INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS LAB VI

GRADO EN RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES / BACHELOR IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Professor: MICHELE TESTONI
E-mail: mtestoni@faculty.ie.edu

Academic year: 17-18
Degree course: FOURTH
Semester: 1º
Category: COMPULSORY
Number of credits: 3.0
Language: English

PREREQUISITES
There is no mandatory prerequisite. Yet two requirements are essential to approach the course properly: a daily reading of international news; and an unbiased, open-minded mentality.

SUBJECT DESCRIPTION
Terrorism has turned from a recurrent, though marginal, feature of world affairs into one of the most alarming issues of our times. For the course will provide students with a broad overview of the main causes of terrorism, a study of the most notorious terrorist groups, and an analysis of the antiterrorist and counter-terrorist policies adopted by States and international organizations since 2001.

OBJECTIVES AND SKILLS
The course has two broad aims: providing students with a critical ability to explore and understand the phenomenon of terrorism through the concepts and the methods of social sciences; and, assessing the novel challenges posed by new transnational terrorism and how governments are adapting their external and internal security agendas to this new threat.

METHODOLOGY
The course will develop as an advanced seminar. For each session is supposed to proceed through dynamic and meaningful debates among students, with the professor serving mostly as a facilitator. Students will be engaged with a combination of individual assignments and team works.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teaching methodology</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Estimated time a student should dedicate to prepare for and participate in</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>20.0 %</td>
<td>15 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussions</td>
<td>20.0 %</td>
<td>15 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercises</td>
<td>0.0 %</td>
<td>0 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group work</td>
<td>33.34 %</td>
<td>25 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other individual studying</td>
<td>26.67 %</td>
<td>20 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>100.0 %</td>
<td>75 hours</td>
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PROGRAM

PART ONE: UNDERSTANDING TERRORISM

SESSION 1
WHAT IS TERRORISM?
Class debate questions and required readings

- What are the enduring difficulties in defining terrorism? -
  How has terrorism evolved over time?


Recommended readings

- B. Hoffman, Inside Terrorism, Chapter 1
- G. Martin, Understanding Terrorism, Chapters 1, 2 and 10

SESSION 2
SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND INDIVIDUAL MOTIVATIONS
Class debate questions and required readings

- Can terrorist violence be always explained by a set of similar reasons? -
  Do poverty and poor education cause terrorism?


Recommended readings

- B. Hoffman, Inside Terrorism, Chapter 8
- G. Martin, Understanding Terrorism, Chapter 3

SESSION 3
TERRORISM AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

Class debate questions and required readings

- What are States' responsibilities in relation to terrorism according to today's international law? - Is international terrorism a crime?


Other: UN Charter

Recommended readings

- Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (https://www.icc-cpi.int/nr/rdonlyres/ea9aeff7-5752-4f84-be94-0a655eb30e16/0/rome_statute_english.pdf)

PART TWO: ACTORS OF TERRORISM

SESSION 4
STATE-SPONSORED TERRORISM

Class debate questions and required readings

- Why do States sponsor terrorism?
- Is the State sponsorship of terrorism declining?


Recommended readings
SESSION 5

“OLD TERRORISM”: DISSIDENTS AND LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

Class debate questions and required readings

- How do economic and political factors combine in explaining the rise and the persistence of guerrilla insurgencies?
- Left-wing and right-wing terrorism: what differences and similarities?


Recommended readings

- B. Hoffman, Inside Terrorism, Chapter 2
- G. Martin, Understanding Terrorism, Chapters 5 and 7

SESSION 6

DOCUMENTARY SCREENING: PALESTINIAN TERRORISM

Class debate questions and required readings

- When, and why, did the Palestinian terrorism begin?
- How did the Palestinians manage to “internationalize” terrorism?

B.C.: B. Hoffman, Inside Terrorism, Chapter 3

SESSION 7

RELIGION AND TERRORISM

Class debate questions and required readings

- What is the relationship between the geopolitical scenario of the Middle East and the rise of Islamic-based terrorism?
- Why do radical Islamists commit suicide attacks?

Recommended readings

- B. Hoffman, *Inside Terrorism*, Chapters 4 and 5
- G. Martin, *Understanding Terrorism*, Chapter 6
- R.A. Pape, “The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism”, in *American Political Science Review*, vol. 97, n. 3 (2003), pp. 343-361

SESSION 8
GLOBALIZATION AND TERRORISM

Class debate questions and required readings

- Has the end of the Cold War made terrorism easier and more rewarding? -
  To what extent has al-Qaeda created a “new terrorism”?

Recommended readings

- G. Martin, *Understanding Terrorism*, Chapter 8

SESSION 9
DAESH: THE NEW FRONTIER OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

Class debate questions and required readings

- Al-Qaeda and Daesh: what differences and similarities?
- Why has the pupil (Daesh) overcome the master (al-Qaeda)?

Recommended readings

SESSION 10

TERRORISM AND THE MEDIA

Class debate questions and required readings

How has terrorism evolved due to the “new media”?
Is suspending the social media accounts of suspected terrorists an effective strategy?


Recommended readings

- B. Hoffman, Inside Terrorism, Chapter 6 and 7
- G. Martin, Understanding Terrorism, Chapter 11

PART THREE: FIGHTING TERRORISM

SESSION 11

CHECKING THE TERRORISTS’ FLOW OF MONEY

Class debate questions and required readings

- Are terrorist and organized criminal activities becoming ever more similar? -
  How does Daesh fund itself?


Recommended readings

- G. Martin, Understanding Terrorism, Chapter 9 (pp. 246-264)
- L. Napoleoni, Modern Jihad: Tracing the Dollars Behind the Terror Networks (2003), Chapters 16 and 17

SESSION 12

COUNTER-TERRORISM: FORCE AND REPRESSIVE OPTIONS

Class debate questions and required readings

- Can States use force against terrorists based in another country? -
  Is the use of force effective in counter-terrorist operations?
SESSION 13
ANTI-TERRORISM: CONCILIATORY AND LEGAL OPTIONS

Class debate questions and required readings
- What are the most important legal measures taken by the international community against terrorism?
- What are the main strengths and weaknesses of the EU counter-terrorist policy?


Recommended readings
- G. Martin, Understanding Terrorism, Chapters 13 (pp. 396-408) and 14

SESSION 14
DOES TERRORISM END?

Class debate questions and required readings
- What are the most successful methods to stop terrorist campaigns? - What terrorist campaigns are more likely to come to an end?

R.A.: A. Kurth Cronin, “How Al Qaeda Ends: The Decline and Demise of Terrorist Groups”, in
Recommended readings

- M.H. Bin Hassan, “Key Considerations in Counterideological Work Against Terrorist Ideology”, in Horgan and Braddock (eds.), *Terrorism Studies*, Chapter 22


SESSION 15

FINAL EXAM

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The followings are texts listed in the “recommended readings” (all of them are available in the IE library):


EVALUATION CRITERIA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>25 %</td>
<td>The grade reflects students’ pro-active contribution to class discussion and their overall conduct. The course is structured on a seminar basis; for the professor serves mostly as a facilitator for class discussion. Students are expected to come to class fully prepared to engage in dynamic and meaningful debates. Please be aware that sitting quietly behind the laptop will lead to a 4 grade.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>Details</td>
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<td>--------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research project 1</td>
<td>15 %</td>
<td>Students will divide in groups, each of which will write a brief review essay (3,000 words, 5-6 pages, footnotes and bibliography included) on a topic related to the first three sessions. Essays are due to session 4; late works will not be accepted. Plagiarism is strictly forbidden and will be sanctioned. Any group found plagiarizing will receive a '0' for that assignment and an ethics warning. In writing the paper, especially with regard to citations and quoting, students are strongly encouraged to consult The Rowman and Littlefield Guide to Writing with Sources (10%).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research project 2</td>
<td>25 %</td>
<td>Students will divide in groups, each of which will write a take-home research essay (7,000 words, 15 pages, footnotes and bibliography included) on a given terrorist organization. Essays are due to session 10; late works will not be accepted. Plagiarism is strictly forbidden and will be sanctioned. Any group found plagiarizing will receive a '0' for that assignment and an ethics warning. In writing the paper, especially with regard to citations and quoting, students are strongly encouraged to consult The Rowman and Littlefield Guide to Writing with Sources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examen Final</td>
<td>35 %</td>
<td>It will be in-class and based on a policy-making format: students will write a policy brief on a given situation of crisis dealing with an international terrorist threat. It is schedule for session 10.</td>
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EXAMINATION POLICY

- Each student has 4 attempts over two consecutive academic years to pass this course. Dates and location of the final exam will be posted in advance and will not be changed.

- Students must attend at least 70% of the sessions. For, students missing more than 4 sessions will automatically fail the class. They will receive a 0.0 on their first and second attempts and go directly to the third one (they will need to enroll in this course the following academic year).

- Students who fail the course in the 1st round of exams are eligible to re-sit in the 2nd examination session.

- Students who are in the 3rd or 4th attempt should contact the professor during the first two weeks of the course.

RETAKE POLICY

Any student whose weighted final grade is below 5 will be required to sit for the retake exam to pass the course (except those not complying with the attendance rules, whom are banned from this possibility). Grading for retakes are subject to the following rules:

- The retakes will consist of a comprehensive exam. The grade will depend only on the performance on this exam; continuous evaluation over the semester will not be taken into account.

- The exam will be designated bearing in mind that the passing grade is 5 and the maximum grade that can be attained is 8 out of 10.

- The third attempt will require students to complete:
  o A written assignment
  o A final exam

  - This is also applicable to students who do not have required attendance (e.g. sickness).
  - Dates and location of the retakes will be posted in advance and will not be changed.

PROFESSOR BIO

Professor: MICHELE TESTONI

E-mail: mtestoni@faculty.ie.edu

Michele Testoni is Adjunct Professor in the IE School of International Relations (teaching courses in Foreign Policy, Introduction to Politics, IR History, and Terrorism) and in the IE School of Human Sciences and Technology (teaching a course in Globalization in the Master in Corporate Communication). He is also Visiting Professor in the “Global Economic and Social Affairs Master” (GESAM) co-organized by the University of Venice and the ILO.

Michele has a PhD in Political Science from the University of Florence, a Master degree in International Relations from the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) of the Johns Hopkins University, and a BA (cum laude) in Political Science from the University of Bologna.
He is a specialist in international security affairs, in particular the transformations of NATO in the post-Cold War era. He is member of the Transatlantic Studies Association (TSA) and the Spanish Association of Political Science and Administration (AECPA). From 2010 to 2012 he was appointed Associate Fellow at SAIS-Europe, Johns Hopkins University.

He also collaborates with Transparency International in the issuing of the Government Defense Anti-Corruption Index.

OTHER INFORMATION
Office hours: by appointment.

CODE OF CONDUCT IN CLASS

1. **Be on time**: Students arriving more than 5 minutes late will be marked as “Absent”.
   Only students that notify in advance in writing that they will be late for a specific session may be granted an exception (at the discretion of the professor).

2. **If applicable, bring your name card and strictly follow the seating chart**. It helps faculty members and fellow students learn your names.

3. **Do not leave the room during the lecture**: Students are not allowed to leave the room during lectures. If a student leaves the room during lectures, he/she will not be allowed to re-enter and, therefore, will be marked as “Absent”.
   Only students that notify that they have a special reason to leave the session early will be granted an exception (at the discretion of the professor).

4. **Do not engage in side conversation**. As a sign of respect toward the person presenting the lecture (the teacher as well as fellow students), side conversations are not allowed. If you have a question, raise your hand and ask it. If you do not want to ask it during the lecture, feel free to approach your teacher after class.
   If a student is disrupting the flow of the lecture, he/she will be asked to leave the classroom and, consequently, will be marked as “Absent”.

5. **Use your laptop for course-related purposes only**. The use of laptops during lectures must be authorized by the professor. The use of Social Media or accessing any type of content not related to the lecture is penalized. The student will be asked to leave the room and, consequently, will be marked as “Absent”.

6. **No cellular phones**: IE University implements a “Phone-free Classroom” policy and, therefore, the use of phones, tablets, etc. is forbidden inside the classroom. Failing to abide by this rule entails expulsion from the room and will be counted as one absence.

7. **Escalation policy: 1/3/5**. Items 4, 5, and 6 above entail expulsion from the classroom and the consequent marking of the student as “Absent.” IE University implements an “escalation policy”: The first time a student is asked to leave the room for disciplinary reasons (as per items 4, 5, and 6 above), the student will incur one absence, the second time it will count as three absences, and from the third time onward, any expulsion from the classroom due to disciplinary issues will entail 5 absences.