

SS474: Terrorism and Counterterrorism
Spring 2008
Combating Terrorism Center at West Point

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)

Insurgents, Terrorist and Militias: The Warriors of Contemporary Combat, by Richard Shultz and Andrea Dew (Columbia University Press, 2006)

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

NOTE: This class is organized as a graduate school-level seminar, and relies heavily on reading assignments to expand your knowledge base. There may be 35-50 pages of reading material in a particular week, so plan accordingly. Failure to keep up with the readings will virtually guarantee you a low grade in the course.

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.

Class Schedule

Date	Time	Room	Lesson	Topic
14 Jan	E hour	TH348	1a	Course & CTC Introduction Lecturer: Dr. Forest & LTC Felter
16 Jan	E hour	TH348	1b	Defining Terrorism Lecturer: Dr. Forest
	F hour	TH348	Film	<i>17 Days of Terror: The Hijack of TWA 847</i>
23 Jan	E hour	TH348	2	History of Terrorism Lecturer: Dr. Forest
	F hour	Section rooms	<i>Discussion</i>	Historical Case Studies
29 Jan	E hour	TH348	3	The Ideas Behind al Qaida Lecturer: Dr. Brachman
	F hour	Section rooms	<i>Discussion</i>	Islamic Extremist Groups
30 Jan - 8 Feb	Watch the film Inside 9/11 (parts 1 & 2) either individually or in groups (we will show the 4-hour film during E & F hour on 4 Feb and 6 Feb in TH348)			
8 Feb	E hour	TH348	4	The United States and al Qaida Lecturer: GEN Abizaid
Book Review Due 8 Feb NLT 1600				
12 Feb	E hour	TH348	5	London Attack of July 7 Guest Lecture: Dr. Bruce Hoffman
	F hour	Section rooms	<i>Discussion</i>	Madrid Attacks of March 11, 2004
19 Feb	E hour	TH348	6	Radicalization in Europe and Canada Lecturer: Dr. Moghadam
	F hour	Section rooms	<i>Discussion</i>	The Toronto Cell (2006)
25 Feb	E hour	TH348	7	The Strategy of Suicide Terrorism Lecturer: Dr. Moghadam
	F hour	Section rooms	<i>Discussion</i>	Hamas & Palestinian Terrorism
29 Feb	Case Study Comparison Due NLT 1600			
4 Mar	E hour	TH348	8	Modern Jihadi Use of the Internet Lecturer: Dr. Brachman
	F hour	Section rooms	<i>Discussion</i>	Uses of the Internet
10 Mar	E hour	TH348	9	Iraq Lecturer: Mr. Fishman
12 Mar	E hour	Section rooms	10	WPR
25 Mar	E hour	TH348	11	Understanding the Conflict in Afghanistan Lecturer: MAJ Scott Taylor

	F hour	Section rooms	Discussion	Civil Affairs and Counterinsurgency
--	--------	---------------	------------	-------------------------------------

30 March. - 1 April: *Class Trip to Washington DC* for Selected Cadets

4 April	E hour	TH348	12	Militant Shia Islam Lecturer: Dr. Moghadam
	F hour	Section rooms	Discussion	Hizballah and Lebanon

8 April	E hour	TH348	13	The U.S. Counterterrorism Strategy Lecturer: Mr. Braniff
	F hour	Section Rooms	Discussion	U.S. Agencies & Policy Process

14 April	E hour	TH348	14a	Interagency Cooperation in Counterterrorism Guest Lecturer: LTC Scott Womack
	F hour	Section rooms	Discussion	Interagency Cooperation

17 April	Dean's hour	TH144	14b	Counterterrorism: A European Perspective Guest Lecturer: Dr. Bruce Hoffman
-----------------	--------------------	--------------	-----	--

22 April	E hour	TH348	15a	WMD and Terrorism Lecturer: Dr. Forest
	F hour	Section rooms	Discussion	Enabling Environments

24 April	E hour	TH344 - note room change	15b	WMD and Terrorism Guest Lecturer: Rolf Mowatt-Larssen
-----------------	--------	---------------------------------	-----	---

30 April	E hour	TH348	16	Measuring Effectiveness in Counterterrorism Lecturer: Dr. Brachman
	F hour	Section Rooms	Discussion	How Terrorist Groups Decline

2 May | ***Group Project Paper Due NLT 1600***

6 May | E hour | Section rooms | Group Presentations

9 May | E hour | Section rooms | Group Presentations

13 May | E hour | Section rooms | Group Presentations

15 May | E hour | Section rooms | Group Presentations

19-24 May – TEE Week

GRADED EVENTS

Assignment	Date Due	Points
Book Review	8 Feb.	100
Case Study Comparison	29 Feb.	100
WPR	12 Mar.	150
Group Project	2 May.	200
Group Presentation	6 May.	50
Reading Quizzes (4)	TBD	100
Instructors Points/Class Participation	---	50
Term End Examination	TBD	250
Total Points		1000

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. [Click here for some examples of good book reviews](#). Your book review should critique the work and comment on the value of the work to the terrorism studies field. **Due: 8 February ****

2) **Case Study Comparison:** For this assignment, you will need to [choose two case studies from the list \(click here\)](#) and write a **5-page analysis** comparing the groups' ideologies, capabilities, areas of operations, and potential targets. *Additional research on both groups (beyond the articles provided) is highly encouraged.* Your analysis should conclude with an assessment of which of the two groups should be of greater concern to U.S. policymakers, and why. **Due: 29 February ****

***** Note: Your performance on these first two assignments will determine whether or not you are selected for the Class Trip to Washington, DC, 30 March - 1 April.***

3) **WPR:** A WPR will be administered **12 March** 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 1 April**. 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: 2 May**

5) **Group Presentation:** Each group will give a 15-minute presentation about their project. **Due: 6 May**

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.

PART I - INTRODUCTION OF THE STUDY OF TERRORISM

(Jan 14-18): **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. "War after the Cold War," in *Insurgents, Terrorists and Militias* (p. 1-16)
3. Martha Crenshaw, "The Logic of Terrorism: Terrorist Behavior as a Product of Strategic Choice," in *Terrorism and Counterterrorism*

Recommended Readings:

- Browse the Combating Terrorism Website: <http://ctc.usma.edu> and the SS474 course syllabus
- Jessica Stern, [The Ultimate Terrorists](#) (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999), p. 15-19.

- 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.
- 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).

(Jan 21-25): **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. "Tribes and Clans," in *Insurgents, Terrorists and Militias* (p. 39-56)
4. Brian Michael Jenkins, "[The New Age of Terrorism](#)," *The McGraw-Hill Homeland Security Handbook*, edited by David G. Kamien. New York: McGraw Hill, 2006.

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*

(Jan 28-Feb 1): **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?
- 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?

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*

Recommended Readings:

- Mark Sageman, "[Understanding Jihadi Networks](#)," *Strategic Insights* 4, no. 4 (April 2005)

- Andrew Black, "[Al-Suri's Adaptation of Fourth Generation Warfare Doctrine](#)," *Terrorism Monitor* Volume 4, Issue 18 (Sept. 21, 2006)
- 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.

(Feb 4-8): **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 Qaida, Pre-9/11:
 - **Mandatory Film: *Inside 9/11* (Part 1) (Part 2)** [3.5 hours total]
You can watch this film either during the scheduled E & F hour class sessions on Feb 4 and Feb 6 or in your barracks. This is testable material, so however you decide to watch the film, be sure to take notes in order to study for your WPR and TEE.
3. Al Qaida, Post-9/11:
 - James Forest, "[Knowing Al Qaida](#)" *Family Security Matters*, June 22, 2007 (4 pages)

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 21st Century* (Vol. 3), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007:
 - Daniel Baracskey, [The February 1993 Attack on the World Trade Center](#)
 - Gary A. Ackerman and Sundara Vadlamudi, [The Case of Ramzi Youssef](#)
 - Robert Wesley, [Capturing Khalid Sheik Mohammad](#)
 - 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.
-

8 February: Book Review Due NLT 1600

(Feb 11-15): **Lesson 5 - Al Qaida in Europe**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Compare and contrast the events of March 2004 and June 2005

Assigned Readings:

1. Eliza Manningham-Buller, [The International Terrorist Threat to the UK](#) - a speech by the Director-General of MI5, November 9, 2006
2. [Official House of Commons Report](#) on the London bombings of July 7, 2005
3. Rogelio Alonso, "[The Madrid Attacks of March 11, 2004](#)," in *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21st Century* (Vol. 3), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007
4. Magnus Ranstorp, [The London Bombings and the Broader Strategic Context](#)

(Feb 18-22): **Lesson 6 - Radicalization in Europe & Canada**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- 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. [Canada's Jihad Generation](#) (CSM article, June 2006)
3. [Background to the June 2006 terrorist plot in Toronto, Canada](#) (CBC Report)
4. Frontline **Video:** [The Cell Next Door](#)

Recommended Readings:

- Muqtedar Khan and John Esposito. "[Islam in the West: The Threat of Internal Extremism](#)." (February 2005).
- Stephen Ulph. "[Londonistan](#)." *Terrorism Monitor* 2, no. 4 (February 26, 2004).

(Feb 25-29): **Lesson 7 - The Strategy of Suicide Terrorism**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- 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. Assaf Moghadam, "The Roots of Suicide Terrorism: A Multi-Causal Approach," in Ami Pedahzur, ed., *Root Causes of Suicide Terrorism* (New York and London: Routledge, 2006)
2. Bruce Hoffman, "Suicide Terrorism," in *Inside Terrorism* (p. 131-171)
3. Scott Atran, "[The Moral Logic and Growth of Martyrdom](#)," *Washington Quarterly*, Spring 2006.
4. Assaf Moghadam, "[The New Martyrs Go Global](#)," *The Boston Globe* (18 November 2005).

Recommended Readings:

- Robert J. Brym and Bader Araj, "[Suicide Bombing as Strategy and Interaction: The Case of the Second Intifada](#)," *Social Forces* 84, no. 4 (June 2006)
- Mohammed M. Hafez, *Suicide Bombers in Iraq: The Strategy and Ideology of Martyrdom* (Washington, D.C.: USIP Press, 2007).
- Mia M. Bloom, "[Palestinian Suicide Bombing: Public Support, Market Share, and Outbidding](#)," *Political Science Quarterly*, March, 2004.(SKIM)
- "[" Hamas and al-Qaida: The Prospects for Radicalization in the Palestinian Occupied Territories,"](#) by Khalid Amayreh, *Conflicts Forum*, October, 2007 (SKIM)
- 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.
- 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.

29 February: Comparative Case Study Analysis Due NLT 1600

(Mar 3-7): **Lesson 8 - 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***

(Mar 10-14): **Lesson 9 - 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. GEN 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:

- "Iraq," in *Insurgents, Terrorists and Militias* (p. 197-258)
- [The Mecca Declaration on the Iraqi Situation](#) (21 October, 2006)
- Murad Al-Shishani, "[The Salafi-Jihadist Movement in Iraq: Recruitment Methods and Arab Volunteers](#)," *Terrorism Monitor*, Volume 3, Issue 23 (December 2, 2005)

(Mar 12): **Lesson 10 - WPR**

14-24 March: Spring Break

(Mar 25-28): **Lesson 11 - 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. "Afghanistan: A Superpower Conundrum," in *Insurgents, Terrorists and Militias*
2. Transcript of the recent Frontline video "[Return of the Taliban](#)."
3. Thomas H. Johnson and M. Chris Mason, "[Terrorism, Insurgency and Afghanistan](#)," In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21st 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 21st Century* (Vol. 1), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007.
-

Mar 30-Apr 1 - Class trip to Washington, DC for selected cadets

(Mar 31-Apr 4): **Lesson 12 - Militant Shia Islam**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Understand the militant Shia ideology, and the groups that adhere to it
- 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. Assaf Moghadam, "[Shia Conception of Jihad](#)," - Read the the first and last parts of the article, and skim the middle part.
2. 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>
3. Richard M. Wrona, Jr., "[Lebanon, Hizballah, and the Patrons of Terrorism](#)." In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21st Century* (Vol. 3), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007

Recommended Readings:

- Daniel Byman, "[Should Hezbollah Be Next?](#)" *Foreign Affairs*, Vol. 82, No. 6, 2003.
 - 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, 2007)
-

(Apr 7-11): **Lesson 13 - The U.S. Counterterrorism Strategy**

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. "When Soldiers Fight Warriors: Lessons Learned for Policymakers, Military Planners and Intelligence Analysts," in *Insurgents, Terrorists and Militias*
2. [National Strategy to Combat Terrorism, 2006](#) The White House.
3. Bruce Hoffman, "A Nasty Business" in *Terrorism and Counterterrorism*
4. Wayne A. Downing, "The Global War on Terrorism: Re-focusing the National Strategy" in *Terrorism and Counterterrorism*
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](#)
- 9/11 Commission Report, "[What to do? A Global Strategy](#)," 361-383.
- 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.

(Apr 14-18): **Lesson 14 - Interagency Cooperation in Counterterrorism**

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. [Embassies as Command Posts in the Anti-Terrorism Campaign](#) U.S. Senate Report, Committee on Foreign Relations (Dec. 15, 2006)
2. Martha Crenshaw, "[Counterterrorism Policy and the Political Process](#)," *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, Vol. 24, 2001, 329 - 337.

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***
4. Thomas Sanderson, "[Transnational Terrorism and Organized Crime: Blurring the Line.](#)" *SAIS Review*, Winter 2004; 24:1, 49-60.

Recommended Readings:

- Lianne Kennedy-Boudali, "[The Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Program.](#)" In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21st Century* (Vol. 2), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007
- **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.

(Apr 21-25): **Lesson 15 - 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***

(Apr 28-May 2): **Lesson 16 - Measuring Effectiveness in Counterterrorism**

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Are we winning the war against terrorism?
- How will we know if we have won?
- Can terrorism be defeated?
- 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. Audrey Kurth Cronin, "[How al-Qaida Ends: The Decline and Demise of Terrorist Groups](#)," *International Security*, Vol. 31, No. 1 (Summer 2006), p. 7-48
2. Jennifer S. Holmes, "[Developing and Implementing Counterterrorism Policy in a Liberal Democracy](#)," In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21st Century* (Vol. 2), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007.
3. Raphael Perl, [Combating Terrorism: The Challenge of Measuring Effectiveness](#). Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service (March 2007)

Recommended Readings:

- Martha Crenshaw, "[How Terrorism Declines](#)," *Terrorism and Political Violence*, Spring 1991: 69-87.
- Daniel Byman, [Combating State Sponsors of Terrorism](#). In *Countering Terrorism and Insurgency in the 21st Century* (Vol. 2), edited by James J.F. Forest. Westport, CT: Praeger, 2007
- [UK CT Strategy](#) (SKIM)
- Annegret Bendiek, [EU CT Strategy](#) (SKIM)
- Paul R. Pillar, "Counterterrorism after Al Qaeda" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
- Review the National Counterterrorism Center's "Worldwide Incidents Tracking System" at <http://wits.nctc.gov>
- James Forest, "[Countering Linkages between Terrorist and Criminal Networks](#)," paper delivered at the International Summit on Threat Convergence, Zurich, March 2007
- Chris Dishman, "The Leaderless Nexus: When Crime and Terror Converge" in ***Terrorism and Counterterrorism***
- 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)
- Stewart Patrick, "[Weak States and Global Threats: Fact or Fiction](#)," *The Washington Quarterly* 29, no. 2 (Spring 2006): 27-53
- 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](#)"
- The Bremer Commission Report; <http://www.mipt.org/Bremer-Commission.asp>

2 May: Group Project Due NLT 1600

6-15 May - Group Presentations

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the strategic nature of terrorism.