

**PSC/IR 273**  
The Politics of Terrorism  
Fall 2016  
2:00-3:15pm Mondays and Wednesdays

**Alexander Lee**

**Instructor:**

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that identifies a questions or puzzle concerning terrorism, develops a hypothesis about its solution, relates the questions and answer to the course readings, and provides statistical evidence to support the hypothesis. The statistical evidence should be drawn from the Global Terrorism Database: <http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/>. Additional details on the Data exercise will be explained in class on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

*Writing Intensive Students:* WI students must complete all course requirements noted above, and in addition write a twenty-page research paper on a topic related to the course material. The topic must be approved orally by the TA by October 10<sup>th</sup>, and a rough draft of the first two pages turned in by November 7<sup>th</sup>. The paper itself is due on the last day of class, and will be worth 25% of the final grade.

## Readings

### Week 1: Introduction

*Introduction: August 29<sup>th</sup>*

### Week 2-3: Definitions

*Lecture: September 5th*

*Discussion: September 10th*

*Readings:*

Hoffman, Bruce (2006). "Defining Terrorism" (Chapter 1). In *Inside Terrorism* (2<sup>nd</sup>ed). New York: Columbia University Press, 1-41.

Tilly, Charles (2004). "Terror, Terrorism, Terrorists." *Sociological Theory* 22(1): 5-13.

### Weeks 3-4: The History of Terrorism

*Lecture: September 12<sup>th</sup>, September 17<sup>th</sup>*

*Readings:*

Hoffman, Bruce (2006) *Inside Terrorism*, 2nd ed. New York: Columbia University Press, 63-80. 257-295

David C. Rapoport, "The Four Waves of Modern Terrorism," in Audrey Kurth Cronin and James M. Ludes, Eds., *Attacking Terrorism: Elements of a Grand Strategy*, pp. 46-73.

### Week 4: The Red Army Faction

*Lecture: September 19<sup>th</sup>*

*Readings:*

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

### Week 5: The IRA

*Lecture: September 24th*

*Lecture on the Data Exercise: September 26<sup>th</sup>*

*Readings:*

Burleigh, Michael. *Blood and Rage: A Cultural History of Terrorism*. New York: HarperCollins, 2009. P.287-345.





*Readings:*

Bergen, Peter. *United States of Jihad*. New York: Crown, 2015. Chapters 4 and 5.

McCauley, Clark, and Sophia Moskalenko. "Mechanisms of political radicalization: Pathways toward terrorism." *Terrorism and political violence* 20.3 (2008): 415-433.

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