

PSC/IR 273
The Politics of Terrorism
Fall 2014
9:40am-10:55am, Dewey 2162

Alexander Lee

Instructor:

Email: alexander.mark.lee@rochester.edu

Office: Harkness Hall 327

Office Hours: Tuesday 11:30

Course Goals:

Over the past century, terrorism has become a common feature of world politics, enabling small groups of individuals to have a disproportionate influence on the politics of both developed and underdeveloped countries. This course explores some of the fundamental questions of terrorism: Why individuals join terrorist groups, why terrorist groups adopt certain tactics such as suicide bombing, how terrorist groups organize themselves, and what counterterrorism strategies are effective? We will develop critical thinking about these basic questions, knowledge of the details of a few selected cases, and give students experience constructing scientific arguments.

Week 5: The Collective Causes of Terrorism

Lecture September 30, Section October 2^d

Readings:

Li, Quan. "Does democracy promote or reduce transnational terrorist incidents?" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 49.2 (2005): 272-297.

Drakos, Konstantinos, and Andreas Gofas. "The Devil You Know but Are Afraid to Face Underreporting Bias and its Distorting Effects on the Study of Terrorism." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 50.5 (2006): 714-735.

Piazza, James A. "Incubators of Terror: Do Failed and Failing States Promote International Terrorism?." *International Studies Quarterly* 52.3 (2008): 469-488.

Week 6: The Red Army Faction

Lecture October 7^h, October 9^h [Cross Tab for Data Exercise Due]

Readings:

Burleigh, Michael. *Blood and Rage: A Cultural History of Terrorism* New York: HarperCollins, 2009. P.221-267.

Hans Josef Horchem, "The Lost Revolution of West Germany's Terrorists." *Violence* vol. 1, no. 3, July 1989, pp. 356-60.

Donatella della Porta. *Social Movements, Political Violence, and the State: A Comparative Analysis of Italy and Germany* Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1996: 50, 137-142

Week 7:

Midterm: October 16^h

Week 8: The Individual Causes of Terrorism

Lecture October 21st, Section October 23rd

Readings:

Krueger, Alan B., and Jitka Maleckova. "Education, Poverty and Terrorism: Is there a causal connection?." *The Journal of Economic Perspectives* 17.4 (2003): 119-144.

Richard English, *Armed Struggle: The History of the IRA*. 33784) New York: Norton, 2002.

Week 10: Networks and Group Structure

Lecture November 4th, Section November 6th

Readings:

Zelinsky, Aaron, and Martin Shubik. "Research Note: Terrorist Groups as Business Firms: A New Typological Framework." *Terrorism and Political Violence* 21.2 (2009): 323-36.

Analysis of Jemaah Islamiyah: The applications to counterterrorism and intelligence. *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* 29.6 (2006): 559-75.

Mette Eilstrup

Qaida May

International Security 33(2): 744.

Week 11: The PLO

Lecture November 11th, November 13th

Readings:

Burleigh, Michael. *Blood and Rage: A Cultural History of Terrorism*. New York: HarperCollins, 2009. P. 152-188, 380-396

Barry Rubin. *Revolution Until Victory? The Politics and History of the PLO*. New York: Basic Books, 1994. P. 1-43

Hassan, Nasra.

New Yorker November 19, pp. 36-41. 2001.

Week 12: Suicide Terrorism

Lecture November 18th, Section November 20th

Readings:

Hoffman, Bruce (2006). *Inside Terrorism*, 2nd ed. New York: Columbia University Press, 131.

Pape, Robert A. "The strategic logic of suicide terrorism." *American Political Science Review* 97.3 (2003): 343-361.

Ashworth, Scott, et al. "Design, inference, and the strategic logic of suicide terrorism." *American Political Science Review* 102.02 (2008): 269-73.

Week 13

Thanksgiving No Class

Week 14: AlQaida

Lecture December 2nd, December 4th [Data Exercise Due]

Readings:

The 9/11 Commission Report (2004). New York: W. W. Norton, 470; 145173; 215253.

Lawrence, Bruce (2005).