

# San José State University

## Course and Contact Information

<b>Instructor:</b>	(Sambuddha Ghatak, Ph.D.)
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	(Phone number: 865 985 6885 (This is my cell phone number. Please call only in emergency) The best way to contact me is through email. By appointment)
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	(Online)
<b>Classroom:</b>	(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-ey. The organizations like Hamas in Palestinian territories and ISIS in Syria and Iraq have brought terrorism again to the center-stage of public discourse air and as a tactic used by states to achieve foreign and domestic policy goals. This description of terrorism highlights the complexity of terrorism, which is a tactic used by individuals, groups, and states for a variety of goals. No single course can give you a full understanding of this topic, but this course hopes to provide the tools necessary to become educated consumers of news in a post-9/11 world. We will explore the phenomenon of non-state terrorism. The two central goals of the course are to provide students with an opportunity to study the historical use of political terror and to encourage students to think of terrorist activity not as the work of the mad, but of self-interested and calculating political actors. To accomplish these goals, we will examine a large 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 course lectures that have been posted on Canvas, and 2) take online quiz, final exams, and complete assignments that, as noted above, will also be posted on Canvas. Hence this course is essentially located on Canvas, to which enrolled students automatically have access through their SJSUOne account. All course material, except for the course books, will be available through Canvas. Although I may be available in the campus to meet with interested students in person during the semester, all students are responsible for watching these lecture videos online, taking notes on those lectures, doing the course readings, taking the online quizzes, midterm and final examinations and submitting assignments (paper critiques) online. (A word to the wise: Students who do not watch the course lectures in sequential order as the semester progresses, or do not take notes on the contents, or do not do the required course readings will find it impossible to get a good grade and may well end up failing this course. Cutting corners or cramming before exams, which is never a good idea for students who are serious about



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

### Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	January 3 & 4	Definition Reading:  Silke, Ch. 2, pp. 13-21
1	January 5 & 6	Conceptualization and Measuring Terrorism Reading:  Silke, Ch. 3, pp. 22-33
1	June 7	Strategies and goals of Terrorism  <u>Andrew H. Kydd and Barbara F. Walter (2006) The Strategies of Terrorism, International Security, Vol. 31, No. 1 (Summer, 2006), pp. 49-80.</u>

**## First critique paper of Kydd and Walter (2006) article due on Sunday, January 9 ##**

**\*\*\*First quiz due on Sunday, January 9\*\*\***

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
3	January 17 & 18	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. Domestic Terrorism: Looking Beyond a Linear <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>
3	January 19, 20 & 21	Effectiveness of terrorism/Suicide Terrorism  Chapter 15: 174-184 Chapter 19: 216-225
		<b>## Third critique paper of Ghatak and Gold (2017) article due on Friday, January 21 ##</b> <b>***Third quiz due on Sunday, January 21***</b>
		<b>Final Exam Due on January 23</b>