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Fall 2016

DIPL 6520 The Politics of Terrorism in the Middle East

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The Politics of Terrorism in the Middle East Fall 2016

DIPL 6520, Mondays 7:35-9:45pm
Instructor: Ambassador (ret.) Maureen Quinn
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Office Hours by Appointment

Course Description and Objectives

This course will investigate the politics of the broader Middle East and the use of terrorism for political purposes. Students will develop an understanding of Islam, political Islam, and Islamic resistance movements/terrorist organizations. The course will include in-depth coverage of the modern origins of terrorism in the Middle East, its current and recent practice, its costs and consequences. Areas covered include the debate about what/who constitutes a terrorist movement or organization, the use of religious justifications for terrorism, terrorist financing, state-sponsored terrorism, the exploitation of/by the media, and the abilities of governments, security services and intelligence agencies to prevent, monitor, and combat terrorism.

Case studies of specific country situations, terrorist organizations, terrorist incidents, and how terrorism ends will be discussed and analyzed. Policymakers' rhetoric, responses, strategies, and the tools to combat terrorism will be covered as well.

Students are expected to participate actively in class throughout the course. Thus, students need to complete required readings before class, participate in class, present in class when assigned, prepare written summaries of the readings, and complete assignments on time. An original research paper and book report (details below) are required.

Course Materials

Required Readings

Islam the Straight Path by John Esposito
Inside Terrorism by Bruce Hoffman
Deadly Connections by Daniel Byman
Hamas in Politics (selected chapters) by Jeroen Gunning

Saudi Arabia in Transition, Insights on Social, Political, Economic and Religious Change (selected chapters) edited by Bernard Haykel

Some **required readings** will be given out in class. These materials include selected chapters from Egypt, Islam and Democracy by Saad Eddin Ibrahim and How Terrorism Ends by Audrey Kurth Cronin.

Optional Background Reading

Islam by Karen Armstrong
Islam and Revolution Writings of Ayatollah Khomeini – translated by Hamid Algar
Al Qaeda in Its Own Words by Gilles Kepel & Jean Pierre Milelli
Milestones by Sayeed Qutb
The Fundamentals of Islam by S. Abul A'la Maududi

Choices for Book Reports

Any book from the Cairo Trilogy by Naguib Mafooz
Shame or Midnight's Children by Salman Rushdie
The Reluctant Fundamentalist by Mohsin Hamid
Reading Lolita in Teheran by Nafiz Afisi
Until We Are Free by Shirin Ebadi
In the Land of Israel by Amos Oz
Forces of Fortune by Vali Nasr
The Taliban by Ahmed Rashid
The Corpse Exhibition and Other Stories of Iraq by Hassan Blassim
The Media Relations Department of Hizbollah Sends You Birthday Greetings by Neil MacFarquhar (Egypt, Bahrain, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, and Jordan)
The Battle of Algiers (movie)
The Control Room - documentary on Al Jazeera

Student Responsibilities

Class Participation (20% of grade): Attendance and participation in class discussions are essential. Students will complete one page written summaries on class readings as assigned. Students will present material in class as assigned during the course of the semester. Class participation also means actively contributing during class discussions and respecting the participation of others.

Book Report, a 4-5 page typed written summary & analysis of a book (20% of grade): Students will select a book from the list on the syllabus (first come/first choice). All selections must be approved in advance and by **September 26th**. All book reports will include an analysis/explanation of why the book is relevant to the course material and ideally to the student's selected research topic. **Written book reports are due on October 17th. Book reports will be presented/discussed in class on the same day.**

Research Proposal, Presentation, and Paper (40%): Students will pick a topic of their choice related to the course and prepare an original research paper. The research paper should be 15 pages, double-spaced. It will include a bibliography and relevant footnotes. The paper will provide an in-depth analysis of the topic selected. Research proposals, consisting of a 3-5-paragraph abstract (3/4 to one paged long) of the proposed research question/topic and an annotated bibliography of at least 8 sources, including at least two primary sources, will be submitted on **October 3rd**. An annotated bibliography means each source is explained in a few sentences. Students will receive grades on their research proposals. Each student will present their research in class at the end of the semester. **Research papers are due on December 5th.**

Final Exam (20% of grade): There will be a final take home exam of essay questions. The exam will consist of at least four essay questions. Each question will be answered type written and be one to two pages long, double-spaced.

Grading

All assigned work will be graded for clarity, factual content, and analysis. Each written assignment should be checked for spelling and grammar, carefully proof read prior to submission.

Grades will be lowered on any materials that are submitted late. Grades will be lowered half a letter grade per day late.

Other Policies

Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will be reported to the administration, and may result in a lowered or failing grade for the course and up to possible

dismissal from the School of Diplomacy. See University and School standards for academic conduct here:

<<http://www13.shu.edu/offices/student-life/community-standards/upload/Seton-Hall-University-Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf>>

<<http://www.shu.edu/academics/diplomacy/academic-conduct.cfm>>

It is the policy and practice of Seton Hall University to **promote inclusive learning environments**. If you have a **documented disability** you may be eligible for reasonable accommodations in compliance with University policy, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and/or the New Jersey Law against Discrimination. Please note students are not permitted to negotiate accommodations directly with professors. To request accommodations or assistance, please self-identify with the Office for Disability Support Services (DSS), Duffy Hall, Room 67 at the beginning of the semester. For more information or to register for services, contact DSS at (973) 313-6003 or by e-mail at DSS@shu.edu.

Policy on Incompletes: Incompletes will be given only in exceptional cases for emergencies. Students wishing to request a grade of Incomplete must provide documentation to support the request accompanied by a Course Adjustment Form (available from the Diplomacy Main Office) to the professor *before* the date of the final examination. If the incomplete request is approved, the professor reserves the right to specify the new submission date for all missing coursework. Students who fail to submit the missing course work within this time period will receive a failing grade for all missing coursework and a final grade based on all coursework assigned. Any Incomplete not resolved within one calendar year of receiving the Incomplete or by the time of graduation (whichever comes first) automatically becomes an "FI" (which is equivalent to an F). It is the responsibility of the student to make sure they have completed all course requirements within the timeframe allotted. Please be aware that Incompletes on your transcript will impact financial aid and academic standing.

August 29

Course Introduction

Review of Requirements, Overview of politics and governance in the Middle East

Sept. 12

Challenges in Definitions & the Modern History of Terrorism in the Middle East – Case Study of the PLO

Inside Terrorism – Pages 1-80

Deadly Connections Pages 1-26 and 117-152

Sept. 19

Islam and Politics,

Islam the Straight Path (pages may change based on the 5th edition) pages 1-41 and 61-119

Inside Terrorism – Religion and Terrorism pages 81-130

Sept. 26 – Book Selection Due

Islam, Politics, and Governance, Islamism

Islam the Straight Path pages to be confirmed –

Pages 141-235 (skip sections on Iran and Lebanon)

Saudi Arabia in Transition, Chapter 1 Introduction – Pages 1-12 and Chapter 8 – From Wahhabi to Salafi pages 151-166

Oct. 3 – Research Proposal Due

Islam and Governance Connecting Iran, Lebanon, & Hezbollah

Inside Terrorism – Chapter 5 pages 131-171 (skip 137-145 on the Tamil Tigers)

Deadly Connections – Chapter Part of Chapter 2 & chapters 3 and 4 pages 26-115

Islam the Straight Path – Sections on Iran and Hezbollah pages 207-221

Oct. 10 Mid-Semester Break – no class

Oct. 17 – Book Report Due/Book Report

Book Report Presentations, Islamic Resistance Movements, Hamas

Hamas in Politics – Pages 1-94

Oct. 24 Islamic Resistance Movements

Hamas

Hamas in Politics – pg. 143-240

Oct. 31 Islamic Resistance Movements – Sanctuary, Control of Territory Al Qaeda and the Taliban

Deadly Connections Chapters 7 and 8 pages 187 – 238 and page 254 – 258, Afghanistan Under the Taliban,

Nov. 7 Media, Politics, and Terrorism in the Middle East Al Qaeda Continued

Inside Terrorism pages 173 - 228

Islam the Straight Path pages 235-250 pages to be confirmed

Saudi Arabia in Transition - Classical and Global Jihad

from Saudi Arabia in Transition Pages 207-23

Nov. 14 — Case Studies on Governance and Dissent, Political Islam, Islam and Dissent — Saudi Arabia and Iraq

Saudi Arabia in Transition, Selected Chapters: Chapter 4

pages 48-70, and Chapters 9 and 10, Pages 167-206

Possible Video Segment on the Future of Iraq

Nov. 21 — Case studies on Governance, Dissent, & Political Islam — Egypt

Egypt, Islam, and Democracy, Selected Chapters to be given out in class, Chapter 1 on Egypt's Militant Islamic Groups in the 1970s, Chapter 2 The Muslim Brotherhood and Sadat, and Chapter 5 Islamic Activism and the Western Search for a New Enemy,

Additional Reading to be added on Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt post 2011

Nov. 28 Preventing and Countering Terrorism in the Middle East, Strategies, Tactics and Case Studies

Deadly Connections — Chapter 8 and 9 pages 219-273

Inside Terrorism Chapter 8 pages 229-256

Case study on Libya as a State Sponsor, Algeria and the GIA

Dec. 5 - Research Presentations

Dec. 12 How Does Terrorism End (selected studies)

How Does Terrorism End, chapter in How Terrorism Ends by

Audrey Kurth Cronin (chapter to be given out in class)

Islam the Straight Path Pages 250-296

Deadly Connections — Chapter 10 Halting Support for Terrorism and Afterword, Pages 273 - 318

Dec. 19 — Final Exam Due