

**Raritan Valley Community College
Proposed Academic Course Outline
Terrorism, Intelligence and Security Studies
CRMJ 206**

I Basic Course Information:

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|---------------------------|---|---|
| A. Course Title | Terrorism, Intelligence and Security Studies CRMJ 206 | |
| B. Date of Proposal: | October 2005 | |
| C. Sponsoring Department: | Business & Public Service | |
| D. Semester Credit Hours: | 3 | |
| E. Weekly Contact Hours: | Lecture | 3 |
| | Lab | 0 |
| F. Prerequisite: | None | |
| G. Laboratory Fees | None | |

II Catalog Description

This course examines terrorism and its threat to worldwide security. Analysis will include the origins and ideology of terrorism, religious extremism, international and domestic terrorist groups as well as the political issues which motivate nation states to sponsor and support terrorist groups. National strategies to combat and defeat terrorism will be explored.

III Statement of Course Need

The FBI definition of terrorism is; “the unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives”. Terrorism is not a new phenomenon. Violence has always been used as a strategy to bring about political change or focus attention on an individual or group’s grievances or ideology.

Americans generally believed terrorism was something that always happened on foreign soil, by unknown groups operating in a foreign country. To most, it did not pose an immediate threat to our safety.

The World Trade Center attacks of 1993 and 2001 and the Pentagon attack have changed this belief. These attacks along with the Oklahoma City Bombing, the Unabomber and the bombing of the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta proved that our safety is at risk from both International and Domestic terrorists.

Most experts feel terrorism is evolving. Tactics used by terrorists have drastically changed due to technology and communications. Now, terrorists have the ability to communicate globally. The ability to obtain materials to create biological and chemical weapons of mass destruction has increased and evidence indicates terrorists have attempted to obtain nuclear materials.

To combat this threat we need to analyze and understand the terrorist threat to the world today. We need to learn their ideology, motivation, structure and methods of operation and finance. We also must evaluate current and future trends and increase our overall awareness of the global threat it presents and the specific threat to the safety of the United States.

In addition we need too understand our own National Strategy toward terrorism and how it relates to our National Strategy of Homeland Security.

IV Place of Course in College Curriculum:

This course will be an elective component of the “Certificate in Emergency Management and Preparedness Studies” program. According to NJ Transfer, this course transfers to most institutions as an elective.

V Outline of Course Content

- A. Definitions, Tactics and Behavior
- B. Structure of Terrorist Organizations
- C. Modern Terrorism and its Origins
- D. Religious Terrorism
- E. Financing Terrorism
- F. International Terrorism
- G. New Methods of Terrorist Operations: Jihadist Networks
- H. Nationalistic and Ethnic Terrorism
- I. Single Issue and Ideological Terrorism
- J. Civil Liberties and Legal Implications
- K. Homeland Security

VI Educational Goals and Learning Outcomes

A. Educational Goals

Students will:

1. Produce works that reflects critical thinking and creative thought. (G.E. 1)
2. Develop the ability to communicate and collaborate with others utilizing both written and verbal skills. (G.E. 2)
3. Evaluate the status of global terrorism, the diverse range of terrorist organizations and their ideologies and their individual and group behavior to create terrorist movements. (G.E. 4)

B. Learning Outcomes

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

1. Understand the origins and history of terrorism.
2. Identify the current status of global terrorism.
3. Identify the different categories of terrorist groups.
4. Understand the structure of terrorist organizations.
5. Identify the financing tactics of terrorist groups.
6. Identify the concepts and command structure of the United States Department of Homeland Security.

VII Modes of Teaching and Learning

1. Lecture/discussion
2. Written assignments
3. Oral presentations and discussion

VIII Papers, Examinations, and other Assessment Instruments

1. Examinations
2. Case Studies
3. Attendance and class participation
4. Research Paper

IX Grade Determinants

Examinations, attendance, case studies and research papers will be used to assess students according to the learning outcomes and general education goals stated above.

X Suggested Materials

White, J., (Latest Edition). *Terrorism and Homeland Security*, Belmont, California: Thompson – Wadsworth.

XI Resources

Laptop access
Projector screen

Internet access