

The University of Oklahoma

College of Continuing Education

Advanced Programs – Course Syllabus

Course Title:

Topics in International Studies: Afghanistan in Conflict

Course Number:

IAS 5940-228

Course Description:

The terrorist attacks upon the United States by al Qaeda on 11 September, 2001, marked the starting point of the current conflict in Afghanistan. While much of the world's focus is on the West's difficult endeavor to defeat the Taliban and eradicate al Qaeda, it is easy to forget that Afghanistan has experienced conflict and foreign invaders for almost 2,500 years. Alexander the Great, Arabs, Mongols, the British and Soviets have all invaded Afghanistan at some point. What has changed?

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: January 31 – February 5, 2017

Location: Stuttgart, Germany. See site director for classroom location.

Hours: Tuesday - Friday 6:00-9:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: January 2, 2017

Site Director:

Email: apstuttgart@ou.edu. DSN: 431-3304 or CIV 07031-15-2580.

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Lt. Col. Bruce P Barnes (RCAF)

E-mail Address: Bruce.P.Barnes-1@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@fhg.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. Fairweather, J. (2014). *The good war: Why we couldn't win the war or the peace in Afghanistan*. New York: Basic Books. ISBN 9780465044955.
2. Rashid, A. (2009). *Descent into chaos: The United States and the failure of nation building in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Central Asia*. New York: Penguin. ISBN 9780143115571.
3. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Access D2L at <http://learn.ou.edu>; enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

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:

This course will study Afghanistan – including its history, geography, people and their lives – in order to better understand why this region has known centuries of conflict. We will also look closely at various facets of the ongoing conflict with emphasis on how it affects the United States and its traditional NATO allies. Students will seek to appreciate the evolving military situation, the nature of the threat and options for the future of Afghans. Of key interest is seeking answers to how the conflict is shaping this generation of Americans.

Course of Study:

The course will follow a series of 10 lectures with associated readings. These lectures are entitled:

1. History of Afghanistan;
2. The Land and People;
3. Invasion – the Soviet Years;
4. The Taliban & al Qaeda;
5. Illegal Narcotics, Corruption and Conflict;
6. Western Intervention 2001-2014;
7. US Policy and American Public Opinion; and
8. 2014 and Beyond.

Assignments, Grading, and Due Dates:

Detailed assignment instructions will be made available to students on the D2L course webpage one month prior to the first class. All assignments will employ either the APA or Chicago style guides.

Assignment	Due Date	Percent of Grade
Initial Log-In to D2L Course Website	29 Jan 2017	0
Student Participation	31 Jan – 5 Feb 2017	20
Profile or Critique - student’s choice (5-6 pages)	12 Feb 2017	30
Paper (10-12 pages)	26 Feb 2017	50

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.

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

Lieutenant-Colonel Bruce P Barnes, Royal Canadian Air Force

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

- Advanced Programs professor since 2009
- Senior Staff Officer, Canadian Forces Aerospace Warfare Centre, 8 Wing, Trenton, Ontario
- OU College of Liberal Studies lecturer since 2011
- College of International Studies lecturer since 2008

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

- MA Thesis: “Fighters First: The Transition of the Royal Canadian Air Force 1945-1952”
- RCAF Command Doctrine B-GA-401 (2012 and 2016)
- RCAF Journal (numerous articles)