Course Syllabus

DSC4012 Terrorism and Homeland Security
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Florida International University
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Course Description and Purpose
This course examines issues of terrorism and homeland security.

Global Learning
This is a Discipline-specific Global Learning course that counts towards your FIU Global Learning graduation requirement.

Learning Outcomes
- Students will be able to describe, discuss, and assess the motivations, ideologies, and rationales of terrorist groups along with the common methods, tactics, and execution of terrorist activities.
- Students will be able to differentiate regional terrorist groups.
- Students will be able to identify, examine, and evaluate challenges involving terrorism and homeland security that face U.S. government officials and the various agencies responsible for addressing terrorism and providing domestic homeland security.
- Students will be able to appraise, assess, and evaluate various types of legal, administrative, and procedural changes that have occurred in response to terrorism in the United States since 9/11.
- Students will be able to explain the challenges of confronting terrorism both internationally and domestically, and assess likely future tactics and changes to international terrorism and its impact on the United States.
- Students will be able to provide a working definition of terrorism and homeland security.

Global Learning Course Outcomes
Students will demonstrate an understanding of the interrelationships between regional, national, and global socio-political and cultural conditions and collective violent behavior. (Global Awareness)

Students will analyze multiple perspectives (e.g. religious, psychological, and sociological) on domestic, transnational, and international terrorism. (Global Perspective)

Students will be able to formulate potential counterterrorism strategies related to domestic, transnational, and international terrorism. (Global Engagement)

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Expectations

This is an online course, which means most (if not all) of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same for a traditional course. In fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

Course Teaching and Learning Strategy

This course uses Canvas as the learning management system. This means that course materials, including assessments, may be provided on Canvas. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have Internet access or to become familiar with the campus computer labs.

Within the parameters established by University policy, I reserve the right to determine when such circumstances are sufficiently extreme to warrant such special treatment. Circumstances for which make-up quizzes are provided include: jury duty, military duty, observance of a religious holiday, or illness (student) or death of an immediate family member (mother, father, siblings, spouse, and children).

Textbook and Course Materials


ISBN 10: 1305633776
ISBN 13: 9781305633773

You may purchase your textbook online at the FIU Bookstore (Links to an external site.) or https://www.cengage.com/c/terrorism-and-homeland-security-9e-white/9781305633773#meet-the-author (Links to an external site.)

Supplemental Readings/Videos

For most weeks, I will provide topical readings and/or videos to support the issues and concepts presented in the text.
Course Communication

- Communication in this course will take place via the Inbox. Check out the Canvas Conversations Tutorial (Links to an external site.) to learn how to communicate with your instructor and peers using Announcements, Discussions, and the Inbox.
- The Email feature is an external communication tool that allows users to send emails to users enrolled within the course. Emails are sent to the student's FIU email on record. The Email tool is located on the Course Menu, on the left side of the course webpage.
- Visit our Writing Resources webpage for more information on professional writing and technical communication skills.
- A rubric will be posted in Canvas for the expectations for a paper should one be assigned.
- Assignment Feedback response time. Your instructor strives to provide feedback as soon as practicable.
- In the event of the need to contact the course professor other than email you may reach him at 305-282-0953.

Required Coursework

Discussion Forums

The social significance of both terrorism and counterterrorism are discussed. The historical origins and evolution of different forms of terrorism between the 19th century to the present day are covered. The impact of terrorism on US and European policing, politics, economics, law, society, and culture, and the latest developments and advances in the field of terrorism studies and counter-terrorism are covered.

Students are expected to participate in online discussions. One or more questions will be posted weekly by the professor. Students will be required to post one (1) original response based on information/material from the required textbook. Students are expected to post high quality messages (e.g., well-written, addressing multiple perspectives, proper spelling and grammar, citing sources, etc.) that are related to the discussion topic. Discussion posts are due once a week. If a discussion post is late, it will be marked down one point for each week that it is late. The average score of the discussion posts will be your final discussion post grade and will count as depicted below. Students should have a thorough understanding of English grammar, usage, and punctuation. More than three typos in any submitted assignment will be lowered by one point. Extra points may be added for exceptional work. The extra points will add up at the end of the semester. *NOTE: Weekly discussions will serve as an assessment of your global engagement.

Keep in mind that your discussion forum postings will likely be seen by other members of the course. Care should be taken when determining what to post.
The Discussion Board is part of a college course, so your writing style should conform to the rules of standard English. Here are some guidelines for all messages posted to the course’s Discussion Board and course-associated emails:

Avoid slang (e.g., "Wassup?", "Yo," and so forth).
Don't curse.
Use standard spelling:
you (not u)
are (not r)
to or too (not 2)
you’re (not ure)
right (not rite)
I (not i)
Use the spell check! Mistakes in spelling and grammar are not acceptable.
Stick to standard fonts -- Times New Roman, Arial, Helvetica -- and colors -- black or blue.
DON'T WRITE THE ENTIRE POSTING WITH YOUR CAPS LOCK ON.

Quizzes/Exams

Technical Issues Related to Exams/Assessments

LockDown Browser Requirement
This course requires the use of LockDown Browser for online exams. Watch this video to get a basic understanding of LockDown Browser:

https://www.respondus.com/products/lockdown-browser/student-movie.shtml (Links to an external site.)

Download Instructions
Download and install LockDown Browser from this link:

https://download.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?id=616912645 (Links to an external site.)

Once Installed
• Start LockDown Browser
• Log into to Canvas
• Navigate to the quiz

Note: You won’t be able to access a quiz that requires LockDown Browser with a standard web browser. If this is tried, an error message will indicate that the test requires the use of LockDown Browser. Simply start LockDown Browser and navigate back to the exam to continue.

Guidelines
When taking an online quiz, follow these guidelines:
[If testing is to occur at a designated location, such as a testing center, add those instructions here.]
[If applicable] Select a location where you won't be interrupted
Before starting the test, know how much time is available for it, and also that you've allotted sufficient time to complete it
Turn off all mobile devices, phones, etc. and don't have them within reach
Clear your area of all external materials - books, papers, other computers or devices
Remain at your desk or workstation for the duration of the test
LockDown Browser will prevent you from accessing other websites or applications; you will be unable to exit the test until all questions are completed and submitted

Getting Help
Several resources are available if you encounter problems with LockDown Browser:

- The Windows and Mac versions of LockDown Browser have a "Help Center" button located on the toolbar. Use the "System & Network Check" to troubleshoot issues. If an exam requires you to use a webcam, also run the "Webcam Check" from this area.
- [As applicable, insert information about your institution's help desk, including details about how to contact them. Some help desks want students to run the "System & Network Check" and the "Webcam Check" before they are contacted - and even, to forward the results of these checks at the time of opening a ticket.]
- Respondus has a Knowledge Base available from support.respondus.com. Select the "Knowledge Base" link and then select "Respondus LockDown Browser" as the product. If your problem is with a webcam, select "Respondus Monitor" as your product.
- If you're still unable to resolve a technical issue with LockDown Browser, go to support.respondus.com and select "Submit a Ticket". Provide detailed information about your problem and what steps you took to resolve it.

You must install the **Respondus Lockdown Browser** prior to taking your quizzes and utilize Honorlock for exams. If you do not want to download the lockdown browser on your personal computer, you will need to come to FIU to take the assessments.

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the "Practice Quiz" from each computer you will be using to take your graded exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum [hardware requirements](http://example.com). Please use Mozilla Firefox for optimum compatibility. **Technical difficulties such as lack of internet connection or problems with services are not acceptable excuses for not completing and submitting assignments, quizzes and/or exams.**
Important Note on Assessments/Quizzes

- Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you need further assistance please contact FIU Online Support Services (Links to an external site.).

For quiz duration, grading criteria and feedback response time, please review the important information about quizzes page.

Weekly Quizzes:

Each week (aside from examination weeks), students are required to complete a 10 question open book/notes quiz on the weekly course content. The quizzes will be T/F or multiple choice and available to students from Monday at 9:00am through Sunday at 11:59pm. The quizzes will be 15 minutes timed, and once students begin the quiz they cannot stop. Scores will be provided to students immediately upon completion of the quizzes. *NOTE: Weekly quizzes will serve as an assessment of your global perspective.

Quiz Expectations:

- Students must read the weekly chapter, read/listen to the PowerPoint presentation and/or read lecture notes before attempting the quiz (though it is open text/notes, students will not have time to complete the quiz if not familiar with content)
- Quizzes will become available from Monday 9:00am – Sunday 11:59pm
- The time limit for each quiz will vary depending on the number of questions presented. You should carefully read the assessment instructions upon launching to know how long you will have to complete that quiz.
- Students will see scores immediately after each quiz.

Exams

Honorlock Proctored Exam Policy [THERE IS A CHARGE FOR HONORLOCK]

There are four multiple-choice exams for this course. Exams will cover material from any assigned readings, the textbook and lectures. *NOTE: These four exams will serve as an assessment of your global awareness.

(Links to an external site.)

The exams for this course will be monitored by an online integrity system to ensure students' compliance with the University’s Code of Academic Integrity. To avoid being deemed in violation of the Code, students may not access unsolicited aids during exams, including, but not limited to: test-banks, online search engines, unauthorized web applications, and other means, via their test-taking device or any other electronic device. Students also may not receive nor provide unauthorized assistance to/from other persons, or copy, save, or share unauthorized copies of exams.
Review some common FAQs below concerning specifics when using the Honorlock proctored exam tool. The use of Honorlock does have an extra cost associated with it.

What do I need to do before taking my exam?
The best thing for you to do before taking your exam is to be prepared with the material your instructor is testing you on. Additionally, you should make sure that your webcam-enabled computer is charged and that you have a good Internet connection before starting your exam. You should also be prepared to pay any fees associated with taking your proctored exam through Honorlock.

Why do I need a photo ID? What forms of ID are acceptable?
We need to check the photo and name on your photo ID to make sure you are the same person each time you log on to our system. Forms of IDs that are acceptable are: your student ID, a driver’s license, or a military ID. We need a form of ID that has both your name and picture on it.

What do I do if something goes wrong during my exam?
Honorlock offers technical support twenty-four hours a day, 7 days a week. If something goes wrong either before or during an exam, students can connect with Honorlock’s support team (Links to an external site.) by phone or by live chat. You can also contact FIU Online Support Services (Links to an external site.).

What equipment is needed to use Honorlock?
Depending on how your instructor set up Honorlock, you may need a webcam, microphone, keyboard, mouse, monitor and high speed Internet. It’s that easy—no software installation or extra hardware is required.

What is Honorlock doing to protect my privacy?
Honorlock takes student privacy very seriously—please review our privacy policy (Links to an external site.) if you have any questions. Honorlock’s goal is to provide students a safe, simple, and secure method for taking an online exam anywhere, in the privacy of one’s personal space. Students’ data is transferred over secure encrypted protocols and data is collected in compliance with FERPA standards.

I heard you detect cheating on cell phones. Can you see my Facebook, Instagram, etc.?
No, and we take student privacy very seriously. We are not accessing any personal data on your devices. Our auto-monitoring is limited to test-related content such as test answer banks and homework answer sites. To avoid being flagged, we recommend not visiting any unauthorized websites while you are actively taking your test. For additional resources concerning Honorlock, feel free to visit the Honorlock Proctoring Student Resources Page (Links to an external site.).

If you encounter any further technical difficulties or have any questions, please contact FIU Online Support Services (Links to an external site.).

Should you not wish to utilize the Honorlock service you may coordinate with the University Testing Center https://testing.fiu.edu/exams-offered/index.html. (Links to an external site.)
You must advise me that you wish to do this and coordinate with them via email at testing@fiu.edu. This must be done prior to the test due date. With that they will let you know hours and other requirements as well as costs. They will proctor the exam live at their location.

**Grading and Monitoring of Grades**

Most weeks, your responsibilities for this course will include the following:

- Listen to and/or read weekly course module introduction
- Complete reading assignments (text and supplemental readings)
- View weekly PowerPoint and/or read lecture notes/outline
- View video or read video transcripts (when there is a video)
- Participate in weekly "Discussion Forum" topics: this will require addressing the issues/topics at hand Discussion Forum evaluation procedures are addressed above.
- Complete weekly Quizzes (by Sunday at 11:59pm)

**Grading**

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<th>Course Requirements</th>
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<th>Points for Each</th>
<th>Total Points Available</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<td>Quizzes</td>
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<td>10%</td>
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<td>10%</td>
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University Policies

Early Alert. In an effort to help you succeed in your academic courses, FIU utilizes an Early Alert system. Instructors are now able to notify students’ academic advisors if there are concerns about class performance. If an alert is submitted, your academic advisor will send you a message via your Student Dashboard (accessed via your MYFIU page) to discuss ways to improve your performance. Please respond to any communication you receive from your academic advisor about an early alert. Our goal with this program is to help you to be successful by identifying any issues as early on as possible and working to address them.

Incomplete grade. An incomplete grade is a temporary symbol given at the discretion of the instructor for work not completed because of serious interruption not caused by the student’s own negligence. To be eligible, written documentation must be provided. The student also must have successfully completed half of the coursework with a passing grade. An incomplete must be made up as quickly as possible; it should be completed within two consecutive semesters after the initial taking of the course or it will automatically default to an “F” or the grade that the student earned in the course. There is no extension of the two semester deadline. The student must not register again for the course to make up the incomplete. Students who have incomplete grades on their records must remove the incomplete by the end of the fourth week of the term in which they plan to graduate. Failure to do so will result in a cancellation of graduation.

Academic dishonesty. Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the
rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and to honestly demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University.

There is a zero tolerance policy in terms of academic dishonesty including but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, receiving and giving help (unless allowed by the professor), falsifying records, stealing exams, and submitting work from another course. Plagiarism means the use of somebody else's work without citing properly (including copying and pasting from the internet). Please visit the FIU Plagiarism Prevention (Links to an external site.) site to help you avoid this type of misconduct. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the academic misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook (Links to an external site.).

Harassment. The professor seeks to develop a meaningful academic student-professor environment. As such, any perceived unwelcome innuendos and overtures from students to professor or from students to another student will not be tolerated. In accordance with FIU commitment, students, faculty, and staff are entitled to work and study in an environment free from harassment. “Sexual harassment undermines the integrity of the academic and work environment, and prevents its victims and their peers from achieving their full potential. All members of the University community are entitled to work and study in an atmosphere free from sexual overtures or innuendoes that are unsolicited and unwelcome” (for more information see FIU-104 Sexual Harassment Regulation).

Accessibility and Accommodations. The Disability Resource Center collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at 305-348-3533 or visit them at the Graham Center GC 190.

Please visit our ADA Compliance (Links to an external site.) webpage for information about accessibility involving the tools used in this course. For additional assistance please contact FIU’s Disability Resource Center (Links to an external site.).

Panthers Care and Counseling & Psychological Services. If you are looking for help for yourself or a fellow classmate, Panthers Care encourages you to express any concerns you may come across as it relates to any personal behavior concerns or worries you have, for the classmate’s well-being or yours; you are encouraged to share your concerns with FIU’s Panthers Care website (Links to an external site.). Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers free and confidential help for anxiety, depression, stress, and other concerns that life brings. Learn more about CAPS at their website (Links to an external site.).
Professional counselors are available for same-day appointments. Don’t wait to call 305-348-2277 to set up a time to talk or visit the online self-help portal.

*This syllabus is tentative and subject to change.