

# INR 3084-0001 Terror & Politics

Instructor: Kimberly Frugè

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Course Code: INR 3084 - 0001

Office: Bellamy 543

Meeting Time: M-F 3:35PM - 4:50PM

Office Hours: TR 2:00-3:15 PM

Meeting Place: Bellamy 0115

or by appointment

## Course Description

This course will introduce students to the use of terror by dissidents and to a lesser extent the government. Students will be introduced to current theories and concepts related to the study of the use of terror. Further, because many students have limited exposure to important cases of terrorism, we investigate some prominent historical and contemporary cases of terrorism.

In addition to course content, I hope that students will further develop skills that will be useful regardless of futures beyond FSU. Specifically, I will emphasize the importance of thinking analytically and critically, writing and being able to verbally make an argument that is logically sound.

Objectives of the course are the following:

- Identify and explain different theories and concepts related to the use of terror.
- Determine and analyze different characteristics that make individuals more susceptible to becoming terrorist and states more susceptible to be a target of terrorism.
- Integrate the concepts and theories learned in class to analyze different terrorism or non-terrorism events, the successfulness of that event, the counter-terrorism strategies used, and the successfulness of those counter-terrorism strategies.

## Required Text

There is no required textbook for this class. However students might find the following textbooks helpful when processing the material.

Hoffman, Bruce. *Inside Terrorism*. Rev. ed. NY: Columbia University Press, 2006.

Nacos, Brigitte L. *Terrorism and Counterterrorism*. Routledge, 2016.

The readings for these class are from academic journals, which FSU has access to for free. These readings will be posted on the course site, but can also be found through the library databases. I will notify you of any changes to the reading in class or by university email.

## Course Evaluation

Your grade in this course is comprised of a midterm (25% each), final (25%), journal (20%), elevator speech (10%), and participation (20%).

The grading scale for this class is as follows:

Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage	Grade	Percentage
B+	89 - 87%	A	100 - 93%	A-	92 - 90%
C+	79 - 77%	B	86 - 83%	B-	82 - 80%
D+	69 - 67%	C	76 - 73%	C-	72 - 70%
		D	66 - 63%	D-	62 - 60%
		F	59 - 0%		

Grades will be rounded to the nearest whole number. (For example, 79.4 will be counted as a 79 and an 89.5 will be counted as a 90.)

## Exams

Both exams will contain short- and long-answer questions and an essay about the readings and lectures covered before the exam. Though the final is not comprehensive, understanding the material covered before can be beneficial to answering questions on the final exam.

A week before each exam, I will upload 3 potential essay questions for students to prepare, one of these will be the essay question on the exam.

The midterm exam is on **June 1, 2017**.

The final exam is on **June 23, 2017**.

## Participation

Participation will count for 20% of your total grade. Students are expected to be prepared, in class, and on time every day. The class participation grade will be based on your contributions to class discussion. For the most part, discussion will be open, allowing for anyone to participate at anytime. However, if discussion is not moving along I will call on people randomly. If you are not prepared when called on, you lose participation points for that day. In addition, I reserve the right to give random quizzes to the class when discussion is slow.

All simulations and though experiments done in class will also count towards your participation grade. These days will be announced in advance and attendance is required. Rubrics will be uploaded to the course website before the simulations to outline the requirements.

## Journal

Each student is required to turn in 10 journal entries, but can chose to turn in a maximum of 15. Journal entries are 3/4 to 1-page single spaced papers on the topics outline. There are six required journal entries but the other 4-9 topics are at the discretion of the student as long as it fits within the journal categories.

The five required entries are:

- May 16: Define Terrorism
- May 26: What condition is most important in facilitating terrorism, in your opinion? Why?
- May 31: Can the state be a terrorist?
- June 9: Discuss a tactic used by terrorist that is not discussed in class.
- June 15: Discuss a counter-terrorism strategy and it's advantages and disadvantages.
- June 19: Oklahoma City Documentary

Students can also write journal entries on movies and terrorism (movie must be approved), current events, outlines of readings, etc. A full outline of the assignment can be found in the rubric on canvas.

Students can choose to write journal entries early and turn them in for feedback before the final due date. See rubric for further instructions on turning journal entries in early.

## Elevator Speech

Each student will be required to do a 3-minute elevator pitch followed by a short session of question and answer. Students can pair up with one other student and work together or can chose to do this assignment alone. For students who pair up, one student will be in charge of giving a pitch about a terrorist organizations while the other is required to do a pitch about that organization's most famous attack.

Students who decide to work alone will randomly be assigned either an organizations or a terrorist activity. Random assignment will be done by me, however I will allow students to trade amongst themselves.

## Course Policies

**Excused Absences:** Excused absences are defined by the University's Attendance Policy, which states a student is excused if there is a "documented illness, deaths in the family and

other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.” For scheduled excused absences, please see me before the missed class to make arrangements.

**Make-up Exams:** I have a no questions asked early exam policy, which means that any exam can be taken early for any reason. However, only exams missed due to excused absences will be eligible for students to take at a later date. Students who are aware that they will miss an exam or have missed one due to an emergency are responsible for contacting the instructor to arrange a new exam date at least a week before the exam for planned occasions and in a timely manner for emergencies.

**Classroom Behavior:** Students should be respectful of others and refrain from behaving in a disruptive manner, including talking/texting on cell phone, speaking out of turn, reading non-class material, entering (leaving) class late (early), watching netflix, etc.. When class permits itself to discussion, students should also be courteous to others opinions and backgrounds. Personal attacks or discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, religion, and/or lifestyle will not be tolerated. If a student fails to follow any of these behavior guidelines they will be asked to leave, and any persistent behavior can result in the removal of that student from the course.

**Incompletes:** Incompletes will be determined on an individual basis and generally will only be granted in extreme cases at the discretion of the instructor and in consultation with the Dean of Student/Dean of the College of Social Sciences. Please see me as soon as possible to determine the correct course of action to handle any major situations regarding this course and/or taking an incomplete.

**Cheating:** Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. Any violation of the Academic Honor Policy will be referred to the Dean of Students and will result in a zero for the assignment or the course at my discretion.

**Technology:** Technology will play a large role throughout the course of this class, however there is an appropriate time and place. Throughout the course of the semester we will watch a number of videos, look at data, news articles and other online sources. Technology in the classroom gives of the privilege of understanding complex ideas/relationships by introducing a visual component to learning. That being said, cell phones and personal laptops do not contribute to classroom success and generally act as distractions. Very limited circumstances call for you to need your cell phone in class therefore please keep your phone on silent, preferably off, and put away. Laptops also have many opportunities to distract not only you but the students around you as well. Given that many students like to take notes on laptops they will be permitted in class (if this becomes a problem it is subject to change). There will be moments that lend themselves to discussion and/or a video. I respectfully ask that during these times, since notes generally will not need to be taken, you please shut your laptop and participate.

**Getting Help:** Office hours can be very beneficial to further your success in this course. This can range from preparing for class, studying for exams, completing assignments, and understanding course material. However, though I am a valuable resource I am not the only resource available to you. On-campus tutoring and writing assistance is available for many courses at FSU. For more information, visit the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) Tutoring Services' comprehensive list of on-campus tutoring options - see <http://ace.fsu.edu/tutoring> or contact [tutor@fsu.edu](mailto:tutor@fsu.edu). High-quality tutoring is available by appointment and on a walk-in basis. These services are offered by tutors trained to encourage the highest level of individual academic success while upholding personal academic integrity. For writing assignments if tutors submit a signed and stamp notice that you met with them and helped you revise your paper, I will not take points off for grammar and misspelling (These tutors must be provided through FSU services).

## College Policies

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations should: (1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC); and (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating that you need academic accommodations and what type. This should be done within the first week of class. This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request. For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact:

Student Disability Resource Center  
874 Traditions Way  
108 Student Services Building  
Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167  
(850) 644-9566 (voice)  
(850) 644-8504 (TDD)  
[sdrc@admin.fsu.edu](mailto:sdrc@admin.fsu.edu)  
<http://www.disabilitycenter.fsu.edu>

**FSU Academic Honesty Code:** The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to "...be honest and truthful and... [to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University." (See the Florida State University Academic Honor Policy for more information.)

**Syllabus Change Policy:** Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.

