Course Syllabus

Terrorism and Emergency Management
Fall 2015
EADP 4090.001
Tuesday 2:00-4:50 p.m.
BLB 070

Instructor: Dr. Gary Webb
Office Hours: T 11:00a.m.-1:50 p.m. (and by appointment)
Room 216 Chilton Hall
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Course Overview
Terrorism has emerged as a primary threat facing nations around the world in the early part of the 21st Century. As the world’s population has become more concentrated in large urban centers, as critical infrastructure systems have grown more complex and interdependent, as globalization has advanced, and as social inequality has become more pronounced, societies are increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of terrorist attacks. While terrorism is a complex problem that involves military strategy, intelligence gathering, and political diplomacy, it is also a type of hazard that can have damaging effects on local communities similar to other extreme events, including natural and technological disasters. Thus, the emergency management profession will play a pivotal role moving forward as societies attempt to better equip themselves to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against future threats of terrorism.

Course Objectives
The primary objective of this course is to improve students’ understanding of the relationship between terrorism and emergency management. Specifically, the course will:

1. Emphasize the value and relevance of the all-hazards and comprehensive emergency management frameworks to understanding and confronting the problem of terrorism.
2. Describe the basic characteristics of terrorism, including how it is defined and the various forms it takes.
3. Explore the conditions that give rise to terrorism, including social-psychological traits of individuals and groups, cultural characteristics, structural features of world political and economic systems, and societal trends such as urbanization, globalization, and growing social inequality.
4. Analyze the consequences of terrorism, including its impacts on the profession of emergency management, national and international politics, and society at large.

Course Readings

Required Text:

Additional Readings:
Throughout the semester students will also be required to read assigned journal articles. These are indicated by an asterisk (*) on the course outline and are accessible online through the UNT library and the course site on Blackboard.
Course Requirements
Student grades for this course will be based on each student’s performance on three (3) major exams and one (1) case study of a terrorist event.

Exams
There will be three required 90 minute exams in this course, each of which will test students’ knowledge of material covered in the relevant section. For example, the first exam (tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 29) will consist of all material from class discussions and required readings up to that point; the second exam (tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, November 3) will consist of material from class discussions and required readings covered after the first exam; and the third exam (scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 1:30-3:30 p.m.) will consist of all material from class discussions and required readings that are covered after the second exam (i.e., the final exam is not “comprehensive” in nature).

Each exam will contain 35 multiple choice questions, 1 short list question, and 1 essay question. The relative weight of each type of question for each exam is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question Type</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35 multiple choice</td>
<td>70 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 short list question</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 essay question</td>
<td>25 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100 points x 3 exams= 300 points</td>
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</tbody>
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Case Study
There is one required paper in this course, which will be evaluated in terms of organization, clarity of presentation (including spelling and grammar), and level of detail. Each student is required to write a research paper on a terrorist event of interest. The paper (which should be between six and eight typed, double-spaced pages) must include: (1) a description of the event, including its primary impacts and the various agencies and organizations involved in the response effort; (2) a description of the individual(s) or group responsible for the event, including their geographic origin, political or religious ideology, and scope of influence; and (3) a discussion of “lessons learned”--including at least one related to the emergency management profession--that identifies measures that could be taken to prevent or lessen the impacts of such an event in the future. The papers are due at the beginning of class Tuesday, December 1.

Course Grades
To summarize, course requirements and their relative weight for grading purposes are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Study</td>
<td>50 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>350 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student grades will be calculated on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points earned</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>315-350</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>280-314</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>245-279</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>210-244</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-209</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Late Assignments
Case study papers will not be accepted after the due date.

Missed Exams
Only in extenuating circumstances, such as family crisis, illness or injury sufficient to require medical care (which can be documented), participation in a university sponsored event which requires the student’s absence from campus on the day of the exam, and similar reasons beyond the student’s control, will make-up provisions apply. Advise the instructor in advance of absences due to such matters. If a make-up examination is allowed, an alternative exam (both in terms of substance and format) will be administered on the last day of finals week, Thursday, December 10 at 8:00 a.m. No student can make up more than one exam. In the event that a student misses more than one exam, a grade of zero will be assigned for the second missed exam. If a student is granted a make-up exam and misses the scheduled make-up exam, a grade of zero will be assigned for the missed exam.
**Tentative Course Outline**

**Part I: Characteristics of Terrorism, Weeks 1-6**

**Week 1 August 25**
*Topics*
Introductions and Course Overview
*Readings:* None

**Week 2 September 1**
*Topics*
Setting the Stage: What is Terrorism?
Competing Constructions of Catastrophe
Claims-making and Agenda Setting
*Readings:* McEntire Chapters 1 and 2

**Week 3 September 8**
*Topics*
A Brief History of Terrorism
Types of Terrorism
Tactics of Terrorists
*Readings:* McEntire Chapter 5

**Week 4 September 15**
*Topics*
Examples of Recent Terrorist Events and Lessons Learned
Human Response to Disasters and Other Extreme Events
Video: Resilience
*Readings:* McEntire Chapter 11

**Week 5 September 22**
*Topics*
Terrorism and Emergency Management
All-Hazards Emergency Management
Comprehensive Emergency Management
Homeland Security and Emergency Management: Challenges and Prospects
*Readings:* None

**Week 6 September 29**
*Exam 1*
Part II Conditions of Terrorism, Weeks, 7-11

Week 7 October 6
Topics
Social-Psychological Conditions
Individual Traits and Group Dynamics
Cultural Dimensions
The Role of Ideology
Readings: McEntire Chapters 3 and 4

Week 8 October 13
Topics
Structural Conditions
Politics and Economics
Globalization
Dynamics of the World System
Readings: McEntire Chapter 8

Week 9 October 20
Societal Conditions
Urbanization and Population Density
Critical Interdependent Infrastructure Systems
Rituals and Symbolism
Readings: McEntire Chapter 9 and 10

Week 10 October 27
Topics
Video: The Rise of ISIS
Readings: None.

Week 11 November 3
Exam 2

Part III Consequences of Terrorism, Weeks 12-16

Week 12 November 10
Topics
Consequences for Emergency Management
Structural and Cultural Changes to the Profession
High Profile Failures and Missteps
(Re)Making the Case for All-Hazards Emergency Management
Readings: McEntire Chapter 10

Week 13 November 17
Topics
Political Consequences
War on Terror
Budgets and Competing Priorities
The Bureaucratic Dilemma
Readings: None.
Week 14 November 24

**Topics**
Societal Consequences
Culture of Fear
Balancing Competing Cultural Values
Backlashes and Stereotypes
Surveillance Society

**Video:** *Spying at Home*

**Readings:** McEntire Chapter 12

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Week 15 December 1

***Case Study Reports Due***
Conclusions, Future Directions and Course Wrap-Up

**Readings:** McEntire Chapter 13

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Week 16 December 8

***Final Exam 1:30pm-3:30pm***

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* It is important to note that this course outline is tentative and may be changed by the instructor. In the event changes to the outline are made, students will be notified in class. It is important, therefore, that students attend class to learn about important changes.
FALL 2015

IMPORTANT CLASS DATES

AUG 24, MONDAY
First class day

SEPT 5, SATURDAY
Census date

SEPT 7, MONDAY
Labor Day-No classes. University Closed

SEPT 8, TUESDAY
Beginning this date a student who wishes to drop a course must first receive written consent of the instructor.

OCT 2, FRIDAY
Last day to drop a course with a grade of W for courses that a student is not passing. After this date a grade of WF may be recorded.

Last day for student to receive automatic grade of W for nonattendance.

OCT 3, SATURDAY
Beginning this date, instructors may drop students with grade of WF for non-attendance.

OCT 18, SUNDAY
Mid-Semester

NOV 2, MONDAY
Last day to drop with either W or WF.

Last day to drop a course with consent of instructor.

NOV 9, MONDAY
Beginning this date a student who qualifies may request a grade of “I,” incomplete, a non-punitive grade given only if a student (1) is passing, (2) has justifiable reason why the work cannot be completed on schedule; and (3) arranges with the instructor to complete the work.

NOV 20, FRIDAY
Last day for an instructor to drop a student with a grade of WF for non-attendance.

NOV 26-29, THURSDAY-SUNDAY
Thanksgiving Break

DEC 3, THURSDAY
Last class day

DEC 4, FRIDAY
Reading Day. No classes.

DEC 5 - 11 SATURDAY-FRIDAY
Final examinations

DEC 11, FRIDAY
End of Term
POLICY ON CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM
Notice of this policy shall be given in all public administration classes each semester, and written copies shall be available in the public administration office.

Definitions
The UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline defines cheating and plagiarism “as the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help in a test; copying other’s tests, assignments, reports, or term papers; representing the work of another as one’s own; collaborating without authority with another student during an examination or in preparing academic work; or otherwise practicing scholastic dishonesty.”

Penalties
Normally, the minimum penalty for cheating or plagiarism is a grade of “F” in the course. In the case of graduate departmental exams, the minimum penalty shall be failure of all fields of the exam. Determination of cheating or plagiarism shall be made by the instructor in the course, or by the departmental faculty in the case of departmental exams.

Cases of cheating or plagiarism on graduate departmental exams, papers, theses, or dissertations shall automatically be referred to the departmental Curriculum and Degree Programs Committee. Cases of cheating or plagiarism in ordinary course work may, at the discretion of the instructor, be referred to the Curriculum and Degree Programs Committee in the case of either graduate or undergraduate students. This committee, acting as an agent of the Department, shall impose further penalties, or recommend further penalties to the Dean of Students, if they determine that the case warrants it. In all cases, the Dean of Students shall be informed in writing of the case.

Appeals
Students may appeal and decision under this policy by following the procedure laid down in the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.

POLICY ON DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION
The Department of Public Administration, in cooperation with the Office of Disability Accommodation, complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request during regular office hours before the 12th class day of regular semesters (4th class day of summer sessions).

POLICY ON LAPTOPS AND CELL PHONES IN THE CLASSROOM
The classroom setting at an institution of higher learning is intended to serve as a venue that permits the transfer of knowledge and facilitates the sharing of ideas. As such, it is imperative that any distractions from these stated objectives be avoided and kept to a minimum. Potential disruptions include modern electronic devices such as laptop computers and cell phones.

Students are allowed to take notes on personal laptop computers to enhance the learning process, but they should not activate their internet browsers during class or use computers for non-academic purposes (as this diverts attention from the lecture/discussion for both the student using it and others nearby). Students should also avoid using cell phones to search the Internet or text while class is in session.

Exceptions to this policy will be at the discretion of the faculty only and may occur if searching the Internet is necessary to find additional information or facts related to the subject being covered on that particular day.
POLICY ON STUDENT BEHAVIOR IN THE CLASSROOM
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr.