Topics in Globalization and Governance “Global Terrorism and Counter-terrorism”
Wednesday 9-11:50 am
T B 100

Instructor:
Dr. John McCoy
Email: jsmccoy@ualberta.ca
Office: HM Tory 11-6
Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description:
Political Science 445 is an international relations topics course focused on “global terrorism and counter-terrorism”. The course is a senior level undergraduate course which aims to ground students in the field of terrorism studies with a particular focus on innovative approaches to counter-terrorism.

Today, terrorism is an acutely globalized phenomenon. In recent years we have witnessed peaks in levels of terrorist violence as extremist movements ranging from militant Islamism to the far-right have found fertile soil in states around the world. Subsequently, states, international-governmental organizations, civil society groups and other non-government organizations are seeking to develop effective approaches to counter-terrorism and counter-extremism.

The course will examine a number of themes related to the historical emergence of globalized terrorism and counter extremism. It will critically examine the term terrorism, its etymology and definition. It will explore various types and “root causes” of terrorism. In particular, the course will examine the pre-eminent forms of terrorism in the latest “wave” of modern terrorism: including militant Islamist and far-right variants. It will examine groups that are dominating today’s news cycle such as al-Qaeda and the so-called Islamic State; it will also examine some associated manifestations of homegrown violent extremism (HVE) in the West and Canada. Finally, it will examine how counter-terrorism and counter-extremism have been pursued since 9-11.

Textbook and readings:
There is no required textbook. All required readings are journal articles accessible through the University of Alberta library website. These articles can be found at the library website under the ‘journals’ tab:

- Select the journals tab
- Type the name of the journal listed in the readings section
- Follow the links to the volume and issue number listed at the end of the journal reference.
Requirements and Evaluation:

Participation (30%)

The seminar-style course requires active student participation. Students are expected to attend all classes, read all assigned materials and participate in discussions on a weekly basis. Students must come to class prepared to display familiarity with the readings. Failure to meet these standards will result in a reduction in your “active participation” grade. On occasion, at the beginning of class, students will be asked to write individual responses to course readings and themes. Responses will be based on a pre-determined question posed by the instructor, and should be roughly one page in length. This will be followed by a general discussion of responses. These responses will be hand written and submitted by the end of class. Individual responses will be given an “acceptable” or “unacceptable” grade. Acceptable responses receive a grade of 100% and demonstrate knowledge of course readings and critical reasoning. Unacceptable responses exhibit little to no understanding of course readings or themes and receive a grade of 0%. Participation grading is weighted as follows: active participation in class discussions (20%), individual responses (10%).

Presentation (25%)

*Held between September 23rd - November 25th *

Students will give a twenty minute presentation on a specific organization that has been linked in some way to modern terrorism. Specific organizations will be randomly assigned to individual students during the September 2nd class. Presentation content is left to the discretion of the student; however, it must include a historical overview of the organization, some of the political, social and economic factors that may have led to its emergence, the identification of any ideological influences on the group, and a critical analysis of whether the organization deserves its “terrorist” designation / association.

Conceptual paper (15%)

*Due October 7th *

Students will write a 3-4 page (double spaced) paper responding to the question: what is terrorism? Students must provide a clear and reasoned response to this question and support their answer with academic citations. Students should critically examine the concept of terrorism and are free to “problematize” the concept, accept mainstream definitions, a particular academic definition or provide their own unique definition. However, the reasoning for this approach must be made clear to the reader. The paper must cite at least 5 academic sources (peer reviewed journal articles or books) and contain an identifiable thesis statement which clearly outlines the central argument.
Term Paper (30%)

*Due November 18th in-class (hard copy only)*

Students are free to write on any topic related to “terrorism in the modern world”; however, the paper topic and thesis must be focused on “modern terrorism”. Students are required to submit a one page paper proposal (hard copy and in class) on October 14th for approval, failure to do so will result in a 5 percent reduction in your paper grade. Since this is a 400-level course it is expected that the paper is written to a high academic standard. Moreover, papers must contain / exhibit the following elements:

- A clear and identifiable introduction, body and conclusion
- A clear and identifiable thesis statement contained in the first or second paragraph of the paper
- No fewer than 10 pages and no greater than 15 pages in length (double spaced). The paper must be written in 12-point font, and contain page numbers
- No fewer than 10 properly cited academic sources (including journal articles, books, book chapters etc.)
- Employ Chicago manual of style citations (endnotes preferred), other citation styles are not acceptable.

A strong paper will demonstrate logical and critical reasoning and draw on relevant examples and established research. Papers should be well organized (subheadings recommended), avoid the use of first-person phrases / statements, and well written (papers will be docked marks for issues with grammar, sentence structure and punctuation).

Grading: Marks for assignments and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below. The percentage mark resulting from all course work then produces the final letter grade for the course.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
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<td>4.0</td>
<td>90-100 (95)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>85-89 (87)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>80-84 (82)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Good</td>
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<td>3.3</td>
<td>77-79 (78)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>B</td>
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<td></td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
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<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>63-66 (65)</td>
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Course Schedule, Topics and Readings:

September 2\textsuperscript{nd}: Course introduction

Readings:
None

September 9\textsuperscript{th}: Conceptualizing Terrorism

Readings:


September 16\textsuperscript{th}: The emergence of modern terrorism

Readings:


September 23\textsuperscript{rd}: al-Qaeda

Readings:


September 30\textsuperscript{th}: The Rise of the “Islamic State” and the Foreign Fighter Phenomenon

Readings:

October 7th: Libertarian, Christian and Radical Right

Readings:


October 14th: Three “Causes” of Terrorism

Readings:


October 21st: Homegrown terrorism in the West: a Canadian case study

Readings:


October 28th: Counter-Terrorism I: Counter-terrorism as war

Readings:


November 4th: Counter-terrorism II: community policing and online radicalization

Readings:


**November 18th:** Counter-terrorism III: the role of charismatic authority and social milieu

*Readings:*


**November 25th:** Terrorism and Globalization (Critical Perspectives)

*Readings:*


**December 2nd:**

Course Review
Amendments to the Code of Student Behaviour occur throughout the year. For the most recent version of the Code, visit [http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/](http://www.governance.ualberta.ca/)

**NOTICE TO INSTRUCTORS REGARDING PLAGIARISM, CHEATING, MISREPRESENTATION OF FACTS AND PARTICIPATION IN AN OFFENCE**

The U of A considers plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation of facts and participation in an offence to be serious academic offences. Plagiarism, cheating, misrepresentation of facts and participation in an offence can be avoided if students are told what these offences are and if possible sanctions are made clear at the outset. Instructors should understand that the principles embodied in the Code are essential to our academic purpose. For this reason, instructors will be fully supported by Departments, Faculties and the University in their endeavours to rightfully discover and pursue cases of academic dishonesty in accordance with the Code.

At the beginning of each term, we ask you to review with your students the definitions of plagiarism and cheating. We are now also asking you to review with your students the definition of Misrepresentation of Facts and Participation in an Offence. Your co-operation and assistance in this matter are much appreciated.

### 30.3.2(1) Plagiarism

No Student shall submit the words, ideas, images or data of another person as the Student’s own in any academic writing, essay, thesis, project, assignment, presentation or poster in a course or program of study.

### 30.3.2(2) Cheating

30.3.2(2)a No Student shall in the course of an examination or other similar activity, obtain or attempt to obtain information from another Student or other unauthorized source, give or attempt to give information to another Student, or use, attempt to use or possess for the purposes of use any unauthorized material.

30.3.2(2)b No Student shall represent or attempt to represent him or herself as another or have or attempt to have himself or herself represented by another in the taking of an examination, preparation of a paper or other similar activity. See also misrepresentation in 30.3.6(4).

30.3.2(2)c No Student shall represent another’s substantial editorial or compositional assistance on an assignment as the Student’s own work.

30.3.2(2)d No Student shall submit in any course or program of study, without the written approval of the course Instructor, all or a substantial portion of any academic writing, essay, thesis, research report, project, assignment, presentation or poster for which credit has previously been obtained by the Student or which has been or is being submitted by the Student in another course or program of study in the University or elsewhere.

30.3.2(2)e No Student shall submit in any course or program of study any academic writing, essay, thesis, report, project, assignment, presentation or poster containing a statement of fact known by the Student to be false or a reference to a source the Student knows to contain fabricated claims (unless acknowledged by the Student), or a fabricated reference to a source.

### 30.3.6(4) Misrepresentation of Facts

No Student shall misrepresent pertinent facts to any member of the University community for the purpose of obtaining academic or other advantage. This includes such acts as the failure to provide pertinent information on an application for admission or the altering of an educational document/transcript.

### 30.3.6(5) Participation in an Offence

No Student shall counsel or encourage or knowingly aid or assist, directly or indirectly, another person in the commission of any offence under this Code.

More information can be found at: [http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/en.aspx](http://www.osja.ualberta.ca/en.aspx)
EXCERPTS FROM THE CODE OF STUDENT BEHAVIOUR
FOR REVIEW WITH EACH CLASS AT THE BEGINNING OF EVERY TERM

Procedures for Instructors Regarding

Plagiarism, Cheating,

Misrepresentation of Facts and Participation in an Offence

The following procedures are drawn from the Code of Student Behaviour as approved by GFC and the Board of Governors. The guidelines summarize what instructors must do when they have reason to believe that a student has plagiarized, cheated, misrepresented facts or participated in an offence. If you have questions about these guidelines, or about the policies, please talk with the senior administrator in your Faculty responsible for dealing with student discipline—usually an Associate Dean or the Appeals and Compliance Officer (Appeals Coordinator), University Governance (2-2655).

30.5.4 Procedures for Instructors in Cases Respecting Inappropriate Academic Behaviour

30.5.4(1) When an Instructor believes that a Student may have committed an Inappropriate Academic Behaviour Offence [30.3.2] or that there has been Misrepresentation of Facts [30.3.6(4)] or Participation in an Offence [30.3.6(5)] in cases respecting Inappropriate Academic Behaviour in the course that he or she instructs, the Instructor will meet with the Student. Before such a meeting, the Instructor shall inform the Student of the purpose of the meeting. In the event that the Student refuses or fails to meet with the Instructor within a reasonable period of time specified by the Instructor, the Instructor shall, taking into account the available information, decide whether a report to the Dean is warranted.

30.5.4(2) If the Instructor believes there has been a violation of the Code, the Instructor shall, as soon as possible after the event occurred, report that violation to the Dean and provide a written statement of the details of the case. The Instructor may also include a recommendation for sanction.

Possible Sanctions

One or more of the following sanctions given in 30.4.3 (2) and (3) of the Code are commonly used for plagiarism, cheating, participation in an offence, and misrepresentation of facts:

- 30.4.3(2) a.i a mark reduction or a mark of 0 on any term work or examination for reason of Inappropriate Academic Behaviour
- 30.4.3(2) a.ii Reduction of a grade in a course
- 30.4.3(2) a.iii a grade of F for a course
- 30.4.3(2) a.iv a remark on a transcript of 8 (or 9 for failing graduate student grades), indicating Inappropriate Academic Behaviour, in addition to 30.4.3(2)a.i, 30.4.3(2)a.ii or 30.4.3(2)a.iii

- 30.4.3(3) b Expulsion
- 30.4.3(3) c Suspension

The following sanctions may be used in rare cases:

- 30.4.3(3) e Suspension of a Degree already awarded
- 30.4.3(3) f Rescission of a Degree already awarded

30.6.1 Initiation of an Appeal

30.6.1(1) When a Student has been found to have committed an offence under the Code of Student Behaviour or an Applicant is found to have committed an offence under the Code of Applicant Behaviour, whether or not that Student or Applicant has been given a sanction, the Student or Applicant may appeal that decision, except in the case of a decision of the Discipline Officer under 30.5.6(2)e.ii, which remains final and is not subject to appeal. In cases where a severe sanction has been recommended to the Discipline Officer, once the student receives the final decision of the Discipline Officer, the student can appeal the decisions of both Dean and the Discipline Officer at the same time. The written appeal must be presented to the Appeals Coordinator in University Governance within 15 Working Days of the deemed receipt of the decision by the Student or Applicant. The finding that an offence has been committed, the sanction imposed or both may form the basis of appeal. The written appeal must also state the full grounds of appeal and be signed by the Appellant. The appeal shall be heard by the UAB.

PROFESSOR STEVEN PENNEY
CHAIR, CAMPUS LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

DR STEVEN DEW
PROVOST AND VICE-PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

* The Campus Law Review Committee is a standing committee of General Faculties Council (GFC) responsible for the review of the Code of Student Behaviour and of student disciplinary procedures.

Updated: 27/08/2015

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