IAS 5940-504: Topics in International Studies: International Terrorism

Course Description:

While the concept of terrorism is not new to the West, the period since the 1970s embodies terrorism that is distinctly different in style and overall effect from anything previously experienced. This “modern terrorism” has evolved quickly over the past few decades and has, since the al Qaeda attacks of 9/11, been of particular importance to not only the United States but to many other countries around the world.

Terrorist organizations have spread across borders and their ideas and goals have been taken up by like-minded organizations, linked by a common ideology. It is these trans-national organizations that have created the relatively new phenomenon of international terrorism. How has terrorism changed? What effect does the psychology of terrorism have on the free societies of the West and elsewhere? The course will attempt to answer these questions and develop an understanding of the fundamental reasons that terrorism has been effective, at times.

Course Dates:

January 7 – April 17, 2019
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: December 4, 2018

Site Director:

This is a three-credit hour online course. Please see your local Site Director or email our online site coordinator at aponline@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Lieutenant-Colonel Bruce Barnes (RCAF, retired)
E-mail Address: Bruce.P.Barnes-1@ou.edu
Virtual Office Hours: By appointment
Professor availability: The professor will be available via email to students during the above listed Virtual Office Hours and other methods by arrangement.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:

Student materials are available at the OU Bookstore Website at https://ou.textbookx.com/institutional/index.php. There is no longer a physical bookstore, the store will remain, but textbooks will not be stocked. The website has book selling, renting, buying, returning, and order tracking capabilities. If you need help with an order, or if you have any questions contact the toll-free phone at 1-(855)-790-6637, agents are available from 9a – 5p (EST) Monday – Friday. For more information or questions about textbooks, feel free to contact apsyllabi@ou.edu. Text prices are available online

3. Materials posted on the OU Canvas learning management system: Additional “On-Line Readings” are provided by the instructor and posted on the Canvas modules page. Access Canvas at
https://canvas.ou.edu, enter your OU NetID and password, and select course to access material. If you require assistance with Canvas, please click on the Help icon. You can search the Canvas guides, chat with Canvas support, or contact OU IT.

OU Email:
All official correspondence from instructors will be sent only to students’ ou.edu address.

Online Learning Resource Center:
The College of Arts and Sciences offers an online orientation for students who are enrolled in online or blended courses. The purpose of the orientation is to ensure that students are well prepared both technically and practically to take online courses. The orientation can be found on their website at: http://www.ou.edu/content/cas/online/student-online-orientation.html

The College of Arts and Sciences Online and Academic Technology Services office is here to assist you with any questions, problems, or concerns you may have. For assistance visit their website at http://www.ou.edu/content/cas/online/student-information.html or contact them by telephone at: (405) 325-5854 or email: casonline@ou.edu

Course Objectives:
This course will study the roots of modern terrorism, how terrorism is defined and what counter-terrorism strategies have developed to limit the expansion of international terrorist organizations. Student will seek to understand why terrorists resort to violence and what goals they are trying to obtain. The nature of failed states and how they fall victim to trans-national terrorist organizations will be assessed. The course will study the methods of recruiting and funding that is so important to keep these organizations operating. Finally, the future of terrorism will be considered, with emphasis on what concerns remain for the West.

Course of Study:
The course will follow a series of 8 lectures with associated readings. Lecture slides and readings will be available for download from the Canvas course webpage prior to the first class. These lectures are entitled:

1. A History of Terrorism;
2. International Terrorism Today – A Status Report;
3. The Psychology of Terrorism;
4. Case Study 1: al Qaeda
5. 9/11 and the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT);
6. Case Study 2: ISIL;
7. Terrorism and Fragile/Failed States; and
8. Recruiting and Financing Terrorism.

Assignments:
Detailed assignment instructions will be made available to students on the Canvas course webpage one month prior to the first class. All assignments will employ either the APA or Chicago style guides.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date(s)</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial log-in and introduction post</td>
<td>11 Jan</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>250-Word posts to 4 discussion forums.</strong></td>
<td>18 Jan, 25 Jan, 8 Feb, 22 Feb</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students will participate by providing 250 word postings to answer questions posed by the instructor in 4 discussion groups. Students are encouraged to respond to other student’s posts although this is not a mandatory requirement.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Profile (5-6 pages).</strong></td>
<td>3 Feb</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students will write a profile on a topic of their choice from a list provided by the instructor.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Critique (5-6 pages).</strong></td>
<td>3 Mar</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>Students will write a profile on the required course textbook of their choice.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Paper (10-12 pages).</strong></td>
<td>17 Mar</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students will write a paper on an assigned topic.</td>
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**Grading:**
This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

**Notice:** Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

**Policy for Late Work:**
Please contact the professor regarding his/her policy for late work

**Attendance Policy:**
In addition to interaction via Canvas and email contact, students are required to contact the instructor via email or telephone **before** the beginning of the course term for an initial briefing. Although physical class meetings are not part of this course, participation in all interactive, learning activities is required.

Student assignments and student/instructor communications will be conducted via Canvas, although students may contact the instructor via telephone, postal mail, email, or fax as needed

**Incomplete Grade Policy:**
A grade of “I” is not automatically assigned, but rather must be requested by the student by submitting to the instructor a “Petition for and Work to Remove an Incompleted Grade” form. An “I” can never be used in lieu of an “F” nor can an “I” be assigned because of excessive failure to participate in class activities.

**Technical Support Information:**
If you experience technical problems, contact Information Technology by visiting their website at: [http://webapps.ou.edu/it/](http://webapps.ou.edu/it/) or contacting them by telephone at: (405) 325-HELP (4357).
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

**Note:** Attendance/absences do not apply to online courses. However, participation in all course activities is extremely important to student success in online courses.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc…in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc…; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity at [http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html](http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html)

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at [http://studentconduct.ou.edu/](http://studentconduct.ou.edu/)

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see [http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html](http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html).
**Title IX Resources**

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at smo@ou.edu or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615-0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office’s website at http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo.html

**Course Policies**

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA

Lieutenant-Colonel Bruce P Barnes, Royal Canadian Air Force (Retired)

Education

- 2008 US Air Force Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, Alabama
- 2007 MA (War Studies) Royal Military College of Canada, Kingston, Ontario
- 1989 BA (History) York University, Glendon College, Toronto, Ontario

Current Positions

- OU College of International Studies lecturer since 2008
- Advanced Programs lecturer since 2009
- OU College of Liberal Studies lecturer since 2011

Courses Frequently Taught at OU College of International Studies (Advanced Programs)

- IAS 5940 Topics in International Studies: EU, NATO and European Security
- IAS 5940 Topics in International Studies: Afghanistan in Conflict
- IAS 5940 Topics in International Studies: Western Hemispheric Security – An American Dilemma
- IAS 5940 Topics in International Studies: International Terrorism
- CAS 5940 Independent Directed Reading: Post Cold-War Security Studies

Other Courses Frequently Taught at OU College of Liberal Studies

- LTSD 5970 The Citizen as Soldier

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Modern European / North American Security Issues
- Post-Cold War Governance Systems

Representative Publications and Presentations

- RCAF Command Doctrine B-GA-401 (2012 and 2014)
- RCAF Air Power Journal (numerous articles)