This course is a systematic examination of the origins and tactics of terrorism as well as of the policies that democratic states have used to defend themselves from terrorism. We will analyze the logic of these unconventional violent acts as well as the political uses of the terms “terrorism,” “terrorist,” “freedom fighter,” “patriot,” and “guerrilla.” An historical and cross-cultural perspective will inform our study of the causes of terrorism and the range of responses to terrorism. These past international and domestic policy responses and trade-offs are discussed as we examine responses to terrorism and guerrilla warfare in the 21st century.

Please note that this is NOT a course on counterterrorism tactics or specifically on US policy in its War on Terrorism; if you are looking for that type of course please look elsewhere. From a social science perspective, I find the ‘terrorist’ experiences in which military tactics have failed to defeat terrorism especially interesting – both why some groups using tactics labeled by their targets as ‘terrorism’ have been able to survive and how governments have come to terms with such failures (e.g., IRA in Ireland, Irgun and PLO in Palestine, Muqtada al-Sadr in Iraq) and how Al Qaeda and ISIS might survive into the future.

**Readings:** Readings are web-based; you can access JSTOR listed readings via your UCSD account. Each week also lists ‘Suggested Readings’; these are not required and are provided for your further exploration.

**TopHat software:** students are required to purchase a license for using this software. You may purchase a five year license useable across classes that use TopHat, or one for this quarter use only. To get started please go to [https://support.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide](https://support.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide) and to purchase your subscription, go to [https://support.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Purchasing-a-Top-Hat-Subscription](https://support.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Purchasing-a-Top-Hat-Subscription)

**Course Requirements:** Grading will be based on class participation (10% via TopHat in-class software) a midterm (40%) and final exam (50%). The final exam is take-home; it will be distributed on the last day of class and is due at the time of our regularly scheduled final exam. You will need to use Turnitin.com; instructions will be provided in class. Please plan accordingly. You are responsible for material in the readings and that which is presented in lecture. PowerPoints summarizing the lectures will be available on the course TritonEd web site, but lectures are not PodCast. *Cheating on exams will result in failure of the entire course.*

*In line with UCSD policy, make-up finals are offered only if a student has a valid reason for not taking the final at the regularly scheduled time. Valid reasons include: serious illness and family disasters. Conflicting finals (either multiple finals on the same day or two finals at the same time) are NOT considered a legitimate reason – students are aware of the final exam schedule when scheduling their courses.*
Readings

Week 1: Terrorism – Problems of Definition and Classification

Exodus 12 www.mechon-mamre.org/e/et/et0212.htm

Suggested Readings:


Week 2: Debating the Origins of Terrorism

Bruce Hoffman, “The Modern Terrorist Mindset: Tactics, targets and technologies’ Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence, St. Andrews University, Scotland, October 1997 accessible via UCSD library

Suggested Readings:

Martin A. Miller, “The Intellectual Origins of Modern Terrorism in Europe,”
Ian S. Lustick, “Terrorism in the Arab-Israeli Conflict: Targets and Audiences,” in Crenshaw, ed. Terrorism in Context pp. 514-552

Week 3: Organizing and Financing Terrorism

Kevin Siqueira, “Political and Militant Wings within Dissident Movements and Organizations” Journal Of Conflict Resolution, Vol.49 No. 2, April via UCSD library
*Armed Forces and Society* 27:1 Fall 2000. pdf version at [http://afs.sagepub.com/content/vol27/issue1/](http://afs.sagepub.com/content/vol27/issue1/) you have access via a UCSD server

Michael Freeman and Moyara Ruehsen, “Terrorism Financing Methods: An Overview”  
*Perspectives on Terrorism* 7:4 available on course web site

**Suggested Readings:**

**Week 4: Terrorism in the Name of Revolution: Guerrilla Warfare and State Response**


**Week 5: Terrorism in Modern Democracies**


Mansoob Murshed and Sarah Pavan, “Identity and Islamic Radicalization in Western Europe” MICROCON Research Working Paper 16 S August 2009 ON OUR TRITONED COURSE SITE

**Suggested Readings:**

Week 6 TUE: MIDTERM EXAMINATION

Week 6 (THUR) : The Arab-Israeli and Palestinian-Israeli Cases


Week 7: Cycles of Violence

Véronique Dudouet, “Dynamics and factors of transition from armed struggle to nonviolent resistance” Journal of Peace Research May 2013 50: 401-413, via UCSD library
David Steele, “Creative Approaches to Conflict Transformation in Societies Affected by Extremist Religion” available on course web site
Sachedina, The Islamic Roots of Democratic Pluralism, pp. 102-31 available on course web site
Amstutz, The Healing of Nations, pp. 91-113 available on course web site
Gopin, Between Eden and Armageddon, pp. 51-64 available on course web site
Gopin, To Make the Earth Whole, pp. 12-20 available on course web site
Appleby, the Ambivalence of the Sacred, pp. 57-63, 81-91, & 117-20 available on course web site

Week 8: A New Terrorism?

Robert A. Pape, “The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism” American Political Science Review Vol. 97, No. 3 August 2003 access at JSTOR via UCSD Libraries

Suggested Readings:

International Institute for Strategic Studies, *IISS Strategic Comments* “ISIS gains ground in sub-Saharan Africa” Volume 21, Comment 40 - December 2015

**Week 9 Responding to Terrorism in the 21st Century: Goals and Strategies**


Jonathan Powell, “How to Talk to Terrorists” file on TritonEd course website


[compare with 2011 version at](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/counterterrorism_strategy.pdf)


**Suggested Readings:**


**Week 10: So What About ISIL?**

*ISIL’S EVOLVED IRREGULAR THREAT*, Report for the Strategic Multilayer Assessment, Noetic Corporation November 2015 access via our TritonEd course site

