

IAS 5940 – 112: Topics in International Studies: International Terrorism

Course Description:

Terrorism is one of those things that people seem to know when they see it. The media and politicians are quick to label all sorts of violent activity as terrorism, yet it is difficult to fully articulate exactly what terrorism is. Therefore, for any exploration of terrorism, it is helpful to start at the beginning. This course will look at the dynamic definition of terrorism and will explore the history of this type of activity, leading to our common (and very western) understanding of the term. We will explore how terrorism has been studied, and what conclusions have been made about who is engaging in terrorist activities and their motivations. In this we will explore the under-studied role of women in terrorist organizations historically and today. We will also attempt to remove the concept of terrorism from isolation, exploring how terrorism interacts with politics, the media and organized crime. This will be done through the use of case studies of both domestic and international terrorism. We will also explore recruiting techniques, with special attention focused on ISIS and their keen use of the internet and Dark Web to find recruits around the world. With some context, we will then look at terrorism as a global phenomenon and will explore counter-terrorism initiatives.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: September 22 – 24 & 29 - October 1, 2017

Location: 3281 Sheridan Road, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Hours: Friday 5:30-9:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sunday 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: August 24, 2017

Site Director:

Email: apftsill@ou.edu. Phone: 580-355-1974.

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Dr. Rebecca Cruise

Mailing Address: 729 Elm, Hester Hall 118
Norman, OK 73071

E-mail Address: rebecca@cruise@ou.edu

Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:

Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK, and can be ordered online, by phone, by email, or by fax. Ordering online at <http://www.bkstr.com/oklahomastore/home> is strongly recommended – students can track the status of their order within 48 hours. If an order has not been shipped within three days, students can contact the Follett textbook manager by phone (405) 325-3511, (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or email 0831mgr@fhcg.follett.com. Phone orders (ask for the textbook manager and identify yourself as an Advanced Programs student) can be placed 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; 10 a.m. to 4p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). Fax orders can be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Text prices are available online.

1. Stern, J., & Berger, J.M. (2016). *ISIS: The state of terror*. New York: Harper Collins. ISBN 9780062395559.
2. Bloom, M. (2011). *Bombshell: Women and terrorism*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. ISBN 9780812243901.

- Materials posted on the OU Canvas learning management system: 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.

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

Course Objectives:

- Students will understand and be able to articulate the complicated history of terrorism leading to its current manifestations.
- Students will be able to address and debunk common myths of who terrorists are.
- Students will explore the commonalities of those that are labeled terrorist organizations, but will also understand the nuances and differences among a number of such groups.
- Students will see the connections between terrorist organizations and other entities- such as the media and organized crime.
- Students will begin to think critically and creatively about counter-terrorism options on a domestic and global scale

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

Topic 1 History of Terrorism and the Study of Terrorism as a tactic of violence

Assigned Reading: Sandler (2014) on Canvas

Topic 2 Who are the Participants and what are their Motivations?

Assigned Reading: Bloom (2011)

Topic 3 Domestic and International Terrorism. Evolving tools and tactics. From OKC Bombing to ISIS

Assigned Reading: Stern and Berger (2016), Sloan (2016) on Canvas

Topic 4 Role of the Media

Topic 5 Global Issues, Global Responses

Group Research- no assigned reading

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

Assignment	Percent of Grade
Group Profile	10%
Participation	30%
Group Presentation	30%
In-class Final	30%

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.

POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

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 making 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

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/>

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>.

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. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

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

Rebecca J. Cruise PhD

Education

- 2011 Ph.D. Political Science, University of Oklahoma. Fields: Comparative Politics, International Relations, American Politics
- 2007 MA Political Science, University of Oklahoma
- 2000 BA Political Science, University of Portland

Current Positions

- Assistant Dean
- Teaching at OU, in some capacity, for 10 years

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Security Studies
- International Institutions
- Comparative Politics of Post-Communist Europe
- Female Political Participation
- International Activism and Leadership
- Maritime Security

Representative Publications

- Rebecca J. Cruise. "Enough with the Stereotypes: Representations of Women in Terrorist Organizations." *Social Sciences Quarterly*. Vol. 27-1. 33-43.
- Rebecca J. Cruise and Suzette R. Grillot. December 2010. "The Development of Security Community in Croatia: Leading the Pack," *Croatian International Relations Review*. Zagreb, Croatia. XVI. No: 60/61. 89-103.
- Suzette Grillot and Rebecca J. Cruise with Valerie D'Erman. 2010. *Protecting Our Ports: The Politics of Containerized Freight Security*. Ashgate Publishing House.
- Suzette Grillot, Rebecca J. Cruise and Valerie D'Erman. January 2010. "Developing Security Community in the Western Balkans: The Role of the EU and NATO," *International Politics*. Vol. 47:1. 62-90.
- Suzette Grillot, Rebecca J. Cruise and Valerie D'Erman. July 2009. "National and Global Efforts to Enhance Containerized Freight Security." *Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*. Vol. 6:1. Article 51.
- Rebecca J. Cruise. 2008. "The New NATO and Collective Security in Europe," *Defense Politics: International and Comparative Perspectives*. Ed. Ike Wilson/J.F. Forest. London: Routledge

Representative Presentations

- "Security Community in the Western Balkans: A Comparative Analysis." Presented at the *Belgrade Security Forum Symposium*. Belgrade, Serbia. September 2012.
- "The Tough Cases: Security Community Development in Serbia, Bosnia and Kosovo." Presented at the *International Research and Exchange Board (IREX) and Woodrow Wilson Center Regional Policy Symposium*. Washington DC. April 2010.
- "Development in Serbia, Bosnia and Kosovo." Presented fieldwork briefing to officials at the *United States Department of State: Western Balkan Division*. Washington DC. April 2010.

Representative Honors and Awards Received

- DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Grant: 4 Months research in Leipzig, Germany
- American Council of Learned Societies: Language Training Grant: Study in Romania
- University of Oklahoma POLL Fellowship for Quantitative Research
- Presidential International Travel Fellowship for Fieldwork in the Western Balkans