

CRJ 882: Terrorism
Fall 2015
Monday 2:00- 4:00 PM
Room: 2116 NH

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Course Description:

The five objectives of this course are to:

- (1) Briefly review definitions of terrorism and recent efforts to measure and study terrorism.
- (2) Examine the major data sources available to empirically examine terrorism issues including the Global Terrorism Database (GTD), International Terrorism Attributes of Terrorist Events (ITERATE) database, Minorities at Risk and Organizational Behavior (MAROB) data, the American Terrorism Study (ATS), the U.S. Extremist Crime Database (ECDB) as well as qualitative approaches to collecting terrorism data, including interviews and other strategies.
- (3) Provide details on the characteristics of world-wide terrorism and terrorist attacks in the United States, including trends, geo-spatial patterns, weapons, targets, and tactics.
- (4) Study the major theories of radicalization, terrorism, and political violence from a variety of disciplines. We will explore why terrorism occurs in certain locations as opposed to other areas (incident-level); who becomes a terrorist and why (perpetrator-level), who is more likely to be victimized and why (victim-level); as well as why some groups/movements employ terrorist tactics, while others do not (organizational-level). We will also examine the life course of terrorists and terrorist organizations and responses to terrorism.
- (5) Provide an introduction to research on countering terrorism and violent extremism.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this semester students will demonstrate knowledge of (i) the challenge of defining and measuring terrorism; (ii) key theories of the etiology of terrorism from the

fields of criminology, political science, psychology, sociology and economics; (iii) fundamental characteristics of terrorism including trends, spatial distribution, tactics, targets and weapons; (iv) basic knowledge of counter terrorist and counter extremist tactics and their viability.

Students will be able to discuss and critique (orally and in writing) the relevant literatures on these topics.

Required Texts:

(1) LaFree, G, L Dugan and E Miller. 2015. *Putting Terrorism in Context: Lessons from the Global Terrorism Database*. London: Routledge. (Copies for sale and in JJAY library).

(2) Clarke, R.V., & G.R. Newman. 2006. *Outsmarting the terrorists*. New York: Praeger Security International.

(3) McCauley C. & S. Moskalenko. 2011. *Friction: How radicalization happens to them and us*. New York: Oxford University Press.

(4) Additional journal articles & book excerpts- see below- that are available from the John Jay library in hard copies or on-line/full text.

Grading-Graduate Students

Attendance and class participation: 15%
Class readings presentation 25%
Research proposal presentation 15% (December 14th)
Research proposal/Term paper 45% (due Friday December 18th)

Grading-Undergraduate Students

Attendance and class participation: 15%
Class readings presentation 25%
Critique of Grad Student presentations 15% (December 14th)
Research proposal/Term paper 45% (due Friday December 18th)

Course Requirements

READINGS: Readings are assigned for each class session. Students are expected to read the assigned materials before class, be familiar with them, and prepared for class discussion.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is required and students are expected to be punctual for all class meetings. Absences, lateness and leaving early will be factored into the final grade.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: Class participation is required and all students are expected to contribute to class discussion. Class participation will be assessed according to the quality and thoughtfulness of student contributions.

CLASS READING PRESENTATION: Each student will choose a specific class and:

- (1) Craft an in-depth summary handout (to be distributed in class) on all the assigned readings;
- (2) Conduct a presentation that reviews the core propositions and implications of each assigned reading; and
- (3) Lead a class discussion on the assigned readings. Presenters must draft 8 or so discussion questions on the handout to be distributed in class.

RESEARCH PROPOSAL: All students must identify an issue related to the causes of or responses to terrorism and draft a research proposal to examine empirically this issue.

The proposal must include:

- (1) An introduction that clearly sets forth the research problem, explains the importance of the issue, describes the theoretical orientation, and demonstrates how the proposal will provide an original contribution to the literature,
- (2) A literature review that summarizes and places in context previous conceptual and empirical studies that are directly relevant to the proposal,
- (3) A discussion of the proposal's research questions/hypotheses,
- (4) A data and methods section that specifies the data the project will use to investigate its research questions, and how the study operationalizes the dependent variable, the key concepts from its hypotheses (independent variables), and the method that will be used,
- (5) And an analysis plan that explains how the study will investigate the issue (i.e., the analysis techniques to be used, etc.) and a discussion of potential findings that explain which results will support your hypotheses and which results will contradict your hypotheses.

The *graduate students* will present their research proposal (in academic conference format) to the class on December 14th. The *undergraduate students* will provide feedback and critique each presentation.

After students respond to feedback and critiques from the class, the written research proposal will be due December 18th.

It is hoped that students will continue to work on the project, and conduct the analyses set forth in their proposal. Ideally, students will present their findings to academic conferences, and submit their findings to peer-reviewed journals.

STANDARDS OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Students are expected to conform to the highest ethical standards regarding academic integrity. The College policy on plagiarism states that: “plagiarism is the presentation of someone else’s ideas, words, or artistic or technical work as one’s own creation. Using the ideas or work of another is permissible only when the original author is identified. Paraphrasing and summarizing, as well as direct quotations require citations to the original source.” (For more details see the John Jay College of Criminal Justice Bulletin).

This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructors.

COURSE OUTLINE

Date	Topic	Readings
Week 1 (8/31) Dr. Freilich	Introduction	Lemann, N. 4/26/10. Terrorism studies: Social scientists do counterinsurgency. <i>The New Yorker</i> Horgan, J. & J. Stern. 5/8/13. Terrorism research has not stagnated. <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i> ** McMurtie, B. 6/24/13. Terrorism experts sought by public but not by Academe. <i>Chronicle of Higher Education</i> ** McCauley, C. & S. Moskalenko. 2014. Some things we think we’ve learned since 9/11: A commentary on Marc Sageman’s ‘The Stagnation in Terrorism Research.’ <i>Terrorism and Political Violence</i> 26(4): 601-606
9/7	No Class (Labor Day)	N/A
Week 2 (9/10) (Special Thursday class- Follow Monday schedule): Dr. LaFree	Defining and Measuring Terrorism	LaFree, Dugan and Miller, Putting Terrorism in Context, CHAPTERS 1, 2** Crenshaw, Martha. Terrorism Research: The Record. <i>International Interactions: Empirical and Theoretical Research in International Relations</i> (July 2014). http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/03050629.2014.902817#.U9-Xw-NdUZn Freilich, Joshua D., Steven M. Chermak & Jeff Gruenewald. 2015. "The Future of Terrorism Research: A Review Essay." <i>International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice</i> (May 2014).

		<p>http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01924036.2014.922321#.U9-SJONdUZI</p> <p>LaFree, Gary and Gary Ackerman. 2009. The empirical study of terrorism: Social and legal research. <i>Annual Review of Law and Social Science</i> 5:347-374.</p>
9/14	NO CLASS	N/A
<p>Week 3 (9/21)</p> <p>Dr. Freilich</p>	<p>Problems with terrorism research;</p> <p>Qualitative methods: Interviews & ethnography</p>	<p>Silke, A. 2001. The devil you know: Continuing problems with research on terrorism. <i>Terrorism and Political Violence</i> 13(4): 1-14.</p> <p>Victoroff, J. 2005. The mind of the terrorist: A review and critique of psychological approaches. <i>Journal of Conflict Resolution</i> 49(1): 3-42.</p> <p>Silke, A. 2008. Research on Terrorism: A Review of the impact of 9/11 and the global war on terrorism. Pp. 27-50 in Hsinchun Chen et. al. (Eds.). <i>Terrorism Informatics: Knowledge Management and Data Mining for Homeland Security</i>. New York: Springer. **</p> <p>Post, J.M., E. Sprinzak, & L.M. Denny. 2003. The terrorists in their own words: Interviews with 35 incarcerated Middle Eastern terrorists. <i>Terrorism and Political Violence</i> 15(1): 171- 184</p> <p>Orsini, A. 2013. A day among diehard terrorists: The psychological costs of doing ethnographic research. <i>Studies in Conflict and Terrorism</i> 36: 337-351</p> <p>Horgan, J. 2012. Interviewing the terrorists: Reflections on fieldwork and implications for psychological research. <i>Behavioral Science of Political Aggression and Terrorism</i> 4(3): 195-211</p> <p>Harris, D.J., P. Simi & G. Lignon. 2016. Reporting practices of journal articles that include interviews with extremists. <i>Studies in Conflict and Terrorism</i> 39(3): In press **</p>
<p>Week 4 (9/28)</p> <p>Dr. LaFree</p>	Terrorism Trends	<p>LaFree, Dugan and Miller, CHAPTERS 3, 8**</p> <p>Asal, V. & J. Wilkenfeld. 2013. Ethnic conflict: An organizational perspective. <i>Penn State Journal of Law & International Affairs</i> 2(1): 91-102. **</p> <p>Chermak, S.M., J.D. Freilich & M. Suttmoeller. 2013. The organizational dynamics of far-right hate groups in the United States: Comparing violent to non-violent organizations. <i>Studies in</i></p>

		<i>Conflict and Terrorism</i> 36(3): 193-218
Week 5 (10/5) Dr. Freilich	Quantitative approaches: Databases cont: ATS ECDB & measurement issues	<p>Smith, B. L. & K.D. Morgan. 1994. Terrorists right and left: Empirical issues in profiling American terrorists. <i>Studies in Conflict and Terrorism</i> 17: 39- 57</p> <p>Smith, Brent L., Kelly R. Damphousse, Freedom Jackson, & Amy Sellers. 2002. The prosecution and punishment of international terrorists in federal courts, 1980- 1998. <i>Criminology and Public Policy</i>, 1(3): 311- 338.</p> <p>Freilich, J.D., S.M. Chermak, R. Belli, J. Gruenewald & W.S. Parkin. 2014. Introducing the United States Extremist Crime Database. <i>Terrorism and Political Violence</i> 26(2): 372-384.</p> <p>Gruenewald, J.A., S.M. Chermak & J.D. Freilich. 2013. Distinguishing “Loner” attacks from other domestic extremist violence: A comparison of far-right homicide incident and offender characteristics. <i>Criminology & Public Policy</i> 12(1): 6592</p> <p>Chermak, S.M., J.D. Freilich, W. Parkin & J.P. Lynch. 2012. American terrorism and extremist crime data sources and selectivity bias: An investigation focusing on homicide events committed by far-right extremists. <i>Journal of Quantitative Criminology</i> 28(1): 191-218</p> <p>Dugan, L. & M. Distler. 2016. Measuring terrorism. In LaFree, G. & J.D. Freilich. Eds. <i>Handbook on the criminology of terrorism</i>. Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell**</p>
10/12	NO CLASS	N/A
Week 6 (10/19):	Spatial Distribution	LaFree, Dugan and Miller, CHAPTER 4**

Dr. LaFree	of Terrorism	<p>LaFree, Gary and Bianca Bersani. 2014. County-level correlates of terrorist attacks in the United States, 1990-2011. <i>Criminology and Public Policy</i> 13:455-481</p> <p>Behlendorf, Brandon, Gary LaFree and Richard L. Legault. 2012. Predicting microcycles of violence: Evidence from terrorist attacks by the FMLN and ETA. <i>Journal of Quantitative Criminology</i> 28:49-75.</p> <p>Erica Chenoweth. 2013. "Terrorism and Democracy." <i>Annual Review of Political Science</i> (May): 355-378. http://www.annualreviews.org/doi/full/10.1146/annurev-polisci-032211-221825</p>
Week 7 (10/26) Dr. Freilich	Radicalization (social psychological approach)	<p>McCauley C. & S. Moskalenko. 2011. <i>Friction: How radicalization happens to them and us</i>. New York: Oxford University Press.</p>
Week 8 (11/2) Dr. LaFree	Terrorist Groups	<p>LaFree, Gary, Sue-Ming Yang and Martha Crenshaw. 2009. Trajectories of terrorism: Attack patterns of foreign groups that have targeted the United States, 1970 to 2004. <i>Criminology and Public Policy</i> 8:445-473.</p> <p>Gruenewald, Jeff, and Steven Chermak, Joshua Freilich. 2013. "Far-Right Lone Wolf Homicides in the United States." <i>Studies in Conflict and Terrorism</i> (November): 1005-24. http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1057610X.2013.842123#.UzHbG4V7SHg</p> <p>Braniff, Bill, and Assaf Moghadam. 2012. "Towards Global Jihadism: Al-Qaeda's Strategic, Ideological and Structural Adaptations since 9/11." <i>Perspectives on Terrorism</i>. http://www.terrorismanalysts.com/pt/index.php/pot/article/view/braniff-towards-global-jihadism/html</p> <p>Carson, Jennifer Varriale, and Gary LaFree, Laura Dugan. 2012. "Terrorist and Non-Terrorist Criminal Attacks by Radical Environmental and Animal Rights Groups in the United States, 1970–2007." <i>Terrorism and Political Violence</i> (March): 295-319. http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/09546553.2011.639416</p> <p>Miller, Erin. 2012. "Patterns of Onset and Decline Among Terrorist Organizations." <i>Journal of Quantitative Criminology</i> (March): 28:77-101. http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs10940-011-9154-6</p>

<p>Week 9 (11/9)</p> <p>Dr. Freilich</p>	<p>Criminologica l approaches</p>	<p>Dugan, L., G. LaFree, & A.R. Piquero. 2005. Testing a rational choice model of airline hijackings. <i>Criminology</i> 43:1031-1065 (rational choice)</p> <p>Agnew, R. 2016. General strain theory and terrorism. In LaFree, G. & J.D. Freilich. Eds. <i>Handbook on the criminology of terrorism</i>. Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell(strain)**</p> <p>Shecory, M. & A. Laufer. 2008. Social control theory and the connection with ideological offenders among Israeli youth during the Gaza disengagement period. <i>International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology</i> 52(4): 454-473(control)</p> <p>Akins, J.K. & L.T. Winfree. 2016. Social learning theory and becoming a terrorist: New challenges for a general theory. In LaFree, G. & J.D. Freilich. Eds. <i>Handbook on the criminology of terrorism</i>. Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell (Social learning) **</p> <p>Freilich, J.D., A. Adamczyk, S.M. Chermak, K. Boyd & W.S. Parkin. 2015. Investigating the applicability of macro-level criminology theory to terrorism: A county-level analysis. <i>Journal of Quantitative Criminology</i>. In press. Available through Online First at DOI: 10.1007/s10940-014-9239-0 (social disorganization)**</p> <p>Parkin, W.S. 2016. Victimization theories and terrorism. In LaFree, G. & J.D. Freilich. Eds. <i>Handbook on the criminology of terrorism</i>. Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell (victimization; lifestyle; routine activities)**</p>
<p>Week 10 (11/16):</p> <p>Dr. LaFree</p>	<p>Terrorist weapons, targets and tactics</p>	<p>LaFree, Dugan and Miller, CHAPTERS 6, 9**</p> <p>Bradford, Emma, and Margaret A. Wilson. 2013. "When terrorists target schools: An exploratory analysis of attacks on educational institutions." <i>Journal of Police and Criminal Psychology</i> (June): 1-12. http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11896-013-9128-8</p> <p>McCauley, Tom. 2015. The war of ideas on the Internet: An asymmetric conflict in which the strong become the weak. <i>Dynamics of Asymmetric Conflict</i>. http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17467586.2014.1002511</p> <p>Ackerman, Gary and Ryan Pereira. "Jihadists and WMD: a Re-evaluation of the Future Threat". CBRNe World .October (2014) :</p>

		27-34a. http://www.cbrneworld.com/_uploads/download_magazines/Jihadi_sts.pdf
Week 11 (11/23) Dr. Freilich	Situational Crime Prevention & terrorism	Clarke, R.V., & G.R. Newman. 2006. <i>Outsmarting the terrorists</i> . New York: Praeger Security International.
Week 12 (11/30): Dr. LaFree	Countering Terrorism	LaFree, Dugan and Miller, CHAPTERS 10, 11 LaFree, Gary, Laura Dugan and Raven Korte. 2009. The impact of British counter terrorist strategies on political violence in Northern Ireland: Comparing deterrence and backlash models. <i>Criminology</i> 47: 501-530. Dahl, Erik J. 2011. The plots that failed: Intelligence lessons learned from unsuccessful terrorist attacks against the United States. <i>Studies in Conflict and Terrorism</i> 34:621-48. LaFree, Gary. 2012. Policing terrorism. <i>Ideas in American Policing</i> (July): 1-12. http://www.policefoundation.org/sites/pftest1.drupalgardens.com/files/Id... Maimon David, Mariel Alper, Michel Cukier and Bertrand Sobesto. 2014. "Restrictive Deterrent Effects of a Warning Banner in an Attacked Computer System." <i>Criminology</i> 52: 33-59.
Week 13 (12/7) Dr. Freilich	Loner (lone wolf terrorism) & suicide terrorism	Corner, E., & Gill, P. (2015). A False dichotomy? Mental illness and lone-actor terrorism. <i>Law and Human Behavior</i> , 39 (1), 23-34. doi:10.1037/lhb0000102 Pape, R. 2003. The strategic logic of suicide terrorism. <i>American Political Science Review</i> . 97(3): 343- 361 Crenshaw, M. 2007. Explaining suicide terrorism: A review essay. <i>Security Studies</i> 16(1): 133-162 Lankford, A. 2011. Could suicide terrorists actually be suicidal? <i>Studies in Conflict & Terrorism</i> 34: 337-366 Hamm, M.S. & R. Spaaij. 2016. Paradigmatic case studies and prison ethnography: Future directions in terrorism research. In LaFree, G. & J.D. Freilich. Eds. <i>Handbook on the criminology of terrorism</i> . Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell **

Week 14 (12/14): Drs. Freilich & LaFree	Class presentations	PHD STUDENT PRESENTATIONS
Friday December 18 th	TERM PAPERS DUE	TERM PAPERS DUE

****= *Article is available electronically from professors if needed***