Political Science 319
Terrorism
Fall Semester 2013
Monday and Wednesday, 9:55 am – 10:45 am
Social Science 6102

Professor: Andrew Kydd
Email: kydd@wisc.edu
Office: North Hall 322c
Office Hours: Monday, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

TA: Annie Anderson
Email: ao.anderson033@gmail.com
Office: TA office, first floor, North Hall
Office Hours: Friday, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

**Topic:** This course will introduce the student to the subject of terrorism. The course will cover the causes of terrorism, the goals and strategies pursued by terrorist groups, the extent to which terrorism succeeds in achieving its goals, the potential for terrorism with weapons of mass destruction, counterterrorism and counterinsurgency, and the normative debate about torture in the context of terrorism.

**Requirements:** The grade will be based on the following elements.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section Participation</td>
<td></td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prospectus</td>
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<td>5%</td>
<td>October 7, in class</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Draft</td>
<td></td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>November 25, in class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Draft</td>
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<td>15%</td>
<td>December 11, in class</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>40%</td>
<td>December 19, 2:45-4:45 pm</td>
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**Section participation**

The participation grade will be a combination of showing up and contributing to the discussion. We expect that every student has done all the reading, and the TA may call on students at random to summarize readings. Full credit will be given for comments that indicate that the student has done the reading and reflected on it.
The Paper Project

The paper will take one of the topics we cover in class as a starting point and develop an argument with both theoretical and empirical aspects. The paper must have four components. First, a question derived from the course, such as “what motivates terrorists,” or “is terrorism successful?” Second, an argument or claim, such as “terrorists are not rational” or “religious motivations are necessary for suicide bombing.” Third, a discussion of the relevant theoretical literature or debate on the question, both supporting your point of view and presenting alternatives. Fourth, a discussion of some empirical cases that support your point of view as opposed to the relevant alternatives. The articles in the Brown et al. volume may be taken as role models. The paper must make reference to at least three serious sources not found on the syllabus. By serious we mean either an academic article or book, or a government document.

A one page prospectus of the paper will be due in class on October 7th so that we can make sure you are on the right track. A first draft is due on November 25th. This should be a complete draft of the entire paper. Feedback will be provided by the TA to guide revision of the final paper. The finished papers should be around 4,000 words long and will be due on December 11th. The word count does not include the reference list.

Format for Written Work

All written work must have a title page including the title of the document (your project title), your name, the date, the name of the class, the professor and TA’s names, and the type of assignment it is, (one page prospectus, first draft, or final paper). The pages must be numbered. References are to be done with American Political Science Association (APSA) system. The last page in the document should be the reference list. For information on writing and formatting references, see the UW Writing Center website, particularly, their writer’s handbook, where you can find information about proper citing and the APSA system.


Submitting Written Work

All documents must be submitted to the appropriate dropbox on the learn@uw site for the course. The name of the document must be your last name, followed by 1 for the paper proposal, 2 for the first draft and 3 for the final paper, followed by the relevant document suffix. For instance, Smith’s first draft would be named Smith2.docx.

This serves as your notice for proper format and documentation. Documents not meeting these standards will be marked down accordingly with no appeal.
Readings: The following books are available at the bookstore.


Consider Gottlieb book of essays.

Readings not found in these books are available on-line at the learn@uw website for the course. Go to [https://learnuw.wisc.edu/](https://learnuw.wisc.edu/) and log in. The course should be visible there, click on it and then on the content.
Course Outline:

Week 0: September 4  Introduction

Week 1: September 9, 11  9/11

(Available at http://govinfo.library.unt.edu/911/report/index.htm)

Week 2: September 16, 18  Jihad


Week 3: September 23, 25  Political Economic Factors I


Week 4: Sept. 30, Oct 2  Political Economic Factors II


Week 5: October 7, 9  The Strategic Approach

Paper Prospectus Due in Class, October 7.


**Week 6: October 14, 16  Suicide Bombing**


**Week 7: October 21, 23  Terrorism with WMD**


**Week 8: October 28, 30  How Great is the Threat?**


**Week 9: November 4, 6  Counterterrorism I**


Week 10: November 11, 13  Counterterrorism: The Cost Factor

(Professor Kydd out of town)


Week 11: November 18, 20  Counterinsurgency


Week 12: November 25  The Torture Debate

First Draft of Paper Due in Class November 25.


No Class on Wednesday, November 27

Week 13: December 2, 4  How Terrorism Ends


Week 14: December 9, 11  The Hunt for Bin Laden

Final Draft of Paper Due in Class, December 11.

Final Exam: Thursday, December 19, 2:45-4:45 pm. Room TBA.