror: Jessica Stern’s *Terror in the Name of God*”](#)

Terrorism 104: Is terrorism justifiable?

Just War Theory

RealPolitik

Pacifism

Reading: [“Just War Theory”](#) (brief overview)

[“Just War Theory.com”](#) (a messy website with much detailed information and a comparison of the three approaches above.

Video: [“You Can’t Handle the Truth”](#) from “A Few Good Men”

Barack Obama’s [Nobel Peace Prize Acceptance Speech](#)

Terrorism 105: Why people become terrorists

Reading: Martha Crenshaw, [“The Causes of Terrorism”](#)

Bruce Hoffman, [“Why Terrorism Works”](#)

Terrorism 106: Methods of New Terrorism:

—Biological chemical weapons

—Nuclear/radiological bombs

—Cyberterrorism/cyberwarfare

Reading: Federation of American Scientists, [“Introduction to Biological Weapons”](#)

[“Assessing the Bioweapons Threat”](#)

Nuclear blast maps: <http://www.nuclearterror.org/blastmaps.html>

Video (recommended): [Dirty War](#) (BBC movie about a radiological bomb attack on London)

Film: [“The Battle of Algiers”](#) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-7j4WVTgWc>

“Terrorism is useful as a start. Then the people themselves must act.”

Stages of violence:

Terrorism

Insurrection

Guerrilla Warfare

Open Warfare

Reading: [Ethics on Film: Discussion of the “Battle of Algiers”](#)

International Terrorism: the modern era:

—Jacobins

—[Russia](#)

—IRA (moved to Feb 29)

Reading: Townshend, chapters 3, 4

Maximilien Robespierre: "[Justification of the Use of Terror](#)"

Video: [IRA documentary](#)

International Terrorism in the 1960s & 70s:

Advocates: —Frantz Fanon
—Carlos Marighella
—Che Guevara
—Regis Debray

Actions: —IRA
— Red Brigades, Baader Meinhof
— Carlos the Jackal
— Tupamaros

Reading: Townshend, chapter 4

[The Gun Speaks \(Baader Meinhof\)](#)

Recommended: [Red Brigades](#) (Stanford University source)

[TED Talk about Red Brigades](#)

Domestic American Terrorism:

Leftist —Left Wing ideology
—Weather Underground
—Symbionese Liberation Army
—Black Panthers
—Black Liberation Army
—Unabomber

Reading: Ron Jacobs, [The Way the Wind Blew](#) (history of the Weather Underground)

[Black Panthers and Guns](#)

Bryan Burroughs, [Days of Rage \(excerpt\)](#) (BLA)

Howard Smead, [Civil Disorder](#) (America's violent heritage)

[The Violent 60s](#)

Alton Chase, [Harvard and the Making of the Unabomber](#)

Rightist—Right Wing ideology
—Christian Militia Movements, KKK, Aryan Nation, the Order
—Oklahoma City
—Oregon Standoff

Leaderless resistance: Eric Rudolph, Benjamin Smith

Reading: [START: Fact Sheet on Far-Right Violence](#)

[START: Far-right Violence in the United States: 1990-2010](#)

[The Malheur Occupation \(Oregon Standoff\)](#)

The Southern Poverty Law Center:

[The Oklahoma City Bombing and the Politics of Fear](#)

[Hate and Extremism](#)

[Map of Hate Groups](#)

[Militia \(Patriot\) Movement](#)

Video (recommended): [Timothy McVeigh biography — documentary](#)

The Middle East:

—The Arab Empires
—Zionism and the Origins of the Palestinian Crisis
—Haganah, Irgun, the Stern Gang

Reading: Martin Bunton, The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict

Video: [History of the Palestinian Crisis told from both Israeli and Palestinian points of view.](#)
[“Crisis Guide: The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict](#)

Middle Eastern Terrorism:

- PLO
- Abu Nidal Organization

Reading: [Why the Arab World Fights](#)

Anthony Cordesman, overview of Middle Eastern terrorism in: [“The Right Reaction to the Murders in Benghazi”](#)
[Mapping Militant Organizations](#) (Stanford Univ.)

Crisis of Arab Islam:

- Muslim Brotherhood
- 1979: a Turning Point
- Salafism, Wahhabism
- Hezbollah, Hamas
- “What Went Wrong?”

Reading: Townshend, chapter 6

[Hamas](#) (brief history of Hamas, “Islamic Resistance Movement”)
[9 questions about Saudi Arabia you were too embarrassed to ask](#) (explains Wahhabism)
[Islam: The Empire of Faith](#)
Bernard Lewis, [“What Went Wrong?”](#)

Interactive Map: [A History of Conquest](#)

Al-Qaeda, Osama bin Laden:

- Survey of major attacks against U.S. from the 80s – 9/11
- Osama (Usama) bin Laden
- al Qaeda (al Qaida)
- Anthrax Attacks

From President Obama’s statement on the death of Osama bin Laden May 2, 2011:

“Tonight, I can report to the American people and to the world that the United States has conducted an operation that killed Osama bin Laden, the leader of al Qaeda, and a terrorist who’s responsible for the murder of thousands of innocent men, women, and children... For over two decades, bin Laden has been al Qaeda’s leader and symbol, and has continued to plot attacks against our country and our friends and allies. The death of bin Laden marks the most significant achievement to date in our nation’s effort to defeat al Qaeda ... As we do, we must also reaffirm that the United States is not – and never will be – at war with Islam. I’ve made clear, just as President Bush did shortly after 9/11 that our war is not against Islam. Bin Laden was not a Muslim leader; he was a mass murderer of Muslims. Indeed, al Qaeda has slaughtered scores of Muslims in many countries, including our own. So his demise should be welcomed by all who believe in peace and human dignity.”

Reading: [9/11 Commission Report: Executive Summary](#)

<http://www2.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/sept11/>

<http://www.pbs.org/americaresponds/>

[al Qaeda](#)

[The Account of How We Nearly Caught Osama bin Laden in 2001.](#)

[“Getting bin Laden”](#) (NY’er article)

[Months before U.S. raid, bin Laden considered leaving Pakistan compound](#)

Video: [“Al Qaeda’s New Front” \(Frontline on Radical Islam\)](#) part 1, part 2

[VICE documentary the Islamic State in the Levant \(ISIL\), ISIS \(Syria\)](#)

Recommended: [Osama Bin Laden - The Finish](#)

Bush Doctrine; Afghanistan & Iraq:

Reading: [The Bush Administration's Doctrine of Preemption \(and Prevention\): When, How, Where? Policy Implications of the Bush Doctrine on Preemption](#)

[A Brief History of the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan](#)

[Timeline of Afghanistan War](#)

[Timeline of Iraq War](#)

“The Islamic State” ISIS, ISIL, IS:

Reading: [What ISIS Really Wants](#)

[“You Can’t understand ISIS if You Don’t Know the History of Wahhabism in Saudi Arabia”](#)

[Isis: a](#)

[History](#) (Contains excellent short video)

[Paris Attacks](#)

Audio: [Jessica Stern and J.M. Berger: “ISIS: The State Of Terror”](#)

Causes of Terrorism:

—Huntington or Fukuyama?

—Why do they hate us?

—Globalization

—Neo-Conservatism

Reading: Samuel P. Huntington, [“Clash of Civilizations”](#)

[“Jihad Against Jews and Crusaders,”](#) (1998)

[This is why they hate us: The truth about the roots of Muslim extremism](#)

Video: [Huntington Interview with Charlie Rose](#)

Counter-terrorism/Drones:

Reading: Townshend, chapter 7

[Cluster Bombs](#)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/15/world/middleeast/new-report-of-us-made-cluster-bomb-use-by-saudis-in-yemen.html>“Robots at War”

[“The moral hazard of drones”](#)

[US Terrorism from the Skies](#)

[Done bases in U.S.](#)

Video: [Drone attack explained \(military briefing\)](#)

Civil Liberties:

— USA Patriot Act

— Torture

— Abu Graib

— Guantanamo Bay

Reading: [A Guide to the Patriot Act](#)

Mark Bowden, [“The Dark Art of Interrogation”](#)

[Geneva Conventions Common Article 3](#)

Please note:

1. To earn an A- grade in this course, you must have a course GPA of 89.5% (A-) or better.
2. There will be no make-up exams without a written excuse.

3. Brief quizzes may be given from time to time throughout the semester, but will always be announced ahead of time.
4. Absolutely NO extra credit under any circumstances.

Make-up Policy: I will offer make-up examinations for the hour exams and the final examination, but only if arrangements for a make-up are made by midnight the day the examination is scheduled. If you miss the hour exams or final and have not notified me in advance, you may not take a makeup and will earn 0 points for the missed exam. Warning: I am strict about this policy.

Academic Integrity: By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC's scholarly community in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct will result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, suspension or dismissal. To read the full Student Academic Conduct Policy, consult the UMBC Student Handbook, the Faculty Handbook, or the UMBC Policies section of the UMBC Directory.

→ Please be advised that the penalty for academic dishonesty—including plagiarism and other forms of cheating—in any UMBC History Department course is an "F" for the course. ALL cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Academic Conduct Committee.

→ All students in this course, including graduate students, MUST take the online tutorial on plagiarism and CONFIRM IN WRITING TO ME that they have taken the tutorial. By signing you are further acknowledging that you will not turn in any paper or assignment written for another course or publication without explicit written permission from me.

<http://library.acadiau.ca/tutorials/plagiarism/>

GEP SS:

This course meets the Social Science General Education Program. The Social Sciences seek to understand attitudes, beliefs, and social behaviors of individuals, groups, and institutions, and identify factors that influence them, both past and present. GEP courses in the Social Sciences enable students to:

- critically evaluate research regarding the complex interplay of individuals, groups, and institutions;
- understand the strengths and weaknesses of, and be able to apply research methods within, the many fields of social sciences;
- provide insight into the development and implementation of programs and policies designed to improve people's lives.

The course is designed to help students develop competencies for Oral and Written Communication and Critical Analysis and Reasoning. These include understanding and applying both the verbal and nonverbal aspects of communication by utilizing fundamental rhetorical strategies and conventions, acknowledging and documenting sources used to support an argument, formulating questions and problems, evaluating various methods of reasoning, and constructing cogent arguments, providing supporting evidence, articulating reasoned judgments, and drawing appropriate conclusions.