

ECTS Syllabus

Course Title	Terrorism and Counterterrorism				
Course Code	PGT-402				
Course Type	Elective				
Level	1 st Cycle				
Prerequisite	n/a				
Year / Semester	4 th Year				
Teacher's Name	Dr. Constantinos Adamides				
ECTS	6	Lectures / week	1	Laboratories / week	N/A
Course Purpose and Objectives	Purpose: The two primary goals of this course are to study terrorism across various theoretical levels and to analyze four case studies of terrorist organizations. Specifically, students will have the opportunity to theoretically examine different aspects of terrorism, connecting these theoretical frameworks to real-world examples. Furthermore, this course will examine varied counter-terrorism strategies, state and societal responses to terrorism, and the ethical considerations inherent in these responses. Objectives: • Examine the historical roots of terrorism. • Explore the different forms that terrorism has taken over time. • Investigate state terrorism and the use of technology and the internet by terrorist groups. • Cover topics of terrorist financing and training methods. • Study the relationship between terrorism and the media. • Discuss the state and societal dilemmas between "freedom" and "security." • Analyze how geopolitical developments influence terrorist organizations. • Analyze four different terrorist organizations to connect the theoretical aspects of the course with specific cases. • Examine and understand various variables that can lead to the creation, perpetuation, or dissolution of terrorist organizations. • Through the analysis of case studies, examine different state and international counter-terrorism responses.				

	• Evaluate different counter-terrorism strategies employed by states and international organizations. • Analyze the ethical considerations and human rights implications of counter-terrorism measures. • Examine programs for de-radicalization and rehabilitation of former terrorists. • Discuss the role of community engagement and civil society in preventing and countering violent extremism.
Learning Outcomes	After completion of the course students are expected to be able to: • Understand what terrorism and terrorist groups are (and are not). • Acquire analytical and research skills related to the theoretical analysis of traditional and modern forms of terrorism. • Understand and recognize the different forms of state terrorism – both historically and in the "modern" context. • Analyze and present case studies of specific terrorist organizations and incidents of terrorism. • Describe and evaluate the impact of specific geopolitical and historical conditions on specific terrorist organizations. • Use analytical and theoretical tools from the field of International Relations (International Relations theories, security theories, conflict theories) to understand and interpret terrorism. • Gain a deep understanding of the various dimensions of terrorism, including contemporary challenges such as cyber-terrorism, identifying the variables that determine the profile of a potential terrorist, counter-terrorism policies, the treatment of terrorism under International Law. • Evaluate Counter-Terrorism Strategies: Assess the effectiveness and ethical implications of various counter-terrorism strategies employed by states and international organizations. • Analyze the Role of International Law: Analyze the role of international law in addressing terrorism, including the legal frameworks for prosecuting terrorists and protecting human rights. • Assess De-radicalization Programs: Evaluate the effectiveness of de-radicalization programs and initiatives aimed at countering violent extremism. • Analyze the Impact of Technology on Counter-Terrorism: Analyze how technology can be used for both terrorist activities and counter-terrorism efforts, including surveillance, intelligence gathering, and online radicalization. • Assess the Challenges of Countering Terrorism in a Globalized World: Assess the challenges of countering terrorism in a globalized

	world, including cross-border cooperation, information sharing, and addressing the root causes of terrorism.		
Prerequisites	N/A	Required	N/A
Course Content	1. Theoretical Approaches to Terrorism • 1.1 The evolution of terrorism • 1.2 Origins of modern terrorism • 1.3 International terrorism • 1.4 Nationalist/ethnic terrorism • 1.5 Attacks with Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones): Is it state terrorism? • 1.6 Violence and terrorism • 1.7 Cyber-terrorism • 1.8 Counter-Terrorism Theories: A review of theoretical approaches used in the study and practice of counter-terrorism. 2. Contemporary Dimensions of Terrorism • 2.1 Terrorism and weapons of mass destruction • 2.2 International Law and terrorism • 2.3 Lone wolves • 2.4 Immigration and terrorism • 2.5 Terrorism and NGOs • 2.6 Obstacles in identifying potential terrorists • 2.7 Financing terrorism • 2.8 Recruitment • 2.9 Counter-terrorism • 2.10 Freedom vs. Security • 2.11 Technology and terrorism • 2.12 De-radicalization Programs: Analysis of the types of de-radicalization programs, their effectiveness, and challenges. • 2.13 Counter Narratives: How states create counter-narratives to undermine the terrorist narrative 3. Terrorists or Fighters? Case Analysis • 3.2 Hamas • 3.3 Hezbollah • 3.4 Al Qaeda • 3.5 Islamic State • 3.6 State Responses to Terrorism: An analysis of state strategies and tactics for countering terrorism, and the effectiveness of such measures.		

Teaching Methodology	Lectures, Student Presentations, Assignments, Class discussions
Bibliography	Books: Bakker, E. & de Roy Van Zuijdewijn, J. (2022) <i>Terrorism and Counterterrorism Studies</i>. 2nd edn. Leiden: Leiden University Press. ISBN: 9789087283896. Combs, C. C. (2016) <i>Terrorism in the Twenty-First Century</i>. 7th edn. New York: Routledge. ISBN: 9780205851652. Sheehan, M. A., Marquardt, E. & Collins, L. (2022) <i>Routledge Handbook of U.S. Counterterrorism and Irregular Warfare Operations</i>. London: Routledge. ISBN: 978100316450. Articles • Barnea, A. (2024). Israeli Intelligence Was Caught Off Guard: The Hamas Attack on 7 October 2023—A Preliminary Analysis. <i>International Journal of Intelligence and CounterIntelligence</i>, 37(3), 1056–1082. https://doi.org/10.1080/08850607.2024.2315546 • Besenyő, J., Gulyas, A., & Trifunovic, D. (2022). Hezbollah and the Internet in the Twenty-First Century. <i>International Journal of Intelligence and CounterIntelligence</i>, 36(3), 669–685. https://doi.org/10.1080/08850607.2022.2111999 • Ganor, B. (2019). Artificial or Human: A New Era of Counterterrorism Intelligence? <i>Studies in Conflict & Terrorism</i>, 44(7), 605–624. https://doi.org/10.1080/1057610X.2019.1568815 • Kaneva, N., & Stanton, A. (2020). An Alternative Vision of Statehood: Islamic State’s Ideological Challenge to the Nation-State. <i>Studies in Conflict & Terrorism</i>, 46(5), 640–658. https://doi.org/10.1080/1057610X.2020.1780030 • Michelle Black, Lana Obradovic, Deanna House, Behind the curve: technology challenges facing the homeland intelligence and counterterrorism workforce, <i>Journal of Cybersecurity</i>, Volume 10, Issue 1, 2024, tyae002, https://doi.org/10.1093/cybsec/tyae002 • Phillips, S. G., & al-Dawsari, N. (2023). Trivializing Terrorists: How Counterterrorism Knowledge Undermines Local Resistance to Terrorism. <i>Security Studies</i>, 33(1), 30–54. https://doi.org/10.1080/09636412.2023.2250253 •

Assessment	Class Participation, Class Presentations, Mid-Term, Take-home assignments Final-Exam
Language	English