DESCRIPTION:
Terrorism has been one of the most pressing political problems of the last half-century: almost every continent has experienced the threat of terrorism, from Europe to Asia, from Africa to America, and the incidence of terrorist attacks has more than doubled in the past 30 years. Terrorism has taken a variety of forms and accordingly several typologies, based on its origins, tools, motivations, and effects, have been developed by scholars and analysts. The course focuses on the principal issues associated with modern international terrorism. It starts with an introduction to the concept of terrorism itself. In this first part, a set of crucial and preliminary questions is addressed: what is terrorism? What motivates different types of terrorist groups? Why do terrorists resort to political violence? A wide range of case studies is analyzed, taking into consideration the similarities and the differences between “old” and “new” terrorism. The course provides a special focus on the Italian experience with terrorism during the 1970s and early 1980s, when the country witnessed a dramatic wave of political violence. One section is then devoted to counterterrorism and especially to the responses of democracies to the challenge of terrorism. Finally, the course investigates some relevant issues related to representing and remembering terrorism.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: None

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
- Lectures
- Seminar discussions
- Students’ presentations
- Use of multimedia resources (selected by the instructor.)
- Moodle

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
- Class participation (10%)
- Midterm exam (30%)
- Book review paper (20%)
- In class presentation (10%)
- Final exam (30%)

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
By the end of the course students will be able to:
- Explain the current public debate on terrorism and counterterrorism;
- Interpret the complexity of terrorism as an international phenomenon;
- Identify the main features of modern terrorism;
- Identify the main typologies of terrorism active in the last two centuries and critically engage with the most relevant case studies;
- Acquire a basic knowledge of the possible ways to counter terrorism;
- Discover how different societies handle terrorism and build a shared or a divisive narrative on political violence;
- Understand the historical significance of terrorism for Italy;
- Put Italy’s experiences of terrorism into relation with other national cases.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Attendance is mandatory for all IES classes, including field studies. If a student misses more than two classes in this course, 2 percentage points will be deducted from the final grade for every additional absence. Any exams, tests, presentations, or other work missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled in cases of documented medical emergencies or family emergencies. IES will only consider extreme emergency cases and will strictly adhere to this policy.

CONTENT:

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<td><strong>Introduction to the course</strong></td>
<td>D.J. Whittaker (ed.), <em>The Terrorism Reader</em>, Chapter 1 (“Definition of Terrorism”), pp. 3-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section 1</td>
<td>Overview of the course</td>
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<td>Section 1</td>
<td>Theories and Perspectives: Approaches to Terrorism</td>
<td>• L. Weinberg, <em>Global Terrorism. A Beginner’s Guide</em>, Chapter 1 (“Introduction”), pp. 1-21 and Chapter 4 (“Who They Are, Where They Come From, and Why They do it”), pp. 81-110</td>
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| Week 3 | **History of Terrorism and Case Studies (Part I)** | • D.C. Rapoport, *The Four Waves of Modern Terrorism*, pp. 3-30  
| Session 1 | The “Four Waves” of Terrorism | • D.J. Whittaker (ed.), *The Terrorism Reader*, Chapter 12 (“Spain”), pp. 150-164 and Chapter 13 (“Northern Ireland”), pp. 165-186 |
| Session 2 | Spain and Northern Ireland | |
| Week 4 | **History of Terrorism and Case Studies (Part II)** | D.J. Whittaker (ed.), *The Terrorism Reader*, Chapter 7 (“Israel”), pp. 79-87; Chapters 9-10 (“Lebanon I” and “Lebanon II”), pp. 106-132; and Chapter 17 (“Germany”), pp. 234-252 |
| Session 1 | Middle East and Germany | |
| Session 2 | Cultural Representations of Terrorism: the case of *The Baader Meinhof Complex* | |
| Week 5 | **The “Years of Lead”: Terrorism in Italy** | • D.J. Whittaker (ed.), *The Terrorism Reader*, Chapter 18 (“Italy”), pp. 253-270  
| Session 1 | Red and Black Terrorism | • R. Drake, *The Red and the Black. Terrorism in Contemporary Italy*, pp. 279-298  
| Session 2 | Roots and Causes of Italian Terrorism | • L. Weinberg, *The Red Brigades*, pp. 25-62 |
| Week 6 | Midterm Exam | • D.J. Whittaker (ed.), *The Terrorism Reader*, Chapter 4 (“Jihad: Mission and | |
| Session 1 | Midterm Review | |
| Session 2 | Midterm Exam | |
| Week 7 | **Al-Qaida and the “War” against Terrorism** | |

Global brilliance begins here.
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<td>Campaigning”), pp. 47-59; Chapter 5 (“United States: Ground Zero”), pp. 60-68; and Chapter 6 (“Britain: London as Target”), pp. 69-78</td>
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<td>Similarities and Differences between Italian Terrorism and the Recent Wave of Religious Terrorism</td>
<td>R. Drake, <em>Italy’s Far Right and the Red Brigades</em>, pp. 48-66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Representing and Remembering Terrorism</td>
<td>How Terrorism Ends</td>
<td>W. Laqueur, <em>Interpretations of Terrorism: Fact, Fiction and Political Science</em>, only pp. 15-42</td>
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<td>Presentations of Book Reviews</td>
<td>General Review</td>
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COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:
• Sites of relevant/recent terrorist episodes in Italy
• A government/institutional structure which deals with security issues or terrorism
• Italian analysts/experts on terrorism

REQUIRED READINGS:
• D.J. Whittaker (ed.), The Terrorism Reader, New York: Routledge, 2012 (fourth edition), Chapters: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23

**on reserve shelf in the IES Library
• Course Reader, including:
  • W. Laqueur, Interpretations of Terrorism: Fact, Fiction and Political Science, in “Journal of Contemporary History”, 12, 1 1977, only pp. 15-42

RECOMMENDED READINGS:
• Crenshaw, Terrorism in Context, University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 1995
• Hewitt Ch., Understanding Terrorism in America: from the Klan to al Qaeda, New York: Routledge, 2003
• Hoffman B., Inside Terrorism, New York: Columbia University Press, 2006
• Horgan J., The Psychology of Terrorism, New York: Routledge, 2005
• Laqueur W., No End to War: Terrorism in the Twenty-first Century, New York: Continuum, 2003;
• Laqueur W., Voices of Terror: Manifestos, Writings, and Manuals of Al Qaeda, Hamas, and Other Terrorists from Around the World and Throughout the Ages, New York: Reed Press, 2004