

POL S 457X/557X
International Terrorism and Insurgency
SPRING 2017
TR 12:40-2:00 pm, LeBaron 2069

Instructor: Professor Olga Chyzh, ochyzh@iastate.edu
Office Hours: Th 3:00-5:00 pm, 1413 Snedecor Hall

Overview and Objectives

What motivates a terrorist? When do people resort to various forms of unconventional political participation, such as protests or terrorist attacks against the state? Under what conditions will such actions lead to changes in state behavior? What are successful counter-terrorism or counter-insurgency strategies? The course introduces students to the scientific explanations for the causes and consequences of various types of non-state political violence, such as terrorism, insurgencies, political protests, and civil war. More broadly, the course will help foster students' ability to apply the social scientific method to the study of political outcomes. As such, this is not a history class or a class on current events. Though current events and historical examples will be discussed, the course will primarily focus on understanding the underlying interests of important actors, the arenas in which those actors interact, and the rules which govern these interactions.

The course will begin with defining terrorism and political violence, as well as an overview of the social scientific method and its role in the study of these topics. After this introduction, we will proceed to study the main social explanations for terrorism and the effectiveness of counter-terrorism strategies.

Learning Outcomes

- Students will acquire the analytical skills necessary to study political problems;
- Students will gain knowledge on basic theories of non-state political violence;
- Students will apply social theories to explain contemporary events and historical cases;
- Students will analyze the accuracy and relevancy of their own worldviews and anticipate how people from other nations may perceive that worldview.

Requirements

Class Participation 30%:

Your attendance and discussion grade is based on class participation. Note that attendance is required, and this requirement is enforced through occasional in-class assignments. The only excused absences are those due to university-approved activities (conditional on an advance written warning from the relevant department) or a major life-altering event, such as a serious illness or a death in the family. Missed quizzes, due to any other reasons, will result in a score of 0.

Assignments 35% (5% each):

Throughout the semester, students will work on a series of assignments that will be eventually revised and combined into a final research paper. These assignments will include:

- Assignment 1: Opening and summarizing data in R (due Tuesday, January 24, at 12:40 pm);
- Assignment 2: Using a 2x2 game to derive predictions (a typed-up hard copy is due Tuesday, Jan. 31, beginning of class);
- Assignment 3: Data management in R (due on Blackboard on Tuesday, Feb 7, at 12:40 pm);
- Assignment 4: Using the collective action model game to derive predictions (a typed-up hard copy is due Tuesday, Feb. 14, beginning of class).
- Assignment 5: Research project proposal (due Tuesday, Feb. 28 at the beginning of class (hard copy));
- Assignment 6: Preliminary data analysis (due in hard copy on Thursday, Mar. 23 before class);
- Assignment 7: Literature Review (due in hard copy on April 11 at the beginning of class).

Students will receive detailed feedback on each part of the assignment and will be given an opportunity to revise each of the parts to improve their grade on the final project.

Response Papers 15% (5% each): Students will write three 500-word response papers on the readings assigned for **Mar. 2, Mar. 23, and April 4**. In these papers, the students will discuss how the assigned reading materials for the week speak to each other, testable hypotheses that may be derived from the theoretical models discussed in the reading materials, and ideas for future research.

Final Paper 20%: Students will revise, expand, and combine some of the assignments into a final research paper. This paper will be a minimum of 15 pages in length and must contain an introduction, a literature review, a theory section, a research design section, the analysis, the discussion of results, and a conclusion. Simply pasting together assignments, without

making improvements discussed during individual consultations will result in a score of 0 on the final project.

Grading Scale:

All parts of the class are required; a failure to complete any of the assignments will result in a grade of F.

A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	≤ 59

Required Texts

All required readings are scholarly articles and are available on www.scholar.google.com. In contrast to a traditional textbook, this course's reliance on scholarly research articles offers you an opportunity to see what contemporary research on terrorism/counterterrorism looks like in practice. This is especially helpful if you intend to take future classes in international relations or are considering graduate school. To find the articles, search using the author's name and article title from any computer on campus. If you are off-campus, sign into Google Scholar through the library's website and then search using the author's name and article title.

Monogan, James E. III. *Political Analysis Using R*. Available online from <http://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-23446-5> (free to download when connected to ISU network).

I also encourage you to keep up-to-date on current events by reading articles relating to foreign policy and international relations in a major news media source. Two good sources are the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. They have substantial coverage of international events, and you can subscribe to either at a very reasonable student rate. A major weekly news magazine, such as the *Economist*, also provides strong coverage of international events. You can also find that many news organizations provide news online, free of charge (i.e., www.news.google.com).

Administrative Issues

Academic Integrity: All students in attendance at Iowa State University are expected to be honorable and to observe standards of conduct appropriate to a community of scholars. The University expects from its students a higher standard of conduct than the minimum required to avoid discipline. Academic misconduct includes all acts of dishonesty in any academically related matter and any knowing or intentional help or attempt to help, or conspiracy to help, another student. The Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Policy will be followed in the event of academic misconduct.

Examples of academic dishonesty include-but are not limited to-the following:

- Plagiarism—that is, using another’s ideas or writings without proper attribution, including sources from the internet;
- copying from another person during an examination;
- assisting another person with an individual assignment or an exam.

Disability Statement: If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss any course accommodations that may be necessary. *It is your responsibility to do this in a timely manner.*

I reserve the right to modify the syllabus to reflect the pace of the course.

Course Outline

Introduction to Social Science and the Study of Terrorism

January 10

- Frieden, Jeffrey A., and David A. Lake. 2005. "International Relations as a Social Science: Rigor and Relevance." *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 600(1): 136–156.
- Victoroff, Jeff. 2008. "The Mind of the Terrorist: A Review and Critique of Psychological Approaches." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 49(1): 3–42.
- *Core Concepts: history of the study of international relations, case histories vs. general theories and empirical tests, deterrence theory, the bargaining model of war, psychological theories.*

Definitional Issues and Available Data

January 12

- Ganor, B. 2002. "Defining Terrorism: Is One Man's Terrorist another Man's Freedom Fighter?" *Policy Practice and Research* 3(4): 287–304.
- *Core Concepts: terrorism, guerilla warfare, freedom fighters, revolutionaries, anarchists, insurgents, civilian vs. military targets*

January 17

- **Class will meet in Gilman 2272 (lab).**
- Lab 1: Opening and summarizing data in R.
- Monogan Ch 1-2;
- Assignment 1 (5%): Opening and summarizing data in R (due on Blackboard on Tuesday, Jan. 24, at 12:40 pm).

Temporal Patterns in Terrorism

January 19

- Brandt, Patrick T, and Todd Sandler. 2010. "What Do Transnational Terrorists Target? Has It Changed? Are We Safer?" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 54 (2): 214-236.

- Enders, Walter, and Todd Sandler. 2005. "After 9/11: Is it All Different Now?" *The Political Economy of Transnational Terrorism* 49 (2): 259-277.

Counter-Terrorism as a Prisoners' Dilemma

January 24

- Assignment 1 due on BB at 12:40 pm;
- Daniel G. Arce M. Todd Sandler. 2005. "Counterterrorism: A Game-Theoretic Analysis." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 49(2): 183-200.
- Assignment 2 (5%): Using a 2x2 game to derive predictions (a typed-up hard copy is due Tuesday, Jan. 31, beginning of class).
- *Core Concepts: 2x2 games, 3x3 games, Prisoners' Dilemma*

Relative Deprivation and Why People Rebel

January 26

- Gurr, Ted. 1968. "A Causal Model of Civil Strife: A Comparative Analysis Using New Indices." *American Political Science Review* 62(4): 1104-1124.
- Brush, Stephen G. 1996. "Dynamics of Theory Change in the Social Sciences Relative Deprivation and Collective Violence." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 40(4): 523-545.
- *Core Concepts: relative deprivation theory*

Working with Data

January 31

- Assignment 2 is due as a hard copy at the beginning of class.
- **Class will meet in Gilman 2272 (lab).**
- Lab 2: Data Management in R.
- Monogan: Ch. 3-4.
- Assignment 3 (5%): Data management in R (due on Blackboard on Tuesday, Feb 7, at 12:40 pm).

Repression and Dissent

February 2

- Davenport, Christian. 2007. “State Repression and Political Order.” *Annual Review of Political Science* 10: 1–23.
- Rasler, Karen. 1996. “Concessions, Repression, and Political Protest in the Iranian Revolution.” *American Sociological Review* 61(1): 132–152.
- *Core Concepts: state repression, unit of observation, the law of coercive responsiveness, deepening the threat hypothesis, domestic democratic peace, structural causes of repression, cost/benefit theory.*

Mobilization and Collective Action

February 7

- Assignment 3 is due on BB at 12:40 pm.
- Van Belle, Douglas A. 1996. “Leadership and Collective Action: the Case of Revolution.” *International Studies Quarterly* 40(1): 107–132.
- Finkel, Steven, and Edward N. Muller. 1998. “Rational Choice and the Dynamics of Collective Political Action: Evaluating Alternative Models with Panel Data.” *American Political Science Review* 92(1): 37–49.
- Assignment 4 (5%): Using the collective action model game to derive predictions (a typed-up hard copy is due Tuesday, Feb. 14, beginning of class).
- *Core Concepts: public good, public goods game, the problem of collective action, the cascade model.*

Terrorist Organizations

February 9

- Asal, Victor, and R. Karl Rethemeyer. 2008. “The Nature of the Beast: Terrorist Organizational Characteristics and Organizational Lethality.” *Journal of Politics* 70: 437–449.
- Kydd, Andrew, and Barbara Walter. 2006. “The Strategies of Terrorism.” *International Security* 31(1): 49–80.
- *Core Concepts: costly signaling, attrition, spoiling, intimidation, outbidding, provocation*

Analyzing Data

February 14

- Assignment 4 is due as a hard copy at the beginning of class;
- **Class will meet in Gilman 2272 (lab).**
- Lab 3: Data Analysis in R.

The Signaling Game and Terrorism

February 16

- Daniel G. Arce and Todd Sandler. 2010. “Terrorist Spectaculars: Backlash Attacks and the Focus of Intelligence.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 54 (2): 354-373.
- Assignment 5 (5%): Research project proposal (due Tuesday, Feb. 28 at the beginning of class (hard copy)).
- *Core Concepts: extensive-form games, the signaling model.*

February 21

- Individual consultation: each student must attend an individual consultation with Professor Chyzh related to the research paper. A failure to attend a consultation will result in a 5% penalty on the final grade.

February 23

- No class. Work on the research proposal.

Education, Employment, and Terrorism

February 28

- Research proposal due at the beginning of class.
- Krueger, Alan B. and Jitka Maleckova. 2003. “Education, Poverty, and Terrorism: Is There a Causal Connection?” *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 17(4): 119–144.
- Bueno de Mesquita, Ethan. 2005. “The Quality of Terror.” *American Journal of Political Science* 49(3): 515–530.

Does Terrorism Work?

March 2

- Response Paper 1 is due at the beginning of class.
- Abrahms, Max. 2006. “Why Terrorism Does Not Work.” *International Security* 31(2): 42–78.
- Pape, Robert A. 2003. “The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism.” *American Political Science Review* 97(3): 343–361.

Data Visualization

March 7

- **Class will meet in Gilman 2272 (lab).**
- Lab 4: Data Visualization in R.
- Assignment 6 (5%): Preliminary data analysis (due in hard copy on Thursday, March 23 before class).

March 9

- A second round of individual consultations on the research project with Professor Chyzh. A failure to attend a consultation will result in a 5% penalty on the final grade.

Spring Break: March 13-17

Network Analysis and Terrorism

March 21

- Assignment 6 due in hard copy before class;
- Barcelo, Joan, and Elena Labzina. 2017. “Global Terrorism and (De-)Mobilization: Do ISISs Deadly Attacks Demotivate, Deter, or Mobilize Supporters?.” *Working paper*. Available from BB.
- Enders, Walter, and Paan Jindapon. 2009. “Network Externalities and the Structure of Terror Networks.” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 54 (2): 262-280.

Consequences of Terrorism

March 23

- Response Paper 2 is due at the beginning of class.
- Huddy, Leonie, Stanley Feldman, Theresa Capelos, and Colin Provost. 2002. "The Consequences of Terrorism: Disentangling the Effects of Personal and National Threat." *Political Psychology*. 23(3): 485–509.
- Berrebi, Claude and Esteban F. Klor. 2006. "On Terrorism and Electoral Outcomes." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 50(6): 899–925.

Targets of Terrorism

March 28

- Murdie, Amanda and Craig Stapley. 2014. "Why Target the 'Good Guys'? The Determinants of Terrorism Against NGOs." *International Interactions* 40(1): 79–102.
- Chenoweth, Erica. 2010. "Democratic Competition and Terrorist Activity." *Journal of Politics* 72(1): 16–30.

Suicide Terrorism

March 30

- Horowitz, Michael. 2010. "Nonstate Actors and the Diffusion of Innovations: The Case of Suicide Terrorism." *International Organization* 64(1): 33–64.
- Benmelech, Efraim, Claude Berrebi, and Esteban F. Klor. "Economic Conditions and the Quality of Suicide Terrorism." *Journal of Politics* 74 (1): 113-128.
- Assignment 7 (5%): Literature Review (due in hard copy on April 11 at the beginning of class).

Religion, Ethnicity, and Gender

April 4

- Response Paper 3 is due at the beginning of class.
- Toft, Monica D, and Yuri Zhukov. 2015. "Islamists and Nationalists: Rebel Motivation and Counterinsurgency in Russia's North Caucasus." *American Political Science Review* 109 (2): 222-238.

- Thomas, Jakana L, and Kanisha D. Bond. 2015. "Women's Participation in Violent Political Organizations." *American Political Science Review* 109 (3): 488-506.

April 6

- No class. Work on Assignment 7.

Counterterrorism

April 11

- Assignment 7 is due in hard copy at the beginning of class.
- Powell, Robert. 2007. "Defending against Terrorist Attacks with Limited Resources." *American Political Science Review* 101(3): 527–541.
- Bueno de Mesquita, Ethan. 2005. "Conciliation, Counterterrorism, and Patterns of Terrorist Violence." *International Organization* 59: 145–176.

April 13

- Enders, Walter, and Todd Sandler. 1993. "The Effectiveness of Antiterrorism Policies: A Vector-Autoregression- Intervention Analysis." *American Political Science Review* 87 (4): 829-844.
- Dragu, Tiberiu. 2011. "Is There a Trade-off between Security and Liberty? Executive Bias, Privacy Protections, and Terrorism Prevention." *American Political Science Review* 105 (1): 64-78.

Insurgency, and Civil War

April 18

- James D. Fearon, and David D. Laitin. 2003. "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War." *American Political Science Review* 97(1): 75-90.
- Buhaug, Halvard, LarsErik Cederman, and Kristian Skrede Gleditsch. 2014. "Square pegs in round holes: Inequalities, grievances, and civil war." *International Studies Quarterly* 58(2): 418-431.

Civil War Settlement

April 20

- Arena, Philip, and Anna O. Pechenkina. 2015. "External Subsidies and Lasting Peace." *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. DOI: 10.1177/0022002715600754.
- Walter, Barbara F. 1997. "The Critical Barrier to Civil War Settlement." *International Organization* 51(3): 335-364.

April 24, 26

- Final individual consultation on the research paper with Professor Chyzh. A failure to attend a consultation will result in a 5% penalty on the final grade.
- Final draft of the research paper is due on May 3 (Wednesday of the finals week.)