COURSE INFORMATION
EADP 4090 Terrorism and Emergency Management
Spring 2017
EADP 4090, 3 credit hours

Instructor Contact Information
Dr. Ronald P Timmons, Lecturer
Chilton Hall 122B
(940) 565-2213
Office hours: Wednesdays, 2:30-4:30 PM
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About the Instructor
My passion is to help you learn about topics important to your career, using my experience and insights gained in years of public service.

I am a graduate of the Public Affairs Ph.D. program at the University of Texas at Dallas and the Public Administration master’s degree program at the State University of New York. I also completed a master’s degree in Homeland Security and Defense at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. Prior to appointment as a lecturer at UNT, my service in the public sector was in New York state and Texas as a fire chief, 911 director, and emergency management director.

I welcome your participation in this course as we work together to find new and better ways to secure our homeland.

Course Prerequisite: EADP 3010 or consent of department

Required Text
Other required readings: as assigned inside Blackboard

Course Description
This course is intended to help you understand what terrorism is, how it influences modern society and what you can do about it, both personally and professionally. As an on-line option to the same course taught in UNT classrooms for several years, this delivery format allows the engaged and ambitious student the opportunity to gain the same knowledge as their on-campus peers.

To maximize your effectiveness in this course, you will need to apply many of the same ethics as a classroom course—stay on track, pace yourself and sustain your attention through the end of the semester. It is important to fulfill your obligation to yourself to maximize your knowledge content, considering the time and personal resources you are investing.

On-line courses provide some additional convenience to the learner, such as time and location transparency and flexibility, yet there are additional responsibilities. It takes additional personal discipline to independently motivate yourself to complete assignments in a timely manner and to cover the assigned material and even explore beyond the minimum required. You will still have time-dependent assignments mimicking the pace and obligations of the classroom; you should frankly acknowledge to yourself that the in-person oversight of your instructor, and even some of the peer pressure classroom projects generate, will be different and it will be up to you to keep the personal challenge level high.

As the instructor, you can expect from me learning guidance, professional course content advice and direction, and sincere intent to provide a conducive and fair learning environment. Just like in classroom courses, it is best to stay in touch with the instructor throughout the semester, with office hours contact if possible, and email conversations using UNT email addresses.

Learning Objectives

1. The learner will be an active and engaged participant in discussion forums within the course learning community by analyzing, constructing/creating, and evaluating information presented within the textbook, external readings/resources, student research, and class activities.

2. The learner will describe and synthesize learning, theory, and contemporary concepts as it relates to homeland security in particular, as well as general, all-hazards emergency management principles.

3. The learner will be able to define, from scholarly sources, what terrorism is and identify why it occurs.

4. The learner will be able to demonstrate an understanding of practical measures to deal with the challenge of terrorism.
5. The learner will analyze the effect of terrorists’ operations, articulate terrorist motivations, and discuss the methods to lessen the impacts of attacks.

**How the Course is Organized**

Each week of the semester is segmented into weekly video lectures, accessible in the course Blackboard, on the left side of the screen. Those wishing to see the word transcripts as the video plays may use the cc button on the lower right corner of the viewer screens. Students read any additional assignments, take a quiz and contribute to a discussion forum. The units follow the same order as the textbook chapters.

**How Students Should Proceed Each Week for Class Activities**

- ✔ Read the corresponding text chapter
- ✔ View the weekly video lecture
- ✔ Read any additional assignments for the week
- ✔ Take the unit quiz within the proper timeframe
- ✔ Contribute to the weekly discussion

**What Should Students Do First?**

Follow the “Start Here” link on the left side of the Blackboard menu. Familiarize yourself with all of the elements in this syllabus and contact the instructor by email with any questions. A simple syllabus quiz with verify your awareness of basic course structure. All communication between student and instructor are through UNT.EDU emails.

**TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS / ASSISTANCE**

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparation for the technological aspect of the course.

UIT Help Desk: [http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

Hardware and software necessary to use Bb Learn: [http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/bblearn/](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/bblearn/)


Word Processor

Minimum Technical Skills Needed
- Using the Blackboard Learn system
- Using email with attachments
- Creating and submitting files in commonly used word processing program formats
- Downloading and installing software
- Using spreadsheet programs

**STUDENT TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

The University of North Texas [UIT Student Helpdesk](http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm) provides student technical support in the use of...
Blackboard and supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu  Phone: 940.565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Rm 130
Hours are:
- Monday-Thursday 8am-midnight
- Friday 8am-8pm
- Saturday 9am-5p
- Sunday 8am-midnight

ACCESS & NAVIGATION

Access and Log in Information
This course was developed and will be facilitated utilizing the University of North Texas’ Learning Management System, Blackboard Learn. To get started with the course, please go to: https://learn.unt.edu

You will need your EUID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your EUID or have forgotten your password, please go to: http://ams.unt.edu.

Student Resources
As a student, you will have access to these resources:
- Locate the “UNT Helpdesk” tab at the top of the Blackboard Learn window, which provides links to student resources of technical information and instruction, and how to contact the Help Desk for assistance.
- Take the Blackboard Learn Student Orientation. It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials within the Orientation to better equip you in navigating the course.
- Blackboard’s On Demand Learning Center for Students. It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials to better equip you to navigate the course.

Student Academic Support Services
Links to all of these services can be found on the Academic Support tab within Blackboard Learn.
- Academic Resource Center: buy textbooks and supplies, access academic catalogs and programs, register for classes, and more.
- Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities: provides Code of Student Conduct along with other useful links.
- Office of Disability Accommodation: ODA exist to prevent discrimination on the basis of disability and to help students reach a higher level of independence.
- Counseling and Testing Services: CTS provides counseling services to the UNT community as well as testing services; such as admissions testing, computer-based testing, career testing and other tests.
- UNT Libraries: online library services
- Online Tutoring: chat in real time, mark up your paper using drawing tools and edit the text of your paper with the tutor’s help.
• The Learning Center Support Programs: various program links provided to enhance the student experience.
• Supplemental Instruction: program for every student, not just for students that are struggling.
• UNT Writing Lab: offers free writing tutoring to all UNT students, undergraduate and graduate.
• Math Tutor Lab: located in GAB, room 440.
• Succeed at UNT: how to be a successful student information.

Being a Successful Online Student
-What Makes a Successful Online Student?
   http://www.ion.uillinois.edu/resources/tutorials/pedagogy/StudentProfile.asp
-Self Evaluation for Potential Online Students
   http://www.ion.uillinois.edu/resources/tutorials/pedagogy/selfEval.asp

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• UNT Libraries: online library services
• Online Tutoring: chat in real time, mark up your paper using drawing tools and edit the text of your paper with the tutor’s help.

• The Learning Center Support Programs: various program links provided to enhance the student experience.

• Supplemental Instruction: program for every student, not just for students that are struggling.

• UNT Writing Lab: offers free writing tutoring to all UNT students, undergraduate and graduate.

• Math Tutor Lab: located in GAB, room 440.

• Succeed at UNT: how to be a successful student information.

**Being a Successful Online Student**

- What Makes a Successful Online Student?
- Self Evaluation for Potential Online Students

**ASSESSMENT & GRADING**

**Assessment 1:**

**Syllabus Quiz: 3 points (3% of total course grade)**

A required syllabus quiz will be available for the first two weeks of class. Students are required to read the syllabus and complete the online quiz in Blackboard. Three percent of your course grade is associated with the open-book quiz. The purpose of this assessment is to ensure you have read and understand the syllabus.

**Assessment 2:**

**13 Unit Quizzes: 2 points each (26% of total course grade)**

**Course Objective/Learning Outcomes #2 & 4:**

2. The learner will describe and synthesize learning, theory, and contemporary concepts as it relates to homeland security in particular, as well as general, all-hazards emergency management principles.

4. The learner will describe and synthesize learning, theory, and contemporary concepts as it relates to homeland security in particular, as well as general, all-hazards emergency management principles.

The open-book quizzes following each unit are taken using the Blackboard Exam tool. Students must complete them within the assignment window and during the listed time limits. The quiz window rolls one week before and one week after each assigned week; late attempts will not be permitted.

**Assessment Method: Multiple Choice**
Assessment 3:

13 Discussion Forums: 2 points each (26% of total course grade)

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes #1 & 5:

1. The learner will be an active and engaged participant in discussion forums within the course learning community by analyzing, constructing/creating, and evaluating information presented within the textbook, external readings/resources, student research, and class activities.

5. The learner will analyze the effect of terrorists’ operations, articulate terrorist motivations, and discuss the methods to lessen the impacts of attacks.

The discussion forums are related to the unit readings. Upon completion of the assigned readings and activities, you are expected to engage in an ongoing discussion/debate with your learning community peers. Your contributions to the discussion forums will be graded for quality not quantity, timeliness of your contributions, and a detailed analysis of linking together theory (readings) to application (activities). You are expected to make a new post on assigned weeks and also comment on one other student’s post during the same discussion week.

Make your posts in a single paragraph containing at least three substantial sentences. Show your awareness of the assigned material and also comment on one other student’s post. For the best result, develop your input inside a word processing application, such as MS Word; once you are satisfied with optimum word choice and proper spelling, you can paste your work into the proper Blackboard discussion section.

Additional advice for this assignment….Do not wait until the last day to engage in a discussion – this should be ongoing! Failure to do so will result in potential grade point penalty.

Assessment Method: Each forum will be graded using this Discussion Forum Rubric:

Two full points awarded for contributions pertinent to the topic, adding to the discussion underway.

.25 grade point penalty for instances of:

- significant spelling and grammatical errors
- overly short answers (avoid answers such as: “me too,” “I agree”)
- excessive copying and pasting from other sources
- incomplete effort (new post from you, plus a comment on another student’s is required)
- responses not pertinent to the topic
- mistimed contribution
**Assessment 4:**

**Midterm Exam: 20 points**

**Final Exam: 25 points**

**Course Objective/Learning Outcomes #1-5:** The learner will integrate all course learning objectives in these comprehensive exams.

These closed book exams will cover the required unit reading assignments and the content of the online lectures. Complete the exams online by accessing the Blackboard exam tool. The exams will be timed and grades made available to students upon submission. Do not use public wifi, unstable Internet connections, nor the Blackboard mobile app for testing.

If you lose Internet connectivity during the exam, log back in immediately and continue on with the exam. Save your answers often (every 5-10 minutes). If you experience any issues while taking an exam, you must contact the Blackboard Helpdesk immediately so that your issue is documented with a helpdesk ticket number. Considerations regarding exam issues will be made by the instructor on an individual basis, based on the documentation.

**Assessment Method:** Multiple Choice

**Course Grading**
Each point earned during the semester equals one percent towards your final grade.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>Course Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>Syllabus Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89</td>
<td>Unit Quizzes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79</td>
<td>Unit Discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Below 60</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus Quiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Quizzes</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Discussions</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25</td>
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**Accessing Grades**

Grades will be posted on Blackboard.
Assignment Submission Instructions
Late submissions are subject to grade penalty, as outlined. In the event of technical issues, follow the steps provided and also notify the instructor immediately, by UNT email.

Participation / Discussions
Regular student participation and honoring of assignment deadlines are expected, as outlined throughout this syllabus. Students not meeting assignment timeframes may be subject to grade penalty.

The course Blackboard section is the main content platform. The instructor will note the time and dates of your Blackboard work as a measure of your attention to the course and an indication mimicking “attendance” at a traditional classroom course. Course content, flow, and any necessary changes will be communicated via Blackboard, obligating the student to login regularly to sufficiently participate and remain aware. Any student not logging in for more than seven days will be subject to grade penalty for absence. If unanticipated, extenuating circumstances prevent you from logging in for more than seven days, contact the instructor by UNT email.

Online Quizzes and Tests
You can access quizzes/exams by clicking the Assessments link on the course menu or see the quiz/exam icon on the designated page.

The weekly quizzes are “open-book,” but you must complete within the assigned time.

The midterm and final exams are “closed-book,” and timed; they can be accessed only one time within the scheduled time window. Please read the on-screen instructions carefully before you click “Begin Assessment.” Avoid unstable wifi connections, such as a public wifi, if there is any chance of losing the connection during the exam.

After each quiz is graded and released, you may go back to the Assessments page and click “View All Submissions” to review your exam results.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR/COURSE DESIGN

Chapter Summaries, including information from John Wiley & Sons, Inc. © 2008, 2015

January 17 – January 22

Introductory Session
Get acquainted with the text, including the text’s preface and the publisher’s companion website: http://bcs.wiley.com/he-bcs/Books?action=index&bcsId=4293&itemId=047012752X

Review syllabus, take the syllabus quiz, and contribute to the class discussion
January 23 – January 29

**Chapter 1: Understanding a New National Priority, 9/11, Homeland Security, and Emergency Management**

You will gain understanding of the growing threat of terrorism and the numerous reasons why this problem should be addressed in the future.

January 30 – February 5

**Chapter 2: Identifying Terrorism, Ideologically Motivated Acts of Violence**

This chapter provides several definitions of terrorism, and compares the similarities and differences among the divergent views.

February 6 – February 12

**Chapter 3: Recognizing the Causes of Terrorism, Differing Perspectives and the Role of Ideology**

Understanding the causes of terrorism so you may take steps to alleviate them.

February 13 – February 19

**Chapter 4: Comprehending Terrorist and Their Behavior, Who They Are and What They Do**

Comprehending who terrorists are and how they operate.

February 20 – February 26

**Chapter 5: Uncovering the Dynamic Nature of Terrorism, History and Change Over Time**

You will understand the dynamic nature of terrorism around the world and describing the history of terrorism in the United States.

February 27 – March 5

**Chapter 6: Evaluating a Major Dilemma, Terrorism, the Media, and Censorship**

Here we will explore the role of the media in homeland security.

Review chapters 1-6 for the midterm exam
March 6 – March 12
MIDTERM EXAM

March 13 – March 19
Spring Break

March 20 – March 26

Chapter 7: Contemplating a Quandary, Terrorism, Security, and Liberty
Selecting policies that limit the threat of terrorism but maintain liberty as a cherished principle.

March 27 – April 2

Chapter 8: Preventing Terrorist Attacks, Root Causes, Law, Intelligence, Counter-Terrorism, and Border Control
Anticipating terrorist intentions through intelligence gathering is presented, along with measures to minimize the probability of terrorism.

April 3 – April 9

Chapter 9: Protecting Against Potential Attacks, Threat Assessment and Security Enhancement
This unit assesses the threat of terrorism and examines the active pursuit of mitigation strategies.

April 10 - April 16

Chapter 10: Preparing for the Unthinkable, Readiness for Terrorism
Enhancing your community’s ability to respond to and recover from terrorist attacks are the focus of this unit.

April 17 – April 23

Chapter 11: Responding to Attacks, Important Functions and Coordination Mechanisms
Here we study effective response when terrorist attacks occur, and integrating first responders with altruistic citizens.

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April 24 – April 30

Chapter 12: Recovering from Impacts, Short-term and Long-Term Measures

Applying novel approaches during recovery, to help your community rebound quickly after a terrorist attack, is a vital strategy.

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May 1 – May 7

Chapter 13: Looking Toward the Future, Forthcoming Challenges and Opportunities

This final unit anticipates future challenges and proper preparation using enlightened policies and creative resources.

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May 8 – May 11 Final Exam

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COURSE EVALUATION

The Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) survey will be conducted later in the semester; students will receive an email describing the process. Your input is encouraged and valued. In addition, you are encouraged to contact the instructor by email, during the semester, with any suggestions for improvement of the student learning experience.

SCHOLARLY EXPECTATIONS

This course format works best when the utmost of mutual trust is exercised. Students are expected to produce original work during this course, representing individual effort, without the direct substitution of the work of others. Department and University policy, as summarized below, will be applied in cases of apparent cheating.

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 others’ 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 department 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 department faculty in the case of departmental exams.

Cases of cheating or plagiarism in course work may, at the discretion of the instructor, be referred to the Curriculum and Degree Program[s] Committee. 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 any decision under this policy by following the procedures laid down in the UNT Code of Student Conduct and Discipline.

**COURSE POLICIES**

**Assignment Policy**

Assignment details and deadlines are clearly outlined inside the course Blackboard.

**Examination Policy**

A mixture of open-book unit quizzes and closed-book midterm and final examinations are used in this course, as outlined in this syllabus.

**Instructor Responsibilities and Feedback**

As one of the course learners, you can expect timely feedback from the instructor for discussion forum assignments and general contacts by UNT email. Responds to general questions will usually be given within 24 hours, with delayed responses possible over weekends and vacation periods. Discussion grading and feedback will usually be made within one week of due date. Grading will be posted in a regular sequence on Blackboard. If any deviation from these timelines becomes necessary, you will be notified on Blackboard.

**Late Work**

Students experiencing unusual, extenuating circumstances may be granted permission to submit work up to one week after deadlines. Timely notification to the instructor, by UNT emails, is necessary for this consideration.

**Class Participation**

Students are required to login regularly to the online class site. The instructor will use the tracking
feature in Blackboard to monitor student activity. Students are also required to participate in all class activities, such as discussion forums, and quizzes.

**Virtual Classroom Citizenship**
The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment. Please use proper netiquette when interacting with class members and the instructor.

**Incompletes**
Students with a passing grade on the last day of the semester may request the instructor to issue a grade of (I)-Incomplete to provide time to complete missing assignments or examinations. As per UNT policy, incomplete grades are not a reprieve from failing course work and they do revert to a failing grade if not changed by the instructor within one year. It is the student’s obligation to make their intentions clear to the instructor using the student’s UNT email address, directed to the instructor’s UNT email address.

**Undergraduate Online Course Attendance Policy**
Students must log into Blackboard at least once per week to demonstrate continued attention to the course, equal to physical attendance at traditional classroom courses.

**Syllabus Change Policy**
If it becomes necessary to change the syllabus, students will be notified via Blackboard.

**Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties**
UNT is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or 940.565.2324. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

**Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**
The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional
information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses**

**Federal Regulation**


The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

**University of North Texas Compliance**

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following:

(1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email
Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) Blackboard Learn Release 9.1

The Voluntary Product Accessibility Template®, or VPAT® documents Blackboard Learn 9.1’s conformance with the accessibility standards under Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. '794 d), as amended by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (P.L. 105 - 220), August 7, 1998.