

Stanford, 12th of April, 2007

An Analytical and Comparative Approach to Terrorism

Soc 109/209

Spring Quarter 2007

T,Thu 1.15-2.30

Instructor Dr Eva M Meyersson Milgrom
Meyer Forum, Meyer Library

Course Description

In this class we develop a multidisciplinary perspective on the terrorism phenomenon, weaving together strands of thoughts from the social sciences including psychology, sociology, political science and economics. We will compare terror organizations/movements/networks across institutions, places and times, assessing their motives, tactics, financing, and organization. We will devote special attention to groups using the tactics of suicide bombing. Finally we will pursue an inventory of how terrorism is captured by film and literature.

The course explores theoretical and empirical accounts of the sources of terrorism. In comparing terrorism now and then we will draw as much on the differences as the similarities concerning causes and organization. Finally we will uncover the micro mechanisms in order to understand the historical macro level outcomes.

The course is structured around explanations and descriptions of supply of and demand for terrorism, and covers aspects such as: leadership, tactics, organization, mobilization and recruitment, finance, competition, cycle of violence.

Class session consist of lecture, guest lectures and individuals and group assignments. Some required activities are schedule in the evenings between 5.00-6.30 or 7.00-9.00 pm.

Invited guest lectures and other participants are: Professors David Holloway Stanford University, Doctoral students Jacob Shapiro Pol Sci, Stanford University, Play writer Karen Sunde New York, Katya Drozdova visiting scholar at the Hoover Institution Stanford University, Paul Arthur visiting scholar at Department of History Stanford University.

Course Material

The course will draw insights from films, plays and literature from research and fiction. The Readings are divided between required readings found in the course reader at the bookstore, and recommended readings found on the web/course works/library.

Requirements for 109

Play review (individual)

Movie reviews 3 (group)

Exam

Requirements for 209

Play Review (individual)

Movie reviews 3 (group)

Book review 1 (individual)

Term Paper (individual)

Required Movies shown at the following dates and all in **Landau Bldg Room 351** third floor. Doors to Landau Bldg close at 5 pm, if you are late call 650 575 2646 (EMMM Cell).

The Battle of Alger by Gillo Pontecorvo 1965, 5.00-7.30 pm **Thursday 19th of April**

Women of Hezbollah by Maher Abi-Samra 2000, 5-6 pm **Monday 7th of May**

Paradise Now by Hany Abu-Assad 2005, 5.00-6.30 pm **Monday 14th of May**

Required Fiction for 209s

Reporting from Ramallah by Amira Hass 2003 or

The Demons/Possessed/Devils by Fyodor Dostoyevsky 1953 or any other edition or Heart of Darkness by Joseph Konrad, 1902

Sympathy for the Other by Sari Nusseibeh with Anthony David 2007

A Long Way Gone, Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmael Beah 2007

Required Play

Report/review of Stage Reading/ "A Script in Hand Performance"

Play writer Karen Sunde's HOW HIS BRIDE CAME TO ABRAHAM; 9th of May 7-9pm. CERAS Auditorium.

Due dates

Due date for the Book Review is Monday 23 of May noon (5 pages at the most single space flexible).

Due date for Review of Play 14th of May, 2 pages double space.

Final exam 11 of June SOC 109 is scheduled for Monday, June-11-2007 from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM in building 200 room 303.

Due date for term paper (SOC 209) last session draft, final version 8th of June 10.00 AM, 15 pages at the most double space.

Course Requirement

Book Reviews 15%

Review of film 10%

Term paper /Exam (depending on # of Students and levels) 50%

Class Participation 25%

Office Hours

Office hours Tuesdays 2.45- 3.45 pm or appointment

Introduction

1. Session Tuesday April 3. A Brief History on Terrorism and Description of Class

Recommended Readings

Andrew Sinclair An anatomy of Terror A history of Terrorism London: Mcmillan 2003

2. Session Thursday April 5. Continuation of a Brief History of Terrorism

3. Session Tuesday April 10. Concepts, Definition and Statistical Trends

Required Readings

- *How Can We Make Sense of Suicide Missions? Diego Gambetta from Making Sense of Suicide Missions Ed Diego Gambetta Oxford University Press 2005*
- *A New Threat of Terror in the Western: Hemisphere by Jeremy M Weinstein SAIS REVIEW vol XXIII no.1 Winter-Spring 2003*

Recommended readings

Patterns of Transnational Terrorism 1970 1999 by Walter Enders and Todd Sandler unpublished paper October 2001.
After 9/11: Is it All Different Now? By Walter Enders and Todd Sandler unpublished paper Sept 2004

4. Session Thursday April 12. Cycle of Violence and Competition for Souls

Required Readings

- *Palestinians 1981-2003 Luca Ricolfi from Diego Gambetta ed Making Sense of Suicide Missions Oxford University Press 2004*
- *Terrorism and the World System by Albert J Bergesen and Omar Lizardo. Sociological Theory March 2004 vol 22 no 1 pp38-52.*

Recommended Readings

Decomposing Violence: political murder in Colombia 1946-1999 Jurgen Brauer Alejandro Gomez-Sorzano, Sankar Sethuraman. European Journal of Political Economy vol 20 2004 447-461
Political and Militant Wings within Dissident Movements and Organizations by Kevin Siqueira. Journal of conflict Resolution Vol 49 No2 April 2005 pp218-236. International

The Cycle of violence? David Jaeger and M Daniele Paserman unpublished manuscript 2006.

5. Session Tuesday April 17. Cost and Consequences of Terrorism

Required Readings

- *Is the Transnational Terrorism Becoming More Threatening? By Walter Enders and Todd Sandler. Working Paper No. 01.02.06 University of Alabama Economics, Finance and Legal Studies. University of Alabama.*
- *Terrorism and The world Economy by Alberto Abadie and Javier Gardeazabal October 2005, unpublished paper*

Recommended Readings

The Macro economic consequences of Terrorism S. Brock Blomberg, Gregory D. Hess, Athanasios Orphanides. Journal of Monetary Economics 51 2004 1007-1032
The Economic Costs of Conflict: A Case Study of the Basque Country by Alberto Abadie, Javier Gardeazabal The American Economic Review, vol. 93 No. 1 Mar 2003 pp 113-132

6. Session Thursday April 19 Guest Speakers: Paul Arthur on IRA and David Holloway on SCICN”

7. Session Tuesday April 24. A Panel discussion of the films “The Battle of Alger”

Explanations to Terrorism

8. Session Tuesday May 1. Guest Speaker Jacob Shapiro. “Why Terrorism Is Hard for Terrorists: Lessons from Indonesia and Somalia”

9. Session Thursday May 3. Student presentation

Recommended Readings

Hezbollah’s command Leadership: its structure, decision-making and relationship with Iranian Clergy and Institutions by Magnus Ranstrop. Terrorism and Political Violence vol 6 no 3 Autumn 1994 pp. 303-339 Published by Frank Cass, London
Hamas Internal Structure pp 173-174 in The Palestinian Hamas. Vision Violence and Coexistence by Shaul Mishal and Avraham Sela. Columbia University Press NY 2000

10. Session Tuesday May 8. The Mind of a Terrorist, Motivation and Beliefs, and Women in Hezbollah A Panel Discussion

Required Readings

- *Motivations and beliefs in suicide missions* Jon Elster in Diego Gambetta in *Making Sense of suicide missions* Oxford 2004.
- *The Mind of the Terrorist. A Review and Critique of Psychological Approaches* Jeff Victoroff. *Journal of conflict Resolution* vol 49 No 1 Feb 2005 3-42.

Recommended Readings

Individual Motivations, The group process, and Organizational Strategies in Suicide Terrorism Arie Kruganlasi and Agnieszka Golec. 2004 unpublished manuscript
Palestinian Suicide Terrorism in the Second Intifada: Motivations and Organizational Aspects by Assaf Moghadam in *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* 26:65-92, 2003. ?
The Moral Logic and Growth of Suicide Terrorism by Scott Atran. *The Washington Quarterly* spring 2006 pp 127-147

Special 11. Session Wednesday May 9. Staged Play Read Abraham's bride by Karen Sunde 7 to 9 pm

12. Session Thursday May 10. **Student assignment, Cases of Terrorism II.**

13. Session Tuesday May 15. Wealth Chocks and Social Distance

Required Readings

- *Economic Shocks and Civil conflict: An Instrumental Variables Approach* Edward Miguel and Shanker Satyanath and Ernest Sergenti. *Journal of Political Economy* 2004 vol 112 no 4. pp. 725-753.
- *Economic conditions and Terrorism* S Brock Blombert Gregory D Hess Akila Weerapana unpublished paper

Recommended Readings

Economic Globalization and Transnational Terrorism a Pooled time series analysis by Quan Li and Drew Schaub in *Journal of Conflict Resolution* vol 48 No 2 April 2004 230-258.
Identity Social Distance and Palestinian Support for the Roadmap, unpublished paper by Guillermina Jasso and Eva M Meyersson Milgrom

14. Session Thursday May 17. Poverty, Political Freedom and the Strategic Logic of Terrorism, and Paradise now, A Panel Discussion

Required Readings

- *The strategic logic of suicide American* Robert A Pape. *Political Science Review* vol 97 no 3 August 2003 pp 1-19

- *Poverty, Political Freedom, and the Roots of Terrorism* Alberto Abadie working paper 10859 NBER pp.1-15.

Recommended Readings

Does Democracy Promote or Reduce Transnational Terrorist Incidents by Quan Li in *Journal of Conflict Resolution* vol 49 no 2 April 2005 pp. 278 -297.

Terror, Terrorism, Terrorist by Charles Tilly, *Sociological Theory* 22:1 March 2004 pp. 5-13.

Kto Kogo? A Cross-country Study of the Origins and Targets of Terrorism by Alan B Krueger and David D. Laitin nov 11 NBER working paper

The Industrial Organization of Terrorism

15. Session Tuesday May 22. Cults, Religion and Quality of Members

Required Readings

- *Explaining Terrorism: The contribution of Collective Action Theory* Anthony Oberschall *Sociological Theory* 22:1 pp. 26-37, March 2004
- *Attack, Assignments in Terror Organizations and the Productivity of Suicide Bombers* by Efraim Benmelech and Claude Berrebi working paper Harvard and NBER
- *The Market for Martyrs* Laurence R Iannaccone 2004 unpublished manuscript pp.1-10

Recommended Readings

The Interpersonal Influence systems and Organized Suicides of Deaths cults by Noah Freidkin 2004 unpublished manuscript pp. 1-10.

The Quality of Terror by Ethan Bueno de Mesquita unpublished paper

Education, Poverty and Terrorism: Is There a Causal Connection by Alan B Krueger and Jitka Malecokva. *Journal of Economic Perspectives* vol 17 no 4 fall 2003 pp 119-144.

Prisons and the Education of Terrorists Ian M Cutherbertson

The Economics of Caste and of the Rat Race and Other Woeful Tales by George Akerlof *The quarterly Journal of Economics*, vol 90 no 4 nov 1976 pp 599-617

The Bad, The Good and the Deadly by Eli Berman and Laurence R Iannaccone working papers prepared for Public Choice forthcoming issue

16. Session Thursday May 24. Organization and Networks. Presentation of Principles for Term papers and Exams

Required readings

- *Chapter 8 Suicide Terrorist Organizations Around the globe* 126-170 in *Dying to Win the Strategic Logic of Suicide Terrorism* by Robert A Pape 2005.
- *Social Networks and the Jihad* Marc Sageman chapter five pp 137-174 in *Understanding Terror Networks*. University of Pennsylvania Press 2004

Recommended readings

Mapping Jihadist Terrorism in Spain by Javier Jordan and Nicola Horsburgh in *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* 28: 169-191, 2005.

The Greedy Terrorist: A rational-Choice Perspective on Terrorist Organizations Inefficiencies and vulnerabilities by Jacob Shapiro in *Strategic Insights*, vol IV Issue 1 Jan 2005.

Harmony and disharmony Exploiting Al-Qaeda's Organizational Vulnerabilities Feb 14 2006 unpublished manuscript

17. Session Tuesday May 29. Financing and Recruitment and Presentation of a book review

Required readings

- *Terror incorporated chapters 5 pp 65-80; 11 pp 133-140; 15 pp 183-208, 16 pp 183-193 in Terror incorporated tracing the dollars behind the terror networks* by Loretta Napoleoni, Seven stories press New York
- *Joining the Jihad Chapter 4 in Understanding Terror Networks* Marc Sageman University of Pennsylvania Press Philadelphia pp. 99-136

Handouts

18. Session Thursday May 31. Asymmetric Warfare Understanding and Countering Guest Speaker: Katya Drozdova, Terrorist Technology Strategies.

Required Readings

- *Rational Martyrs vs Hard Targets: Evidence on the Tactical use of Suicide Attacks* by Eli Berman and David D. Laitin. unpublished manuscript NBER
- *Ethnicity Insurgency and Civil War* by James D Fearon and David D. Laitin in *American Political Science Review* vol 97 no 1 Feb 2003 pp. 75-90.

Recommended Readings

Chapters 3-5 in Robert Pape 27-78

19. Session Tuesday June 5. Summary of Course and Presentation of Paper Outlines