

# SS474: Terrorism Studies

## FALL 2007

### Course Overview

For nearly a decade, a significant amount of research, investigations, military operations and policymaking has produced a new understanding about the threat of terrorism and the changing and dangerous nature of the international security environment. Terrorism is no longer—and indeed has never been—a foreign problem. It is imperative that present and future leaders be armed with the tools to make sense of these new threats so that they may successfully lead the Army through this very complex and increasingly hostile world.

This course offers a variety of conceptual tools and frameworks to help future Army officers think strategically about key issues in the contemporary security environment. Specifically, this course examines the unique challenge terrorism poses to liberal democratic states, while developing an understanding of terrorist motivations, strategies, means and ends. It is a demanding graduate level course that seeks to educate the students for a world of uncertainty by drawing extensively on research in the field of terrorism, counterterrorism, and weapons of mass destruction.

### Course Goals

The course will leverage the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point (CTC) and its faculty as well as other leading experts to educate the students about the changing security environment. The course will first establish a baseline of terrorism education and an understanding of the threat posed by the new terrorism. The course's interdisciplinary structure combined with the operational expertise of the faculty will assist the students in developing a framework to better understand terrorism and policy responses to address the different threats.

- a. Provide students with the intellectual tools and knowledge to understand and explain the changing security landscape throughout the world with respect to terrorism and its causes.
- b. Develop an understanding of political, economic and social causes of terrorism in diverse political systems through the use of theory, concepts, and case studies.
- c. Develop a framework to analyze future changes to the security environment and the implications of these changes to the mission of the Army and the Department of Defense.
- d. Develop a firm grasp of critical analysis, both written and oral, of the issues that are examined in the course.

### Course Objectives

Students should understand/appreciate the following:

- a. Security and threat perception from the terrorists' perspective.
- b. The causes and facilitators of terrorism.
- c. The different types of terrorist groups and the capabilities and threat each present.

- d. The new forms of terrorism that have emerged in the past decade.
- e. The means and methods of the new terrorist including but not limited to improvised explosive devices (IEDs); chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear (CBRN) weapons; and conventional terrorism tactics.
- f. The different terrorist groups that threaten U.S. interests abroad and here at home.
- g. Overview of the national counterterrorism strategy.

### GRADED EVENTS

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Date Due</b>	<b>Points</b>
Book Review	4 Sept.	100
Hotspot Analysis	24 Sept.	100
WPR	23 Oct.	150
Group Project	3 Dec.	200
Group Presentation	7 Dec.	50
Reading Quizzes (4)	TBD	100
Instructors Points/Class Participation	---	50
Term End Examination	TBD	250
<b>Total Points</b>		<b>1000</b>

- 1) **Book Review:** Write a 3-page review of a book that has been published **within the last 24 months**. The book must relate in some way to terrorism. You may select a book on religion, political violence, causes of terrorism, etc. Prior to beginning the book review you must obtain instructor approval on the book you select. The book review should critique the work and comment on the value of the work to the terrorism studies field. **Due: 4 September**
- 2) **Hotspot Analysis:** For this assignment, you will need to choose a terrorist group and gather as much information as possible about their ideology, objectives, areas of operations, and potential targets. Then write a 3-page analysis describing where you think this group would be most likely to carry out a terrorist attack, and why. Overall, you are asked to ***demonstrate an ability to think about this from the terrorists' point of view***. More information about this assignment will be provided by your section instructor. **Due: 24 September**

***Note: Your performance on these first two assignments will determine whether or not you are selected to accompany General Downing on the Class Trip to Washington, DC, 28-30 October.***

- 3) **WPR:** A WPR will be administered 23 October to evaluate the level to which students are grasping key concepts, terms, etc. regarding the threat of terrorism. More details about the exam will be provided in advance.
- 4) **Group Projects:** Form your group before mid-semester and notify your instructor NLT Lesson 10. You will work in these groups to demonstrate your understanding of terrorism from an operational and a theoretical perspective. Details on this assignment will be provided by your section leader Due: 3 December
- 5) **Group Presentation:** Each group will give a 15-minute presentation about their project. Due: 7 December
- 6) **Reading Quizzes:** This class relies on you to do a significant amount of independent work, mostly reading in preparation for class discussions. There will be four reading quizzes administered at your section leader's discretion, worth 25 points each, to assess whether you are fulfilling this responsibility.
- 7) **Class Participation:** Your participation in class discussions are vital. Instructors can tell whether you are coming prepared to class, and your grade here will reflect this.
- 8) **TEE:** The final exam for this course is cumulative, and will evaluate your understanding of contemporary terrorism and the U.S. strategies for combating terrorism, as well as allow you to demonstrate critical and creative thinking. More information on the TEE will be provided toward the end of the semester.

#### **Discussion Section Leaders and Rooms**

<b>Instructor</b>	<b>Room #</b>
Dr. James Forest (Director)	TH345
LTC Joe Felter	TH374
Dr. Jarret Brachman	TH376
Mr. Brian Fishman	TH378

# SS474: Terrorism Studies

Fall 2007

## REQUIRED TEXTS

*Inside Terrorism* (revised edition), by Bruce Hoffman (Columbia University Press, 2006)

*Terrorism and Counterterrorism: Understanding the New Security Environment* (revised edition), edited by Russell Howard and Reid Sawyer (McGraw-Hill, 2005)

*The Looming Tower*, by Lawrence Wright

Other materials will be made available via PDF through hyperlinks in this syllabus.

## Schedule of Class Meetings and Major Events

NOTE: This course meets during E and F hours on a somewhat irregular schedule, as outlined below. If you are unable to attend your assigned Discussion Section during F hour, notify your instructor immediately, and you will join the discussion section (E2) that meets during E hour the following 1-day.

*Click on the lesson title link for reading assignments*

Date	Time	Room	Lesson	Topic
20 Aug	E hour	TH345	1a	Course & <a href="#">CTC Introduction</a> <b>Lecturer:</b> Dr. Forest & LTC Felter
	F hour	Section rooms	1b	<i>Discussion:</i> <a href="#">Defining Terrorism</a>
24 Aug	E hour	TH345	Film	<i>17 Days of Terror: The Hijack of TWA 847</i>
28 Aug	E hour	TH345	2a	<a href="#">History of Terrorism</a> <b>Lecturer:</b> Dr. Forest
	F hour	Section rooms	2b	<i>Discussion:</i> <a href="#">Contemporary Terrorism</a>
4 Sept	E hour	TH345		<b>Guest Lecturer:</b> Mr. Benjamin Krasna, Deputy Consul General, Israel Consulate
<b>Book Review Due NLT 1600</b>				
6 Sept	E hour	TH345	3a	<a href="#">The Ideas Behind al Qaida</a> <b>Lecturer:</b> Dr. Brachman
	F hour	Section rooms	3b	<i>Discussion:</i> <a href="#">Islamic Extremist Groups</a>

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<b>10 Sept</b>	The Class will not meet this week to compensate for <b>required</b> <i>Inside 9/11</i> film and reading assignments for <a href="#">Lesson 4: The United States and al Qaida</a>			
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<b>18 Sept</b>	E hour	TH345	5a	<a href="#">London Attack of July 7</a> <b>Guest Lecturer:</b> Dr. Bruce Hoffman
	F hour	Section rooms	5b	<i>Discussion:</i> <a href="#">Radicalization in Europe</a>

<b>24 Sept</b>	E hour	TH345	6a	<a href="#">The Strategy of Suicide Terrorism</a> <b>Lecturer:</b> Mr. Fishman
	F hour	Section rooms	6b	<i>Discussion:</i> <a href="#">Hamis &amp; Palestinian Terrorism</a>

**Hotspot Analysis Due NLT 1600**

<b>28 Sept</b>	E hour	TH345		<b>Guest Lecturer:</b> Admiral Olson, Commander, Special Operations Command
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<b>2 Oct</b>	E hour	TH345	7a	<a href="#">Modern Jihadi Use of the Internet</a> <b>Lecturer:</b> Dr. Brachman
	F hour	Section rooms	7b	

<b>8 Oct</b>	E hour	TH345	8a	<a href="#">Iraq Bleedout from the Levant</a> <b>Lecturer:</b> Mr. Fishman
	F hour	Section rooms	8b	<i>Discussion:</i> <a href="#">Iraq Policy &amp; Recent Events</a>

<b>12 Oct</b>	E hour	TH345	9	<a href="#">Understanding the Conflict in Afghanistan</a> <b>Lecturer:</b> LTC Felter
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<b>17 Oct</b>	E hour	TH345	10a	<a href="#">The U.S. Counterterrorism Strategy</a> <b>Guest Lecturer:</b> AMB Michael Sheehan
	F hour	Section rooms	10b	<i>Discussion:</i> <a href="#">U.S. Agencies &amp; Policy Process</a>

<b>23 Oct</b>	E hour	Section rooms	11	<b>WPR</b>
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**28-30 Oct. – Class Trip to Washington DC** for Selected Cadets; DROP for others

<b>2 Nov</b>	E hour	TH345	12	<a href="#">Hizballah and Lebanon</a> <b>Guest Lecturer:</b> Dr. Afshon Ostavar
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<b>6 Nov</b>	E hour	TH345	13a	<a href="#">Interagency CT Cooperation in Africa</a> <b>Guest Lecturer:</b> LTC Scott Womack
	F hour	Section rooms	13b	<i>Discussion:</i> <a href="#">Interagency Cooperation</a>

<b>13 Nov</b>	E hour	TH345	14a	<a href="#">Combating Terrorism</a> <b>Lecturer:</b> LTC Felter
	F hour	Section rooms	14b	<i>Discussion:</i> <a href="#">Emerging Hotspots</a> (e.g., North Africa, South Asia, Latin America)

<b>19 Nov</b>	E hour	TH345	15a	<a href="#">The Criminal-Terrorism Nexus</a> <b>Lecturer:</b> Dr. Forest
	F hour	Section rooms	15b	Discussion: <a href="#">Enabling Environments &amp; 3/11</a>
<b>27 Nov</b>	E hour	TH345	16a	<a href="#">WMD and Terrorism</a> <b>Guest Lecturer:</b> Dr. Dave Franz
	F hour	Section rooms	16b	Discussion: <a href="#">WMD and Terrorism</a>
<b>3 Dec</b>	E hour	TH345	17a	<a href="#">The Future of Terrorism</a> <b>Guest Lecturer:</b> Dr. Bruce Hoffman
	F hour	Section rooms	17b	Discussion: <a href="#">Measuring CT Effectiveness</a>
<b>Group Project Paper Due NLT 1600</b>				
<b>7 Dec</b>	E hour	Section rooms	18	Group Presentations
<b>11 Dec</b>	E hour	Section rooms	19	Group Presentations
<b>13 Dec</b>	E hour	Section rooms	20	Group Presentations
<b>17-21 Dec. – TEE Week</b>				

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## **PART I - INTRODUCTION OF THE STUDY OF TERRORISM**

20 August: **Lesson 1 - Introduction and Defining Terrorism**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Learn about the course assignments and objectives
- Learn about the mission and initiatives of the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point
  - What is a terrorist?
  - Who is a terrorist?
  - Terrorism is not an "ism" in the conventional sense of ideology. Terrorists do not want a "terrorist state" so the question we must examine is, what do terrorists desire and what motivates terrorists?
  - Why do definitions matter?

Assigned Readings:

1. Bruce Hoffman, "Defining Terrorism," in *Inside Terrorism*, p. 1-41

2. Martha Crenshaw, "The Logic of Terrorism: Terrorist Behavior as a Product of Strategic Choice," in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
3. Paul R. Pillar, "The Dimensions of Terrorism and Counterterrorism," in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism*** (Skim)
4. Browse the Combating Terrorism Website: <http://ctc.usma.edu> and the SS474 course syllabus

Recommended Readings:

- James J.F. Forest, "[Introduction to the Study of Terrorism and Counterterrorism](#)" (8-page excerpt from the 2007 CTC/FBI Textbook on Countering Terrorism)
- Walter Reich, "[Understanding Terrorism Behavior](#)," in Walter Reich, ed., *Origins of Terrorism: Psychologies, Ideologies, Theologies, States of Mind* (Washington: Wilson Center Press, 1998). 261-279.
- Jessica Stern, [The Ultimate Terrorists](#) (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999), 15-19.
- Jerrold Post "[Terrorist Psycho-Logic](#)" in Walter Reich, ed., *Origins of Terrorism: Psychologies, Ideologies, Theologies, States of Mind* (Washington: Wilson Center Press, 1998). 25-42.
  - Thomas Homer-Dixon, "[The Rise of Complex Terrorism](#)," *Foreign Policy* (January/February 2002).
  - [United Nations and Regional Conventions on Terrorism](#)

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24 August: **Film - 17 Days of Terror: The Hijack of TWA 847**

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28 August: **Lesson 2 - History and Contemporary Forms of Terrorism**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- What patterns and trends of historical terrorism inform our understanding of future threats?
- What can we learn from historical examples of state response to terrorist organizations?
- How do contemporary terrorist networks function internationally?
- How do networks function at the operational level?

**Assigned Readings:**

1. David C. Rapoport, [The Four Waves of Rebel Terror and September 11](#), *Anthropoetics* 8, no. 1 (Spring-Summer 2002)
2. Bruce Hoffman, "The Internationalization of Terrorism," in ***Inside Terrorism*** (p. 63-79).

3. Brian Michael Jenkins, "[The New Age of Terrorism](#)," *The McGraw-Hill Homeland Security Handbook*, edited by David G. Kamien. New York: McGraw Hill, 2006.

**Case Study - Choose one of the groups listed on the [Terrorism Knowledge Base website](#), then gather information on it to read and bring to class for discussion**

Recommended Readings:

- **Film:** [Battle of Algiers](#)
- John Arquilla, David Ronfeldt, and Michele Zanini, "Networks, Netwar, and Information-Age Terrorism" in *Terrorism and Counterterrorism*
  - [Declassified Key Judgments of the National Intelligence Estimate. Trends in Global Terrorism: Implications for the United States](#). (April 2006)
  - Russell D. Howard, "Understanding Al Qaeda's Application of the New Terrorism—The Key to Victory in the Current Campaign," in *Terrorism and Counterterrorism*
  - Rohan Gunaratna, "[Post-Madrid Face of Al Qaeda](#)" *Washington Quarterly* 27, no. 2 (Summer 2004)
- Peter Bergen, *Holy War Inc.*, pp 24-43. (New York: Touchstone/Simon & Schuster, Inc.)
- Jessica Stern, "[The Protean Enemy](#)," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 82, No. 4, July/August 2003.
- Valdis Krebs, "[Mapping of Terrorist Network Cells](#)," *Connections* 24(3): 43-52, 2002.
- Marc Sageman, *Understanding Terror Networks*, (Philadelphia: Penn Press, 2004) 137-174.
- Martha Crenshaw, "[Why America? The Globalization of Civil War](#)," *Current History*, December 2001.
- Rohan Gunaratna, *Inside Al Qaeda: Global Network of Terror* (New York: Columbia University Press, 2002), 221-242.
- Peter Schwartz, "[The Art of the Long View](#)," in *Strategy and Force Planning* (Newport: Naval War College, 1997) 29-44
- Kurt Campbell, "[Globalization's First War?](#)" *The Washington Quarterly*, (Winter 2002), 7-14.
  - Audrey Kurth Cronin, "Behind the Curve: Globalization and International Terrorism," in *Terrorism and Counterterrorism*

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**4 September: [Book Review Due NLT 1600](#)**

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**6 September: Lesson 3 - Islamic Extremism: The Ideas behind Al Qaida**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Why do people resort to violence in pursuit of political or ideological ends?
- What motivates terrorists?
- What are the dominant types of violent ideologies today?
- What do ideologies tell us about the most likely ways, means and ends of terrorism?

- What is the implication of the changing ideology in terms of target selection?
- What happens when political goals are conceived in divine terms?
- What is meant by the term "salafi-jihadist"?
- What are the primary objectives of Islamists?
- What are the key ideological dimensions of today's global Islamic insurgency?
- Who are the key figures in the "salafi-jihadist" ideology?
- How closely aligned are groups in Southeast Asia to Al Qaeda?
- What type of threat do these groups present to both the host nation and the US?

NOTE: Sunnis and Shi'is (or "Shia" collectively) differ over the sources of religious authority. The Sunnis believe that you should model your thoughts and behavior on the Qur'an and the way ("sunna" in Arabic) Muhammad lived his life. The Shia believe this too, but also believe that you should follow the example of the Prophet's son-in-law Ali and his direct male descendants, the "imams" (Arabic for "leaders"). The word "shia" means partisans or supporters, i.e. the supporters of Ali and his descendants.

### **Assigned Readings:**

1. Will McCants and Jarret Brachman, "[Executive Summary](#)," of "[The Militant Ideology Atlas](#)," published by the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point, 2006 (skim the rest if you have time)
2. Jarret Brachman and Will McCants, "[Stealing Al Qaida's Playbook](#)," published by the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point, 2006
3. Quintan Wiktorowicz, "A Genealogy of Radical Islam" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
4. Andrew Black, "[Al-Suri's Adaptation of Fourth Generation Warfare Doctrine](#)," *Terrorism Monitor* Volume 4, Issue 18 (Sept. 21, 2006)
5. Mark Sageman, "[Understanding Jihadi Networks](#)," *Strategic Insights* 4, no. 4 (April 2005)

### **Recommended Readings:**

- Michael Doran, "[Someone Else's Civil War](#)," *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 81, no. 1 (Jan/Feb2002)
- Mark Juergensmeyer, "The Logic of Religious Violence" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
- David C. Rapoport, "[Fear and Trembling: Terrorism in Three Religious Traditions](#)" *American Political Science Review*, vol. 78, no. 3 (September 1984), 658-677.

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## 10 September: **Lesson 4 - The United States and Al Qaida**

### **Lesson Questions & Objectives:**

- How and why did Al Qaeda evolve as it did?
- What is Al Qaeda?
- How did Al Qaeda ascend to power?
- Understand the development of a transnational terrorist organization
- Identify Al Qaeda's significant achievements

- What are the implications of the evolution for counterterrorists?
- How should we think of Al Qaeda today?

### Assigned Readings:

1. Bruce Hoffman, "Religion and Terrorism," in *Inside Terrorism* (p. 81-129).
2. Al Qaeda, Pre-9/11:
  - o **Mandatory Film: *Inside 9/11* (Part 1) (Part 2)** - your assignment is to watch this film either individually or in groups **prior to class**. This is testable material, so be sure to take notes in order to study for your WPR and TEE.
  - o Lawrence Wright, *The Looming Tower*
3. Al Qaeda, Post-9/11:
  - o [Knowing Al Qaeda](#), by James Forest

### Recommended Readings:

- [9/11 Timeline](#)
- [The National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States](#) (the 9-11 Commission Report), 2004.
- Case Studies from *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 3), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007:
  - o Daniel Baracskey, [The February 1993 Attack on the World Trade Center](#)
  - o Gary A. Ackerman and Sundara Vadlamudi, [The Case of Ramzi Youssef](#)
  - o Robert Wesley, [Capturing Khalid Sheik Mohammad](#)
  - o Ruth Beitler, [Yemen and the Attack on the USS Cole](#)
- Raffi Khatchadourian, "[Azzam the American: The making of an Al Qaeda homegrown](#)," *The New Yorker*, January 22, 2007.

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## 18 September: **Lesson 5 - Radicalization in Europe**

### Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Compare and contrast the events of March 2004 and June 2005
- Critique the counterterrorism measures adopted by other Western liberal democracies
- Understand the threat of self-radicalized cells in Western societies

### Assigned Readings:

1. Robert S. Leiken, "[Europe's Angry Muslims](#)." *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2005.
2. Eliza Manningham-Buller, [The International Terrorist Threat to the UK](#) - a speech by the Director-General of MI5, November 9, 2006
3. [Official House of Commons Report](#) on the London bombings of July 7, 2005
4. Muqtedar Khan and John Esposito. "[Islam in the West: The Threat of Internal Extremism](#)." (February 2005).

### Recommended Readings:

- Stephen Ulph. "[Londonistan](#)." *Terrorism Monitor* 2, no. 4 (February 26, 2004).
- Case Studies from *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 3), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007:
  - Tom Maley, [The London Terrorist Attacks of July 7, 2005](#)
  - Rogelio Alonso, [The Madrid Attacks of March 11, 2004](#)
- Magnus Ranstorp, [The London Bombings and the Broader Strategic Context](#)
- [Canada's Jihad Generation](#) (CSM article, June 2006)
- [UK CT Strategy](#)
- Annegret Bendiek, [EU CT Strategy](#)

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## 24 September: **Lesson 6 - Suicide Terrorism and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict**

### Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Understand the history behind the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and its role in Islamist radicalization
- Understand the various terror groups involved in the MidEast Conflict
- Why does this conflict have so much resonance throughout the Muslim world?
- How do salafi-jihadists use this conflict to attract recruitment and support?
- Why martyrdom?
- Why do we consider most suicide bombings to be a product of both individual and group decision-making?
- What is the likelihood of this threat coming to the U.S.? Why?
- What are the different attack scenarios that we could envision, and why?
- What lessons can we learn from Israel on confronting this threat?

### Assigned Readings:

1. Bruce Hoffman, "Suicide Terrorism," in *Inside Terrorism* (p. 131-171).
2. Assaf Moghadam, "[The New Martyrs Go Global](#)." *The Boston Globe* (18 November 2005).
3. [Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: A Brief Overview](#) (BBC Website Resources)
  - [Maps of the West Bank Territorial Dispute](#)
  - [The Gaza Strip Dispute](#)
  - [Profile of Hamas](#)
  - [Profile of Hizbollah](#)
  - [Profile of Islamic Jihad](#)
  - [Profile of Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade](#)
4. Matthew A. Levitt, "[Hamas Social Welfare: In the Service of Terror](#)." In *The Making of a Terrorist: Recruitment, Training and Root Causes* (Vol. 1), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2005.
5. Mia M. Bloom, [Palestinian Suicide Bombing: Public Support, Market Share, and Outbidding](#), *Political Science Quarterly*, March, 2004. (skim)

### Recommended Readings:

- Yossi Alpher, "[The Future of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict](#)," USIP Special Report, September 2006

- Ami Pedahzur, "Toward an Analytical Model of Suicide Terrorism—A Comment" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
  - Nasra Hassan, "[An Arsenal of Believers](#)," *The New Yorker*, November 19, 2001.
  - Ehud Sprinzak, "[Rational Fanatics](#)," *Foreign Policy*, Sep-Oct 2001.
  - Bruce Hoffman, "The Logic of Suicide Terrorism" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
  - Robert Pape, "[The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism](#)," in *Homeland Security and Terrorism: Readings and Interpretations*, edited by Russell Howard, James Forest and Joanne Moore. McGraw-Hill, 2005.
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## 24 September: Hotspot Analysis Due NLT 1600

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### 2 October: **Lesson 7 - Modern Jihadi Use of the Internet**

#### Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- How do terrorists use the media to their advantage?
- How do terrorists use the Internet?
- What is the role of the media in the spread of terrorist ideology?
- How do online videos and games enable a terrorist group to attract new members and supporters?

#### Assigned Readings:

1. Jarret M. Brachman, "[High-Tech Terror: Al-Qaeda's Use of New Technology](#)" *The Fletcher Forum of World Affairs*, Vol. 30, no. 2 (Summer 2006), p. 149-164.
2. Marc Lynch, "[Al-Qaeda's Media Strategies](#)," *National Interest*, Spring 2006
3. Bruce Hoffman, "[The Use of the Internet by Islamic Extremists](#)," May 2006 Congressional Testimony (skim)

#### Recommended Readings:

- Boaz Ganor, "Dilemmas Concerning Media Coverage of Terrorist Attacks," in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
  - Madeleine Gruen, "Terrorism Indoctrination and Radicalization on the Internet," in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
  - Steven Simon and Jeff Martini, "Terrorism: Denying Al Qaeda Its Popular Support," in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
  - Falkenrath, Newman and Thayer, [America's Achilles' Heel](#) (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1998), Chapter 5, 261-336.
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## 8 October: **Lesson 8 - Iraq**

### Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- What's the difference between a terrorist and an insurgent?
- Who are the actors? Are there state sponsors?
- What are the insurgents' objectives?
- What are their strengths and weaknesses?
- What are the similarities/differences between Afghanistan in the 1980's and Iraq today?
- Which insurgents in Iraq are dangerous outside of Iraq? Why?

### **Assigned Readings:**

1. LTG David Petraeus, "[Learning Counterinsurgency: Observations from Soldiering in Iraq](#)," *Military Review* (Jan-Feb 2006)
2. Brian Fishman "[After Zargawi: The Dilemmas and Future of al-Qa`ida in Iraq](#)," *Washington Quarterly*, (Fall 2006)
3. Iraq Study Group Report (Read the [Executive Summary](#), and [skim the rest](#) if time permits)
4. International Crisis Group, [In Their Own Words: Reading the Iraqi Insurgency](#) (Feb. 2006)

### Recommended Readings:

- [The Mecca Declaration on the Iraqi Situation](#) (21 October, 2006)
- Amatzia Baram "[Who are the Insurgents](#)" (USIP, April 2005)
- MSNBC/Newsweek Report: [Unmasking the Insurgents](#)
- Mahan Abedin, "[Anbar Province and Emerging Trends in the Iraqi Insurgency](#)," *Terrorism Monitor*, Volume 3, Issue 14 (July 15, 2005) (PDF)
- [Murad Al-Shishani](#), "[The Salafi-Jihadist Movement in Iraq: Recruitment Methods and Arab Volunteers](#)," *Terrorism Monitor*, Volume 3, Issue 23 (December 2, 2005)

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## 12 October: **Lesson 9 - Afghanistan**

### Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- What's the difference between a terrorist and an insurgent?
- Who are the actors? Are there state sponsors?
- What are the insurgents' objectives?
- What are their strengths and weaknesses?
- What are the similarities/differences between Afghanistan in the 1980's and Iraq today?
- Which insurgents in Iraq are dangerous outside of Iraq? Why?

### **Assigned Readings:**

1. Transcript of the recent Frontline video "[Return of the Taliban](#)."

2. Thomas H. Johnson and M. Chris Mason, "[Terrorism, Insurgency and Afghanistan](#)," In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 3), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007.

Recommended Readings:

- Leonard Weinberg and William L. Eubank, [Twenty-First Century Insurgencies: Understanding the Use of Terrorism as a Strategy](#), In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 1), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007.

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17 October: **Lesson 10 - The U.S. and Counterterrorism in the 21st Century**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- How should the U.S. address the terrorism problem?
- What should the role of the military be in combating terrorism?
- What does "DIMEFIL" mean, and how does it relate to counterterrorism strategy?
- Are we winning the war against terrorism?
- How will we know if we have won?
- Can terrorism be defeated?

Assigned Readings:

1. [National Strategy to Combat Terrorism, 2006](#) The White House.
2. Bruce Hoffman, "A Nasty Business" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
3. Wayne A. Downing, "The Global War on Terrorism: Re-focusing the National Strategy" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
4. *9/11 Commission Report*, "[What to do? A Global Strategy](#)," 361-383.
5. Russell D. Howard, "Preemptive Military Doctrine: No Other Choice" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***

Recommended Readings:

- **Film:** [Inside the Bush White House](#)
- **Film:** [Rumsfeld's War](#)
- David J. Kilcullen, [Countering Global Insurgency](#), *Strategic Studies* 28, no. 4 (August 2005) 597-617
- Barry R. Posen, "The Struggle Against Terrorism: Grand Strategy, Strategy, and Tactics," in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
- *9/11 Commission Report*, "[Counterterrorism Evolves](#)," 71-253. (skim)
- Joseph Nye, "[Governments Challenge: Getting Serious About Terrorism](#)," in James Hogue, ed. *How Did This Happen? Terrorism and the New War*, 2001.

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23 October: **Lesson 11 - WPR**

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**28-30 October - Class trip to Washington, DC for selected cadets**

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2 November: **Lesson 12: - Hizballah and Lebanon**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Understand the history behind Hizballah and its role in Islamist radicalization
- Why does this group have greater capabilities than most other militant groups?

**Assigned Readings:**

1. Richard M. Wrona, Jr., "[Lebanon, Hizbollah, and the Patrons of Terrorism](#)." In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 3), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007
2. Daniel Byman, "[Should Hezbollah Be Next?](#)" *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 82, No. 6, 2003.
3. Vali R. Nasr, "When the Shiites Rise." *Foreign Affairs*, July/August 2006. Online at: <http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20060701faessay85405/vali-nasr/when-the-shiites-rise.html>

Recommended Readings:

- Matthew Levitt, "[Hezbollah: A Case Study of Global Reach](#)," Remarks at the International Policy Institute for Counterterrorism, September 8, 2003.
- BBC, "[U.S. Charges Hezbollah TV Provider](#)" (26 August)

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6 November: **Lesson 13 - Interagency CT Cooperation: DC versus Reality**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- How should the U.S. address the terrorism problem?
- What should the role of the military be in combating terrorism?
- What does "DIMEFIL" mean, and how does it relate to counterterrorism strategy?
- Are we winning the war against terrorism?

- How will we know if we have won?
- Can terrorism be defeated?

### **Assigned Readings:**

1. Martha Crenshaw, "[Counterterrorism Policy and the Political Process](#)," *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, Vol. 24, 2001, 329 - 337.
2. Lianne Kennedy-Boudali, "[The Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Program](#)," In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 2), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007
3. Richard H. Shultz, Jr., "Showstoppers: Nine Reasons Why We Never Sent Our Special Operations Forces After Al Qaeda Before 9/11" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***

### **Recommended Readings:**

- **Film:** [Inside the Bush White House](#)
- **Film:** [Rumsfeld's War](#)
- David J. Kilcullen, [Countering Global Insurgency](#), *Strategic Studies* 28, no. 4 (August 2005) 597-617
- Barry R. Posen, "The Struggle Against Terrorism: Grand Strategy, Strategy, and Tactics," in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
- *9/11 Commission Report*, "[Counterterrorism Evolves](#)," 71-253. (skim)
- Joseph Nye, "[Governments Challenge: Getting Serious About Terrorism](#)," in James Hogue, ed. *How Did This Happen? Terrorism and the New War*, 2001.

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## 13 November: **Lesson 14 - Combating Terrorism**

### **Lesson Questions & Objectives:**

- As a future Army officer, you will deploy to any number of countries in support of the global counterterrorism mission. This lesson is set aside to discuss your concerns with GEN Downing during the E hour lecture. This will be followed by a discussion of current events and terrorist hotspots, and implications for potential U.S. military activity in those locations.

### **Assigned Readings:**

1. Jennifer S. Holmes, "[Developing and Implementing Counterterrorism Policy in a Liberal Democracy](#)," In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 2), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007.
2. **Case Studies - choose one of the following to read and bring to class for discussion:**
  - a. **Colombia:** Nicolás Urrutia Iriarte and Román D. Ortiz, "[A Slow Road to Victory: Counterinsurgency and Strategic Innovation in Colombia](#)," In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 3), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007.

- b. **Germany:** Joanne Wright, "[Countering West Germany's Red Army Faction: What Can We Learn?](#)" In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 3), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007.
- c. **Sri Lanka:** Tomas Marks, "[State Response to Terrorism in Sri Lanka](#)," In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 3), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007.
- d. **Turkey:** Lydia Khalil, "[Turkey and the PKK](#)," In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 3), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007.
- e. **United States:** Eric Shibuya, "[The Struggle with Violent Right-Wing Extremist Groups in the United States](#)," In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 3), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007.

Recommended Readings:

- Paul R. Pillar, "Counterterrorism after Al Qaeda" in *Terrorism and Counterterrorism*
- Raphael Perl, [Combating Terrorism: The Challenge of Measuring Effectiveness](#). Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service (March 2007)

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19 November: **Lesson 15 - Chaos, Crime and other Enablers of Terrorism**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- What role do economics, psychology, sociology or other grievances play in motivating terrorist groups?
- What is meant by the phrase "enablers of ideological resonance"?
- What is the relationship between governance and terrorism?
- What states have been known to sponsor terrorist organizations, and why?
- How do terrorists fund their operations?
- What intersections exist between transnational criminal organizations and transnational / national terrorist organizations?
- What synergies exist between the different actors?
- What challenges do these synergies pose for counterterrorists?
- What opportunities do these synergies create for counterterrorists?
- What role does human trafficking play in this arena?
- How should we approach this problem from a counterterrorist point of view?

Assigned Readings:

1. Thomas Sanderson, "[Transnational Terrorism and Organized Crime: Blurring the Line](#)," *SAIS Review*, Winter 2004; 24:1, 49-60.
2. Chris Dishman, "The Leaderless Nexus: When Crime and Terror Converge" in *Terrorism and Counterterrorism*
3. Combating Terrorism Center at West Point, "[Al Qaida's \(Mis\)Adventures in the Horn of Africa](#)," April 2007 (read the Foreword, Executive Summary and Introduction; skim the rest)
4. Stewart Patrick, "[Weak States and Global Threats: Fact or Fiction](#)," *The Washington Quarterly* 29, no. 2 (Spring 2006): 27-53

Recommended Readings:

- Daniel Byman, [Combating State Sponsors of Terrorism](#). In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (Vol. 2), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007
- Barry R. McCaffrey and John A. Basso, "Narcotics, Terrorism and International Crime: The Convergence Phenomenon" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
- Mark Basile, "[Going to the Source: Why Al Qaeda's Financial Network is Likely to Withstand the Current War on Terrorist Financing](#)." *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, Vol 27, (2004), 169-185.
- Matthew Levitt, "[Untangling the Terror Web: Identifying and Counteracting the Phenomenon of Crossover Between Terrorist Groups](#)"

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## 27 November: **Lesson 16 - The Darkest Terror: Weapons of Mass Destruction**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- How should we think about CBRN(E) terrorism?
- Why would a terrorist group use these types of weapons?
- What sources exist for acquisition of these weapons?
- What is the probability of acquiring such a weapon?
- What types of groups are most likely to use these devices?
- Are there any constraints on the use of unconventional weapons?

**Assigned Readings:**

1. Bruce Hoffman, "[CBRN Terrorism Post-9/11](#)," in *Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction*, edited by Russ Howard and James Forest (McGraw-Hill, 2007)
2. James Forest, "[Catastrophic Ideologies of Terror](#)," essay written for the Fund for Peace summit on Threat Convergence, November 2006
3. Matthew Bunn and Anthony Wier, "[The Seven Myths of Nuclear Terrorism](#)." *Current History* (April 2005): 153-161.
4. David Franz, "[Bioterrorism Defense: Controlling the Unknown](#)," in *Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction*, edited by Russ Howard and James Forest (McGraw-Hill, 2007)
5. Rene Pita, "[Al Qaida and the Chemical Threat](#)," *ASA Newsletter*, Issue No. 108, June 9, 2005

Recommended Readings:

- **Film:** [Dirty War](#)
- **Film:** [The Day After](#)

- Jessica Stern, "Getting and Using the Weapons" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
- John Parachini, "[Putting WMD Terrorism into Perspective](#)," *Washington Quarterly* (Fall 2003).
- Adam Dolnik, "All God's Poisons: Re-Evaluating the Threat of Religious Terrorism with Respect to Non-Conventional Weapons in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
- Richard Pilch, "The Threat of Biological Terrorism Reevaluated" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
- Richard K. Betts, "[The New Threat of Mass Destruction](#)," *Foreign Affairs*, (Jan/Feb 1998), 26-40.
- Karl-Heinz Kamp, Joseph F. Pilat, Jessica Stern, Richard A. Falkenrath, "[WMD Terrorism: An Exchange](#)," *Survival* (Winter 1998-99): 168-183.
- Ehud Sprinzak, "[The Great Superterrorism Scare](#)," *Foreign Policy*, Fall 1998, 110-124.
- Jerrold Post, "[Differentiating the Threat of Chemical and Biological Terrorism: Motivations and Constraints](#)," *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology*, 8(3), 187-200.
- Michael Eastman and Robert B. Brown, from "Security Strategy in the Gray Zone: Alternatives for Preventing WMD Handoff to Non-State Actors" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
- John Ellis, "Terrorism in the Genomic Age" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***

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### 3 December: [Group Project Due NLT 1600](#)

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### 3 December: **Lesson 17 - The Future of Terrorism**

#### Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Are we winning the war against terrorism?
- How will we know if we have won?
- Can terrorism be defeated?

#### **Assigned Readings:**

- Martha Crenshaw, "[How Terrorism Declines](#)," *Terrorism and Political Violence*, Spring 1991: 69-87.
- Review the National Counterterrorism Center's "Worldwide Incidents Tracking System" at <http://wits.nctc.gov/>
- Review the Terrorism Knowledge Base home page (see Countries and Terrorism in the News sections): <http://www.tkb.org/>

#### Recommended Readings:

- The Bremer Commission Report; <http://www.mipt.org/Bremer-Commission.asp>
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## **7-13 December: Lessons 18-20 - Group Presentations**

### Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the strategic nature of terrorism