
Homeland Security and Counter-Terrorism Syllabus for One-Week Course

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Lecturers:

Dr. Zachary Abuza Professor, Simmons College
Dr. Rohan Gunaratna Head of Terrorism Research,
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Dr. Bruce Hoffman Professor, Georgetown University
Dr. Jessica Stern Lecturer in Public Policy, KSG,
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COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

| DATE AND TIME | LESSON | TOPIC |
|-----------------------|--------|--|
| DAY 1: 9-10:30 AM | 1 | <u>THE NEW TERRORISM</u> |
| DAY 1: 10:30 AM-12 PM | 2 | <u>HOMELAND SECURITY AND TERRORISM</u> |
| DAY 1: 1-2:30 PM | 3 | <u>UNDERSTANDING THE THREAT</u> |
| DAY 1: 2:30-4 PM | 4 | <u>FROM BIOLOGICAL TO SUICIDE TERRORISM</u> |
| DAY 2: 9-10:30 AM | 5 | <u>BORDER AND TRANSPORT SECURITY</u> |
| DAY 2: 10:30 AM-12 PM | 6 | <u>SEA SECURITY</u> |
| DAY 2: 1-2:30 PM | 7 | <u>AVIATION AND CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY</u> |
| DAY 2: 2:30-4 PM | 8 | <u>CYBER- AND BIOTERRORISM</u> |
| DAY 3: 9-10:30 AM | 9 | <u>NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR HOMELAND SECURITY</u> |
| DAY 3: 10:30 AM-12 PM | 10 | <u>FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL COORDINATION</u> |
| DAY 3: 1-2:30 PM | 11 | <u>LESSONS LEARNED FROM CATASTROPHIC EVENTS</u> |
| DAY 3: 2:30-4 PM | 12 | <u>STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE</u> |
| DAY 4: 9-10:30 AM | 13 | <u>FREEDOM, CIVIL LIBERTIES, AND SECURITY</u> |
| DAY 4: 10:30 AM-12 PM | 14 | <u>THE MEDIA AND TERRORISM</u> |
| DAY 4: 1-2:30 PM | 15 | <u>DOMESTIC COUNTERTERRORISM</u> |
| DAY 4: 2:30-4 PM | 16 | <u>WINNING THE WAR ON TERRORISM</u> |
| DAY 5: 9 AM-4 PM | 17 | <u>SIMULATION AND PRESENTATIONS</u> |

READING ASSIGNMENTS

Russell D. Howard, James Forest and Joanne Moore, eds., *Homeland Security and Terrorism*, (Dubuque, IA: McGraw Hill, 2006). **All textbook readings are indicated by "(CR)."**

Please Note: any readings that are outside the recommended course reader will be provided separately in pdf format.

PART I – THE THREAT

Unlike the international security situation of the past, America is a target and at risk from terrorism in the homeland. The threat extends from the home to the workplace to recreational areas. In order to understand and counter the new threat, policymakers must consider the origins, forms, and potential capabilities of terrorists today. They can thereby develop and implement appropriate measures to secure the homeland.

Lesson 1: THE NEW TERRORISM

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- What is the new model of terrorism?
- Compare and contrast the old and new terrorism for indicators relating to capabilities and future trends
- Explore why the shift occurred
- Discuss the implications of the shift from old to new models of terrorism
- What is al Qaeda?
- How and why did al Qaeda evolve as it did?
- How did al Qaeda ascend to power?
- Identify al Qaeda's significant achievements
- Understand the development of a transnational terrorist organization
- What are the implications of the evolution for counter-terrorists?
- How should we think of al Qaeda today?

Assigned Readings:

Note: these readings are outside the recommended course reader and will be provided separately.

1. Rohan Gunaratna, "Post-Madrid Face of al Qaeda"
2. Russell D. Howard, "Understanding al Qaeda's Application of the New Terrorism—The Key to Victory in the Current Campaign"
3. Audrey Kurth Cronin, "Behind the Curve: Globalization and International Terrorism"

Lesson 2: HOMELAND SECURITY AND TERRORISM

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- How does terrorism today differ from terrorism of the Cold War era?
- What advantages do present day terrorists have in targeting the U.S.?
- How does 9/11 fit it? Is it one battle in a greater campaign?

- Has a fragmented view of the war from counter-terrorists impeded their ability to develop a unified response?

Assigned Readings:

1. Russell D. Howard, "Homeland Security and Terrorism" (CR)
2. Kate Marquis, "Did 9/11 Matter? Terrorism and Counter-terrorism Trends: Present, Past, and Future" (CR)

Lesson 3: UNDERSTANDING THE THREAT

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Will suicide bombers come to the U.S.? What is the likelihood of this threat?
- What are the different attack scenarios that we could envision?
- How should we think about CBRN(E) terrorism?
- What is the likelihood of WMD terrorism? How serious is the threat?
- What are the implications of WMD terrorism for homeland security?
- What are electromagnetic pulse weapons (EMPs)? How serious is the threat?
- What is complex terrorism? What new scenarios could become realistic in the future?

Assigned Readings:

1. John Parachini, "Putting WMD Terrorism into Perspective" (CR)
2. Robert A. Pape, "The Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism" (CR)

Lesson 4: FROM BIOLOGICAL TO SUICIDE TERRORISM

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- What are the risks associated with a biological attack?
- Is the U.S. prepared to counter the intentional introduction of invasive species or disease pathogens?
- What is the strategic logic associated with suicide bombing?
- What can the U.S. learn from the Israeli experience?

Assigned Readings:

1. Robert J. Pratt, "Invasive Species: The Biological Threat to America" (CR)
2. Bruce Hoffman, "The Logic of Suicide Terrorism" (CR)

PART II – SPECIFIC AREAS OF VULNERABILITY IN HOMELAND SECURITY

The vulnerabilities to homeland security in America include threats to aviation, public transportation, borders, critical infrastructure, ports and maritime commerce, and supplies of water and food. Since 9/11, there has been increasing emphasis on aviation security. The other areas of homeland security have also received increased attention. While security has been enhanced, it is not clear whether or not the amount of security is enough.

Lesson 5: BORDER AND TRANSPORT SECURITY

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- What are the areas of vulnerability in homeland security?
- What are the challenges for homeland security emanating from the need to secure multiple frontiers?
- What are national and international dimensions of assuring homeland security on multiple frontiers?
- What are the challenges related to border and transportation security?

Assigned Readings:

1. Brian Michael Jenkins, "Improving Public Surface Transportation Security: What Do We Do Now?" (CR)
2. Frank Hoffman, "Border Security: Closing the Ingenuity Gap" (CR)

Lesson 6: MARTIME SECURITY

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- What are the challenges related to sea security (Proliferation Security Initiative, Container Shipping Initiative)?

Assigned Readings:

1. Maarten van de Voort, Kevin A. O'Brien, Adnan Rahman, and Lorenzo Valeri, "Security: Improving the Security of the Global Sea-Container Shipping System" (CR)
2. Claudia Copeland and Betsy Cody, "Terrorism and Security Issues Facing the Water Infrastructure Sector" (CR)

Lesson 7: AVIATION SECURITY AND CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- What are the challenges related to aviation security?
- Is it possible to secure the nation's critical infrastructure?

Assigned Readings:

1. Joseph F. Szyliowicz, "Aviation Security: Promise or Reality?" (CR)
2. Larry M. Wortzel, "Securing America's Critical Infrastructures: A Top Priority for the Department of Homeland Security" (CR)

Lesson 8: CYBERSECURITY AND BIOTERRORISM

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- How serious is the threat of cyber-terrorism?
- Is bioterrorism contamination of the food supply a real threat?

Assigned Readings:

1. Frank Cilluffo and Paul Byron Pattak, "Cyber Threats: Ten Issues to Consider" (CR)
2. Barbara Bruemmer, "Food Biosecurity: Food Supply and Bioterrorism" (CR)

PART III – NATIONAL AND LOCAL RESPONSES TO THE THREAT

While homeland security is more often a priority at the national level, it is often less so on local levels. As a result, the national and local responses to terrorism tend to be incongruent. An increasing priority for public policy is the development of the potential, capabilities, and preparedness of domestic agencies. Doing this the right way requires greater intergovernmental and interagency coordination. Just as terrorists operate in network structures, the U.S. government must respond in kind.

Lesson 9: NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- What are the objectives of the national strategy for homeland security?
- What are the challenges of intergovernmental, interjurisdictional, and interagency coordination?
- How substantial is the international dimension in the homeland security area?
- How much of the costs of homeland security should the federal government bear? What principles should we use to apportion the burden?
- How do we determine how much spending is enough? What factors complicate that determination?

Assigned Readings:

1. Louise K. Comfort, "Managing Intergovernmental Response to Terrorism and Other Extreme Events." (CR)

Lesson 10: FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL COORDINATION

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- What are the appropriate roles for the federal, state and local governments?

Assigned Readings:

1. John P. Sullivan, "Terrorism Early Warning Groups: Regional Intelligence to Combat Terrorism" (CR)

Lesson 11: LESSONS LEARNED FROM CATASTROPHIC EVENTS

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- How can first-responder organizations increase their capacity?
- How can these organizations continuously adapt to the changing security environment?
- Are exercises a useful tool in preparing first-responders for terrorist attacks?

Assigned Readings:

1. Reid Sawyer and Joseph Pfeifer, "Strategic Planning for First Responders: Lessons Learned from the NY Fire Department" (CR)
2. Governor Frank Keating, "Catastrophic Terrorism: Local Response to a National Threat" (CR)

Lesson 12: STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Is the Department of Homeland Security the right agency to secure America?
- Does it or does it not achieve interagency and intergovernmental coordination?
- What roles do the federal, state, local, and private sectors play in homeland security activities?
- What work is ahead?

Assigned Readings:

1. Seth G. Jones, "Terrorism and the Battle for Homeland Security" (CR)
2. Chris Hornbarger, "National Strategy: Building Capacity for the Long Haul" (CR)

PART IV – PUBLIC SECURITY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

The increase in homeland security in order to protect Americans from terrorism has also challenged the government to maintain a balance between freedom and security. It is generally accepted that although security is important, an increase in security cannot be to the detriment of liberty. Finding the delicate balance between security and liberty has proven to be a daunting challenge for lawmakers.

Lesson 13: FREEDOM, CIVIL LIBERTIES, AND SECURITY

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- USA PATRIOT Act
- How can we find a balance between freedom, civil liberties, and security?

Assigned Readings:

1. Amanda J. Dory, "American Civil Security: The U.S. Public and Homeland Security" (CR)
2. Nancy Change, "The USA PATRIOT Act: What's So Patriotic About Trampling on the Bill of Rights?" (CR)
3. Roger Dean Golden, "What Price Security? The USA PATRIOT Act and America's Balance Between Freedom and Security" (CR)

Lesson 14: THE MEDIA AND TERRORISM

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- Public diplomacy
- Communications and media

Assigned Readings:

1. James S. Robbins, "Terrorists, the Media, and Homeland Security" (CR)
2. Elizabeth L. Robbins, "Leadership through Media" (CR)

Lesson 15: DOMESTIC COUNTER-TERRORISM

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- After 9/11, the U.S. government has become increasingly involved in domestic counter-terrorism. What is domestic counter-terrorism? What is the role of local and state law enforcement officers?

Assigned Readings:

1. Brian H. Hook, Margaret J. A. Peterlin, and Peter L. Welsh, "The USA PATRIOT Act and Information Sharing Between the Intelligence and Law Enforcement Communities." (CR)

Lesson 16: WINNING THE WAR ON TERRORISM

Lesson Questions & Objectives:

- What are the key ideological dimensions of today's global Islamic insurgency?
- How closely aligned are groups in Southeast Asia to Al Qaeda?
- How sophisticated are the associated groups?
- What type of threat do these groups present to both the host nation and the US?
- What types of policies should the US pursue based on analysis of the above items?

Assigned Readings:

1. Dan Byman, "U.S. Counter-Terrorism Options: A Taxonomy," *Survival*, v. 39, n. 3, September 2007. (PDF) pp. 121-150.
2. Russell D. Howard, "Understanding Al Qaeda's Application of the New Terrorism—The Key to Victory in the Current Campaign" *Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism*

Lesson 17: SIMULATION AND GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Lesson Questions & Objectives: TBD.

Assigned Readings: TBD.