



THE STATE UNIVERSITY
OF NEW JERSEY

Political Terrorism and International Law
01:202:311:B6
SUMMER SESSION 2014
TUESDAY 6-10PM, THURSDAY ONLINE ASSIGNMENT
5/27/2014- 7/3/2014

Instructor: Dr. Kristen Zgoba

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This class reviews the essential features and the international legal framework of terrorism, relying heavily on '9/11' as its present foundation, while providing comprehensive coverage of a number of major events since the 1920s. We address responsibility over who is responsible for terrorist acts, constraints on the use of force and international human rights. Significant conversations will focus on how to define terrorism and who is responsible for doing so.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Discuss the different definitions of terrorism and the drawbacks of each.
2. Identify various terrorist organizations and assign them to general categories.
3. Understand terrorist capabilities and group evolution in several geographic regions.
4. Name some of the counter-terrorist organizations of foreign governments and explain their unique capabilities.

Learning Goals: A Statement of Principles

The Program Committee for the Program in Criminal Justice at Rutgers University in New Brunswick has adopted a series of learning goals for students who complete the major. These goals represent the consensus of the faculty regarding the concepts a student should grasp and the skills a student should acquire in the course of completing the major. These goals guide the choices faculty make about the structure of the curriculum and the requirements for our majors. Moreover, they guide faculty and instructors preparing course material and teaching courses. The Program in Criminal Justice will provide

students with a rich understanding of crime and criminal justice in the United States and abroad through an interdisciplinary approach that blends a strong liberal arts educational experience with pre-professional instruction in the field of criminal justice. Graduates of the program will be well-informed citizens on the topic of crime and justice, and qualified for graduate study or for employment as practitioners in a variety of legal, policymaking, and law enforcement fields.

Criminal justice majors graduating from a research university should be able to use critical thinking, factual inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to individual and group behavior. In addition, students should have an understanding of the legal, political and policymaking processes that affect criminal justice systems in the United States and elsewhere in the world. Finally, students should be familiar with the institutional structures and latest developments in the field in order to engage in meaningful debate about current public policy issues.

Learning Goals for Criminal Justice Majors

1. Competence:

1. a.) Theory. Students who complete the major in criminal justice should understand and be able to articulate, both orally and in writing, the core theoretical concepts that form the foundation of analysis and research in criminology and criminal justice today. Core concepts are derived from explanations of crime from a variety of perspectives, including biogenic, psychological, and sociological approaches. There are myriad theories of crime that are informed by these perspectives, including, classical, control, critical, ecology, labeling, learning, strain, and trait-based approaches. Theoretical literacy should extend to multicultural and international understanding.
2. b.) Institutions. Students who complete the major in criminal justice should understand the special role of three types of institutions: Police, Corrections, and Courts. In addition, students should know how institutional forms vary across jurisdictions and how these institutions interact with and influence each other.
3. c.) Research Methods. Students who complete the criminal justice major should be familiar with the tools, techniques, and data sources necessary for empirical analysis. Students should understand the various ways that empirical analysis is used in the scientific approach: for description, for developing, and for testing theories. They should be able to analyze data using computer applications and should be familiar with basic statistical techniques and regression analysis. They should be able to read and assess research from a wide range of sources, including general interest, academic, and government publications.

2. Critical Thinking:

Upon completion of the major students should be able to apply their understanding of core concepts and quantitative tools to analyze and research real world problems, and evaluate alternative policy proposals on

a range of criminal justice issues, from micro-level analyses relevant to particular cases to management concerns to macro-level analyses of legislative and other broad-scale policies. Accomplishment of this goal will require that students can apply their literacy and numeracy skills to different institutional structures, within the U.S. and across countries.

3. Scholarship:

Qualified majors should have an opportunity through such avenues as advanced coursework, internships, and faculty interactions to conduct independent research on matters of central relevance to the field of criminal justice.

REQUIRED READING (Book is not optional)

1) Martin, Gus (2014). Essentials of Terrorism: Concepts and Controversies, Third Edition. Sage Publications, Thousand Oaks, California. ISBN 9781452256658.

2) Throughout the course you may also be required to read journal or newspaper articles, for which you will be responsible. These will be uploaded and are mandatory and if I believe students are not reading the articles, there will be quizzes on the material.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1) Attendance & Participation

This is a **hybrid** summer class, which means we meet in-person in-class every Tuesday and then on Thursday you have an online assignment on sakai equivalent of the same time period. Because we ONLY see each other 6 times, participation and attendance are required and mandatory, as they accrue toward your grade. An absence will only be excused with the proper documentation (hospital stay, death in family, etc.) and participation will be assessed after each class. If you do not have one of the approved reasons for an absence listed, you will receive a zero for the day. Roll will be taken during each class. You are expected to have the material read for the respective class and the online week prior. Failing to provide sufficient answers to posed questions will result in a score of zero for that day's participation. Students are expected to fully participate in the lectures and will be called on regularly. No amendments will be made to grades after the class is complete. Do not ask for extra credit beyond what I allow for (if any) and I will not change grades at the end of the course.

2) Reading Material

Readings are assigned for Tuesday and Thursday of every week. Since we only meet in person on Tuesdays, we will cover that Tuesday's reading and the reading from the Thursday BEFORE. As stated previously, you must become familiar with the online sakai website for the course and journal articles and newspaper articles may be posted. Summer sessions are historically difficult due to the intake of information over a shortened period of time and the lengthy 4 hour sessions, you must therefore be committed to the class and if participation and feedback on readings suffers, pop quizzes will be given sporadically.

Additionally, there will be 3 of the 6 Thursday "online" sessions where you will have an online assignment. These 3 account for 10% of your grade.

3) Newspaper Article Review/Presentation

One grade will be a write-up and presentation of a **newspaper** article dealing with an issue pertinent to terrorism and international law. This article can range anywhere in the topic of how to handle terrorism, new forms, historical accounts, training, and specific situations. The possibilities are infinite and as long as your topic relates to the course, I will not object. If someone presents a newspaper article on something before you, please refrain from choosing the same article. Hard copy newspaper articles can be searched, as well as outlets like the New York Times and the Washington Post, which would allow you to search by key word. NO WIKIPEDIA. The article should be attached to a 1 page type-written summation. Students should outline the problem or topic in the article and depending on the content, they should offer suggestions, opinions or remedies- DO NOT SIMPLY REGURGITATE THE ARTICLE. The class should also pay attention to grammar, spelling and content, as this contributes to your grade. A sign-up sheet will be provided the first class and you will sign up for one date, write down the date you choose. Late assignments will not be accepted, Presentation of this newspaper article and your opinions and suggestions are expected to last TEN MINUTES. If you are going to use power point, please arrive early and boot up your computer and load your presentation on the desktop, I will not hold up class if you fail to do so. This is worth 15% of your grade. This is an easy way to get a good grade worth 15% of your total.

4) Midterm and Final Exam

There is a midterm exam and a final exam in this course. It is going to be either a mix of multiple choice or essay, or just essay, depending on the size of the class. You will know this within the first week of class. The final exam will include material from the whole semester because there is no midterm. This is worth 42.5% of your grade.

COURSE GRADING

Newspaper Article 15%
Online Assignments 10%
Midterm Exam 37.5%
Final Exam 37.5%

GRADING SCALE

A 100--90
B+ 89-- 87
B 86-- 80
C+ 79-- 77
C 76-- 70
D 69-- 60
F 59 and below

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and any violation will be reported to the Dean of Students. No excuse will ever be tolerated for academic dishonesty, but it is even more important that students understand the repercussions of this unethical behavior. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, the fabrication or invention of information used in an assignment, plagiarism, facilitating the academic dishonesty of others or denying access to materials and resources.

CLASS SCHEDULE	
Week 1 5/27/14	Class Administrative Issues Syllabus Review Newspaper presentation sign-up Essentials of Terrorism- Chapter 1
Week 1 5/29/14 ONLINE	Essentials of Terrorism- Chapter 2
Week 2 6/3/14	Newspaper Presentations Essentials of Terrorism- Chapter 3
Week 2 6/5/14 ONLINE	Essentials of Terrorism- Chapter 4
Week 3 6/10/14	Newspaper Presentations Essentials of Terrorism- Chapter 5
Week 3 6/12/14 ONLINE	Essentials of Terrorism- Chapter 6
Week 4 6/17/14	Newspaper Presentations Midterm Exam after Presentations
Week 4 6/19/14 ONLINE	Essentials of Terrorism- Chapter 7
Week 5 6/24/14	Newspaper Presentations Essentials of Terrorism- Chapter 8
Week 5 6/26/14 ONLINE	Essentials of Terrorism- Chapter 9
Week 6 7/1/14	Newspaper Presentations Essentials of Terrorism- Chapter 10

Week 6 7/3/14 ONLINE	FINAL EXAM- ONLINE

***This is subject to modification based on our progress**