DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Political Science 3314 SDE: GLOBAL TERRORISM

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- **Consultation:** students may contact me through the course e-mail or via my personal Lakehead University e-mail account: sislam2@lakeheadu.ca.

Introducing Myself

Hi everyone, welcome to this class of Global Terrorism. Before getting into the course outline I want to briefly introduce myself. This is Dr. Islam, Professor of the Department of Political Science at Lakehead University. I graduated with my doctorate, Ph.D. from McGill University. Since obtaining my doctorate I have been teaching courses in International law and politics. I have taught in many universities in many countries of the world. I have written 9 books and nearly 80 articles in internationally reputed journals. If you would like to know more about me, please visit the university's Political Science website.

Let's now go through the course outline.

Content and Purpose:

The purpose of the course is to enlighten the students with the global trends in terrorism. The course will begin with the controversies relating to the definition of terrorism. It then proceeds to examine the various types of terrorism, both past and present, and the future patterns and potentialities of terrorism with an eloquent understanding of the topic. The world of terrorism is extraordinarily complex and therefore it requires a clear understanding of the topic and this course intends to serve the purpose.

Teaching Methodology:

The course material will consist of online modules, discussions, and audio-visuals. For assistance using Desire2Learn (D2L), please visit the Getting Started link under the Important Information link on the navigation bar above. You may also contact the Office of Continuing Education and Distributed Learning for technical assistance with D2L. They can be reached by email at teachingcommons@lakeheadu.ca

Marking Scheme:

Midterm Test 40% - available June 3, between 6:00 a.m. and 11.59 p.m. EST - 80 Minutes

Final Exam 40% - available June 12, between 6:00 a.m. and 11.59 p.m. EST - 100 Minutes

Participation 20% - posting comments in Discussion forum each week.

Discussion Forums

Four discussion areas are set up for this course. The **General Discussion** area is for discussing any difficulties you may be having about a particular concept, to collaborate with peers, or to discuss just about anything you want to share with your fellow students. The three other discussion areas are for responding to and discussing the weekly discussion question. Participation in the latter three forums will be graded. For participation marks in the graded forums, students are required to comment on each topic of the week. Students have one week to respond to others in discussion forum. Students can debate, raise questions and comment on each others' responses.

Each discussion forum will close /open each week on Monday at 6 a.m**.** Discussion forums will remain open for the entire week **(except last week).**I will be visiting the Discussion Forums regularly.

Tips for Participating on a Discussion Board

• Think ideas through before responding. You do not want to respond to be considered flaming. It often helps to outline responses before responding. Be polite and respectful.

• Use good communication skills. Keep your comments concise, but do meet the requirements posted for discussion by the instructor. Avoid brief affirmations such as "Amen", "Ditto", and "I agree". Don't quote or copy long passages from a previous post. Quote only the relevant portions to make your response clear.

• Pay careful attention to instructions. Be sensitive with your use of language.

• Use subject lines in your post to keep the flow going for a certain discussion item. Be sure to change the subject line if you are changing the direction of the discussion.

• Try to stay on track and respond directly to comments being made. (Adapted from Dakota State University, Distance Education Orientation website)

Mandatory participation is required to obtain participation marks. Students will participate in these forums by accessing the "Discussion Area" under the Collaborate link on the navigation menu bar above.

- **Participation marks will be determined on the basis of quantity of threads/postings and quality of comments in Discussion. (Overall Marks will be given only at the end of the course not after every forum)**

Examinations

Preparation:

There are No papers in this course. There are two exams: Mid Term and the Final Examinations. Both examinations will be taken ONLINE from any computer, even from your home. Each examination must be taken on the assigned dates.

Remember the test can be written at any time within the specified time period but once you start your test you get 80 minutes for Midterm and 100 minutes for Final exams.

NO request for supplemental tests or alternative dates will be accepted, including ones concerning technical issues with your computer. It is your responsibility to ensure you have access to a reliable system at all times throughout the term.

ALL QUESTIONS WILL COME FROM THE TEXT BOOK AND THE MODULES

Midterm test and Final Exam will consist of 80 and 100 multiple choice questions respectively. Every question has to be answered. Each question has a weight of .5 marks. Each question will contain 4 or 5 answer choices. The Mid Term will cover the materials discussed in the first 6 modules and from the first 6 Chapters in the text book.

The Final will cover the materials discussed in modules 7 to 12 and from Chapters 7 to 11 and 16 in the text book. **NO questions will come from Chapters 12,13, 14, and 15.**

All exams are to be done independently. Since the tests and exam are timed, spending time looking through your notes and textbook increases your risk of running short on time. Time is a part of the challenge in writing tests and exams! Use your time wisely! A sample exam is available under Quizzes (found under the Assessments link above) to give you a sense of the format of the exam questions and provide you with some familiarity of the quizzing tool. When taking the real exams, please remember to continually save your answers throughout the exams to avoid loss of work in the event of a technical issue. A reminder about this will be visible in each exam.

YOUTUBE DOCUMENTARIES

if you are not able to watch the videos directly clicking on them you need to copy the web page and paste in Google. However, if you cannot watch any video nothing to worry as there will be NO questions in the exams from the videos.

Textbook:

Jonathan White, *Terrorism and Homeland Security, or ebook* (available through the university Bookstore or online) $169.00 BOOK 29.99 ONLINE FOR 6 MONTHS.

Recommended Books:

1. Walter Laqueur: The New Terrorism.

2. Bruce Hoffman: Inside Terrorism.

3. Noam Chomsky: Pirates and Emperors.

4. B. Schechterma and M. Slann, Violence and Terrorism.

Reading Outline

Given this course runs for three weeks only, specific dates are not assigned to the readings; however, be mindful of the examinations dates and the material they will be covering.

1. Terrorism in Historical and Social Contexts Module 1 and Chapter 1

2. Practical Criminology and Types of Terrorism: Module II and Chapter 2

3. The Organization and Financing of Terrorism Module III and Chapter 3

4. Terrorism and the Media Module IV and Chapter 4

5. Gender Roles and Tactics of Terrorism Module V and Chapter 5

6. Ethnic Terrorism Module VI and Chapter 6

MID-TERM EXAMINATION - On-line- 80 Minutes

7. Nationalistic Terrorism Module VII and Chapter 7

8. Middle Eastern Issues Module VIII and Chapter 8

9. Terrorism in Israel and Palestine Module IX and Chapter 9

10. Latin American and Ideological Terrorism Module X and Chapter 10

11. Jihadists and Al Qaeda Networks Module XI and Chapter 11

12. Future of Terrorism: Meeting with Terrorism Module XII and chapter 16

FINAL EXAMINATION - On-line. 100 Minutes