

**San José State University**  
**Justice Studies**  
**JS 123 (80), Terrorism and Security (Online), Winter, 2020**

**Course and Contact Information**

**Instructor:** (Sambuddha Ghatak, Ph.D.)  
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**Class Days/Time:** (Online)  
**Classroom:** (Canvas)

**Course Format: Online**

**Course Description (Required)**

JS 123 is an upper-division course focusing on terrorism and security. Terrorism is certainly one of the major problems that endanger human security throughout the world. Since 9/11 the successive US governments have been spearheading a global war on terror which consumes a large chunk of tax-payers' money. The organizations like Hamas in Palestinian territories and ISIS in Syria and Iraq have brought terrorism again to the center-stage of public discourse in USA and the world. Terrorism has been a necessary to be understood without exploring non-state terrorism. The two central goals of the course are to provide students with an historical use of political terror and to encourage students to think of terrorist activity not mad, but of self-interested and calculating political actors. To accomplish these goals, a swath of the literature both in historical scope and theoretical arguments.

Please note that this is an online course in which students will 1) watch videos of my courses that have been posted on Canvas, and 2) take online quiz, final exams, and complete assignments (papers, presentations, submitting assignments (papers, presentations, lectures in sequential order as required course readings will

Cutting corners or cramming before exams, which is never a good idea for students who are serious about learning, is likely to lead to disaster in an online course!) To reiterate, course materials such as the syllabus, handouts, notes, assignment instructions, etc., can be found on the Canvas learning management system course website. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU to learn of any updates.

### **Course Learning Outcomes (CLO) (Required)**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1: Have a clear understanding of the phenomenon of terrorism as distinguishable from other forms of political violence.
- 2: Be familiar with the theories of terrorism.
- 3: Understand the rationality of terrorist violence as opposed to the common perception of terrorism as acts of deranged individuals.
- 4: Identify the causal factors which drive terrorist violence.
- 5: Understand the risk to human security posed by terrorist violence.
- 6: Learn about different responses to terrorism and strategies to counter terrorist violence.
- 7: Learn to engage in educated discourse of the sensitive issue of terrorism.

### **Required Texts/Readings (Required)**

#### **Textbook**

BRUCE HOFFMAN. 2006. INSIDE TERRORISM. NEW YORK: COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS, ISBN 9780231126991

#### **Other Readings**

Other required readings will be posted on Canvas. The readings are subject to change by instructor.

### **Course Requirements and Assignments (Required)**

1. **Quiz:** A quiz will be assigned each of the days (4 in total): Jan 6, 9, 13 and 16. The students are required to take the timed quiz through Canvas. The questions will be based on previous days' reading and will evaluate students' understanding of the topics of discussion. The due dates are given in the schedule below.
2. **Exams:** Two examinations will be given over the two weeks course period. The exam will consist of three essay-type questions. The submission dates for the exams appear in the schedule below. The exam questions will be given/ uploaded on Canvas about 48 hours before the submission date.

## Grading Information (Required)

### Percent to Letter Grade Correspondence

A plus = 100-96%	A = 95-93%	A minus = 92-90%	B plus = 89-86%	B = 85- 83%	B minus = 82-80%	C plus = 79-76%
C = 75-73%	C minus = 72-70%	D plus = 69-66%				

# JS 123 (80), Terrorism and Security (Online), Summer, 2019e, Course Schedule

The schedule is subject to change with fair notice and notice will be made available by email

## Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	January 2 & 3	Definition and Typology Reading: x Hoffman, Ch. 1, pp. 1-40  Terrorism in Modern World Reading: x Hoffman, Ch. 2, pp. 43-62
2	January 6, 7 & 8	Strategies and goals of Terrorism  x Andrew H. Kydd and Barbara F. Walter (2006) [463.44 Tm0078Tj/TT0 1 Tf( )Tj/TT3

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
3	January 13 & 14	Development/Globalization and Terrorism Reading: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Berrebi, Claude (2007) Evidence About the Link between Education, Poverty and Terrorism among Palestinians. <i>Peace Science and Public Policy</i> 13(1): 1-36.</li> <li>2. Sambuddha Ghatak and Aaron Gold. "Development, Discrimination, and Domestic Terrorism: Looking Beyond a Linear Relationship." <i>Conflict Management and Peace Science</i> (2017). DOI: 10.1177/0738894215608511</li> <li>3. Li, Quan &amp; Drew Schaub (2004) Economic Globalization and Transnational Terrorism: A Pooled Time-Series Analysis. <i>Journal of Conflict Resolution</i> 48(2): 230-58.</li> </ol>
		<b>***Third quiz due on January 13***</b>
3	January 15 & 16	Religion and Terrorism Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>x Hoffman, Chapter 4</li> <li>x <u>Piazza, James A. (2009) "Is Islamist Terrorism More Dangerous? An Empirical Study of Group Ideology, Organization, and Goal Structure", <i>Terrorism and Political Violence</i> 21:1,62 – 88</u></li> </ul> Suicide Terrorism Reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>x Hoffman, Chapter 5</li> </ul>

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