

CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE
HMSY 1371
COUNTERTERRORISM
Semester Hours Credit: 3

INSTRUCTOR: _____

OFFICE HOURS: _____

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. The goal of this course is to provide students with a broad understanding of the basic structure, roles and missions of the counterterrorism community. The course will focus on domestic terrorist groups from Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, South America, and North America. It offers critical evaluation of the counterterrorism measures implemented in response to these terrorist groups. The course uses a multidisciplinary approach to compare terrorist groups', assesses the factors that are conducive to certain groups' sustainability and those that led to other groups "demise". Measures that were successful and not successful to counter terrorists' organizations will also be evaluated.
- B. This course is a required course in the Homeland Security—Emergency Management Associate of Applied Science Degree.
- C. This course is occupationally related and serves as preparation for careers in: Law Enforcement, Criminal Justice, and Corrections.
- D. Prerequisite(s): None

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, Counterterrorism, the student will:

- A. Acquire a basic knowledge of the fundamentals of counterterrorism.
- B. Discuss and analyze the motivation of terrorism.
- C. Describe and analyze the recurring issues pertaining to geopolitics and counterterrorism as they relate to religion, domestic, and international structures.
- D. Describe and analyze the basic elements of power and counterterrorism by examining the challenges associated with limiting power.
- E. Acquire a basic knowledge base of the rules of engagement that counterterrorism units deal with.

- F. Compare and contrast the separations of powers between judiciary forums, the public, and the media.
- G. Acquire an in depth knowledge of the principles and issues associated with the interrogation of terrorism suspects.
- H. Explain the evolution of state-sponsored terrorism and methods of dealing with state-sponsored terrorism.
- I. Define and analyze the media's role in counterterrorism operations by exploring how terrorists use the media to their advantage.
- J. Describe and analyze the issues associated with framing a homeland security program that will deal with all forms of terrorism.
- K. Understand and identify the issues that governments must deal with in response to a terrorist attack by exploring the ramifications associated with every decision.

III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

- A. The instructional materials identified for this course are viewable through www.ctcd.edu/books.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Assignments

1. You will have eight lesson assignments.
2. You will have eight lesson discussions.
3. You will have a Midterm Exam.
4. You will have a Final Project.
5. You will have a Final Exam.

All material must be in Word format, 12 point type, and New Time Roman script. Points will be deducted for misspelled words and obvious grammatical mistakes. All points will be added up to obtain the final grade. There is no curve and no extra credit given. It is understood that sometimes situations arise and material cannot be turned in by the deadline. Clearly discuss these issues with the instructor before the deadline and agreements can be made. Remember that we are here to assist you in learning all that you can and will assist this process in any way that is acceptable by CTC policy.

V. COURSE SCHEDULE

Lesson One

Learning Objectives

When you successfully complete this lesson, you will be able to:

1. Identify how terrorism is defined.
2. Explain why nationalists-separatists and religious terrorists engage in terrorism.
3. Describe what motivates left-wing, right-wing, and special interest terrorists.
4. Identify the differences between a terrorist and a guerrilla.
5. Explain why individuals engage in terrorist activities.
6. Identify if there is a basic terrorist profile.
7. Discuss the rationale behind terrorism.
8. Describe the terrorism and mental disorders that are commonly found.

Learning Activities

Read the assigned chapter(s) in the textbook.

- Chapter 1
- Chapter 2

Use the textbook resources to reinforce your learning including the Chapter Summaries and Review Questions at the end of the chapters.

Lesson Two

When you successfully complete this lesson, you will be able to:

1. Identify the strategic goals that terrorists pursue.
2. Explain how a community sustains a terrorist group.
3. Discuss the difficulties for a terrorist to train since 9/11.
4. Explain new methods that terrorists are using to fund operations since 9/11.
5. Identify a terrorist group that is no longer in existence.
6. Define risk.
7. Explain how terrorists determine risk.
8. Discuss how the government affects the public's perception of risk.
9. Discuss how the media affects the public's perception of risk.

Learning Activities

Read the assigned chapter(s) in the textbook.

- Chapters 3
- Chapters 4

Use the textbook resources to reinforce your learning including the Chapter Summaries and Review Questions at the end of the chapters.

Lesson Three

When you successfully complete this lesson, you will be able to:

1. Explain the role of uncertainty in counterterrorism.
2. Describe the relevance of the precautionary principle in counterterrorism.
3. Discuss the justification of the Afghanistan war.
4. Identify if deterrence was lost after 9/11.
5. Explain the consequences of calling the current effort to combat terrorism a war.
6. Explain when a country can declare a state of emergency.
7. Identify if the current war on terrorism is an emergency.
8. Discuss the role of rhetoric in counterterrorism.
9. Identify the relationship between civil liberties and security.

Learning Activities

2. Read the assigned chapter(s) in the textbook.
 - Chapters 5
 - Chapters 6
3. Use the textbook resources to reinforce your learning including the Chapter Summaries and Review Questions at the end of the chapters.

Lesson Four

When you successfully complete this lesson, you will be able to:

1. Identify the significance of the intelligence state.
2. Discuss how intelligence is primarily obtained.
3. Explain how intelligence agencies failed on 9/11.
4. Discuss the technological measures implemented post 9/11 and their effectiveness.
5. Explain the term “unknown unknowns.”

These objectives reflect the important concepts of this lesson and should be used to guide your studies and your preparation for examinations.

Learning Activities

Read the assigned chapter(s) in the textbook.

- Chapters 7

Use the textbook resources to reinforce your learning including the Chapter Summaries and Review Questions at the end of the chapters.

Lesson Five

When you successfully complete this lesson, you will be able to:

1. Discuss the role of police officers in counterterrorism.
2. Identify the tasks of police officers in the event of a terrorist attack.
3. Explain the differences between agent provocateurs, informants, and supergrasses.
4. Explain the importance of interrogations in counterterrorism.
5. Discuss the justification of torture.
6. Discuss the value of information obtained from torture and its reliability.
7. Explain the practice of indefinite detention.
8. Identify the lessons learned from preventive detention in the past.
9. Discuss any changes in the use of preventive detention since 9/11.
10. Explain what type of prisoner can be held at Guantanamo Bay.

These objectives reflect the important concepts of this lesson and should be used to guide your studies and your preparation for examinations.

Learning Activities

4. Read the assigned chapter(s) in the textbook.
 - Chapters 8
 - Chapters 9
5. Use the textbook resources to reinforce your learning including the Chapter Summaries and Review Questions at the end of the chapters.

Lesson Six

When you successfully complete this lesson, you will be able to:

1. Explain the difference between an extrajudicial killing and a targeted killing.
2. Discuss when a targeted killing should be authorized.
3. Discuss capital punishment and life imprisonment for terrorists.
4. Identify the implications of a blockade.
5. Explain some of the sanctions that have been implemented against terrorists.
6. Discuss radicalization in prisons.
7. Identify measures that can be done to improve security in prisons.

8. Explain the relevance of rehabilitation in prisons.
9. Identify some rehabilitation programs that should be included in all prisons.

These objectives reflect the important concepts of this lesson and should be used to guide your studies and your preparation for examinations.

Learning Activities

6. Read the assigned chapter(s) in the textbook.
 - o Chapters 10
 - o Chapters 11
7. Use the textbook resources to reinforce your learning including the Chapter Summaries and Review Questions at the end of the chapters.

Lesson Seven

When you successfully complete this lesson, you will be able to:

1. Explain how a terrorist's ideology spreads.
2. Discuss the need of media by terrorist organizations.
3. Identify areas that the government and media can work together to combat terrorism.
4. Explain how terrorists' narratives and propaganda can be countered.
5. Explain the role of non-government actors' play in combating terrorism ideologies.
6. Identify the benefits of negotiating with terrorists.
7. Describe some of the negative consequences of negotiating with terrorists.
8. Discuss some peace agreements that have been successful between terrorist organizations.

These objectives reflect the important concepts of this lesson and should be used to guide your studies and your preparation for examinations.

Learning Activities

8. Read the assigned chapter(s) in the textbook.
 - o Chapters 12
 - o Chapters 13
9. Use the textbook resources to reinforce your learning including the Chapter Summaries and Review Questions at the end of the chapters.

Lesson Eight

Instructor led assignment.