Rutgers University

Department of Political Science

New Brunswick, New Jersey

MA Program in Political Science –Concentration in United Nations and Global Policy Studies

Theories and Strategies of Counterterrorism

Ambassador Hamid Al-Bayati, PhD. Spring 2015

Mary Mount College, 221 East 71 Street, NY

Sunday 3.00 pm Room Nugent 462

**Course Description**

In spite of 9/11terrorist attacks in which around 3000 people were killed and many other terrorist attacks since then, the United States and its allies failed to end the threat of terrorism in the world and in the US. In June 2014 the so called Islamic State in Iraq and Sham (ISIS) shocked and surprised the world when they managed to take control of several provinces, cities and towns in Western Iraq and Eastern Syria and succeeded in attracting thousands of foreign fighters including Europeans, Canadians, Australians and Americans. Although the US built a new alliance of over 40 countries in the Middle East and the world to fight ISIS and in spite of aerial bombardment of many countries against ISIS in Iraq and Syria, terrorist continued to make advance and progress on the ground and continued to threat the whole world.

The military solution for terrorism is important but it is not enough to uproot extremism and terrorism and despite the Global war on al-Qaeda since 9/11, the world witnessed the emergence of more extreme terrorist groups such as Libyan Islamic Fighting Group, Boko Haram in Nigeria, Ansar al-Shari'a in Benghazi, al-Nusra Front in Syria, Al-Shabaab in Somalia, ISIS…etc.

Therefore it is important that the world in general and the United States in particular adopt a Comprehensive and Sustained Counter-Terrorism Strategy to fight ISIS, stop their advance and defeat terrorism. This course will study the theories and strategies of counter-terrorism to reach a Comprehensive and Sustained Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The course will discuss a strategy based on the mistakes and lessons to be learned from the past, putting military, political, economic, financial and social solutions in perspective. However the comprehensive strategy will focus on ideological, media and internet campaign to counter-terrorism. The Strategy will include fighting terrorism through tolerance, pluralism and inter-religious dialogue.

**Course Requirements**

Students are expected to be punctual and to come prepared to class meetings. That means obviously to do the required readings, and assignments. However, they are also expected to follow the current events in the Middle East, and the current debate taking place in the U.S. in relation to these events. They are expected to read newspapers, and watch TV. Students are also expected to actively participate in class activities and class discussions.

Students are required to take full responsibility for the research planning, and the submission of their essays on time. I will be available for guidance, instructions and eventual questions concerning this assignment but it is their responsibility to carry it out properly.

**Assignments**

Students are required to submit short response paper each week about their readings, news and current events. Students are also required to do two research papers, one paper about Theories and strategies of Counter-Terrorism and another one about the Comprehensive Strategy of Counter-terrorism. Each student should select a subject to write about Theories and strategies of Counter-Terrorism and another one about the Comprehensive Strategy of Counter-terrorism so each student will have a good understanding and deep knowledge about the two subjects. Each student should use around 5 books and 5 articles for each research paper.

**Grading**

10% Attendance

15 % Response papers

15 % Class participation

30% Research paper on Theories and strategies of Counter-Terrorism

30% Research paper on Comprehensive Strategy of Counter-terrorism

**Course Outline**

**Week one: *Introduction to the course***

- Presentation of syllabus: outline of the course, goals, requirement and assignments.

- Approaching the main goals of the course: introducing the history of international terrorism and its four generations, Theories and Strategies of counter-terrorism, as well as the comprehensive strategy of counter-terrorism.

**Week Two: *Containment and Containment Plus***

**Required Reading**

# -Lora S. Aggour, The Strategy of Containment in Fighting Terrorism, Center for Contemporary Conflict.

# file:///C:/Users/MacBookAir/Downloads/nps37-091608-08%20(2).pdf

### -Mathew G. Elledge, [The Global War on Terrorism: A Policy of Containment](http://www.dtic.mil/cgi-bin/GetTRDoc?AD=ADA415827), School of Advanced Military Studies.

<file:///C:/Users/MacBookAir/Downloads/ADA415827.pdf>

**Week Three: *Interdiction and Investigation***

**Required Reading**

-William C. Banks, Combating Terrorism, Strategies and Approaches, CQ Press, 2008, p99-135

-D. Keep, I. Piper and A. Green, An Investigation of the Effectiveness of Interdiction

Regimes Against Terrorist Attacks in an Urban Transport Hub, 20th International Congress on Modelling and Simulation, Adelaide, Australia, 1–6 December 2013.

<http://www.mssanz.org.au/modsim2013/D2/keep.pdf>

**Week Four: *Deterrence***

**Required Reading**

-Paul K. Davis & Brian Michael Jenkins, Deterrence and Influence in Counter-Terrorism, Rand: National Defense Research Institute, 2002.

-Jonathan Stevens, Counter-Terrorism, IISS, Oxford University Press, New York, 2004 Deterrence still matter p 98-p113

**Week Five: *The Lessons and Relevance of Counterterrorism***

**Required Reading**

-Ian O. Lessor, Countering the New Terrorism, Rand, 1999, p 85-127

-Jonathan Stevens, Counter-Terrorism, IISS, Oxford University Press, New York, 2004 Deterrence still matter p 47-p72.

**Week Six: *Retaliation where Deterrence fails***

**Required Reading**

-Ian O. Lessor, Countering the New Terrorism, Rand, 1999, p 127-144

-William C. Banks, Combating Terrorism, Strategies and Approaches, CQ Press, 2008, p295-p328

**Week Seven: *Securing Territories against Terrorism***

**Required Reading**

-Jonathan Stevens, Counter-Terrorism, IISS, Oxford University Press, New York, 2004 Deterrence still matter p 17-p45

-[David B. Carter](http://oep.oxfordjournals.org/search?author1=David+B.+Carter&sortspec=date&submit=Submit), securing the state against territorial groups, Department of Politics, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544.

<http://oep.oxfordjournals.org/content/67/1/116.abstractAbstract>

**Week Eight: *UN Strategy of Counter-Terrorism***

**Required Reading**

-Daivd J. Whittaker, Counter-Terrorism and Human Rights, The UN Strategy, Longman, 2009 p34-58

-John P.Crank and Patricia E. Gregor, Counter-Terrorism after 9/11, Justice, Security and Ethics reconsideration, Lexis Nexis, 2005, Reflection on the War on Terror, Critiques and Ethics, P211-250.

**Week Nine: *US Counter-terrorism Grand Strategy***

**Required Reading**

-Audey Kurth Cronin, Attacking Terrorism, Elements of a Grand Strategy, Georgetown University Press, Washington DC, 2004, p 74-93, p 285-299.

- Russel D. Howard and Reid L. Sawyer, Terrorism and Counterterrorism, Understanding the New Security Environment, Reading & Interpretation, The McGraw-Hill Companies, Connecticut 2004, The Struggle Against Terrorism: Grand Strategy, Strategy, and Tactics, p 429-p447

**Week Ten: The War of Ideology**

**Required Reading**

# - Ali S.Awadh Asseri, Combating Terrorism, Oxford University Press, 2009, Chapter Three: The Islamic Perspective on Terrorism, p 45-59

# -Ahmed Hashim, Insurgency and Counter-Insurgency in Iraq, Cornell University Press, Ithaca, New York, 2006, Ideology, Politics and Failure to Execute: the US Counter-Insurgency Campaign, p271-344.

# Recommended Reading

# -Jonathan R. White, Terrorism and Homeland Security, Thomson Wadswarth, US 2006, The Advent of Religious Terrorism, p 48-p64

- Russel D. Howard and Reid L. Sawyer, Terrorism and Counterterrorism, Understanding the New Security Environment, Reading & Interpretation, The McGraw-Hill Companies, Connecticut 2004, Chapter 4 Religion, p 123-p158

# - Eric Stakelbeck, The Terrorist Next Door, Regnery Publishing, 2011, It’s the ideology, Stupid, p177-p201.

**Week Eleven: Financing Terrorism**

**Required Reading**

# -Jonathan R. White, Terrorism and Homeland Security, Thomson Wadswarth, US 2006, Financing Terrorism , p 65-p81

-Loretta Napoleoni, Terrorism and the Economy, How the war on Terror is Bankrupting the world, Seven Stories Press, New York, 2010, The Rise of Islamic Finance, p 11- p29

# Recommended Reading

- Rachel Ehrenfeld, Funding Evil, How Terrorist is Financed- and how to stop it, Bonus Books Chicago, 2003, 2005, The Islamic Plague: Al-Qaeda, p 33- p68.

- Loretta Napoleoni, Terror Incorporated, Tracing the Dollars behind the Terror Networks, Seven Stories Press, New York, 2005, The New Economy of Terror, p 143-p224.

**Week Twelve: Terrorism and the Media**

**Required Reading**

# -Grant Wardlaw, Political Terrorism, Theory, Tactics, and Counter-Measures, second addition, Cambridge University Press, 1989, Terrorism and the Media, p76-86.

-L. John Martin, The Media's Role in International Terrorism, College of Journalism University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland.    
<http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~surette/mediasrole.html>

# Recommended Reading

- Gabriel Weimann, New Terrorism and New Media, research series, vol 2, Wilson Center.

<http://www.wilsoncenter.org/publication/new-terrorism-and-new-media>

-Dan Rather, Media's balancing act with terrorism, Special to CNN, Tue September 11, 2012

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# <http://www.cnn.com/2012/09/11/opinion/rather-media-and-terrorism/>

-[LAURA RYAN](http://www.nationaljournal.com/reporters/bio/209), Why Terrorists Love Twitter, A Q & A with a leading scholar on terrorism and media.

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/tech/why-terrorists-love-twitter-20140602>

**Week Thirteen: Winning Hearts and Minds**

**Required Reading**

-Leroy Thomson, The Counter Insurgency Manual, Greenhill Books, London 2002, Chapter 5: Winning Hearts and Minds, p 71-82

-ROBERT WINDREM, Is ISIS Winning Battle for Islamic Radicals' Hearts and Minds?, NBC News, December 31st 2014,

<http://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/isis-terror/isis-winning-battle-islamic-radicals-hearts-minds-n277081>

# Recommended Reading

-David E. Kaplan, Hearts, Minds, and Dollars, Global Issues, US News & World Report, April 25, 2005

<http://www.globalissues.org/article/584/hearts-minds-and-dollars>

-[SCILLA ELWORTHY](https://www.opendemocracy.net/author/scilla-elworthy), [Tackling terror by winning hearts and minds](https://www.opendemocracy.net/conflict-terrorism/solution_2690.jsp), Open Democracy,

19 July 2005

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/conflict-terrorism/solution_2690.jsp>

**Week Fourteen: Assessment**