



Terrorism and Response: An Overview

Fall Semester 2006

Syllabus

Faculty: Ronald W. Parker
Instructor
Institute for Biosecurity
Saint Louis University, School of Public Health
3545 Lafayette Suite 300
St. Louis, MO 63104
Phone: (314) 977-8257
Fax: (314) 977-1674
Email: rparker9@slu.edu

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide students a basic understanding of the following: 1) terrorism, including its history, current trends, organizations and movements. Emphasis will be placed on today's Islamic terrorism; 2) terrorists' past and potential future use of chemical/biological/radiological/nuclear (CBRN) Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD); 3) U.S. Government response structure to an act of terrorism, 4) identification and background of the U.S. WMD "first responder" community and, 5) the need for health and law enforcement cooperation before and during a WMD terrorism attack.

Course Objectives and general outline:

At the conclusion of this course the student will be able to demonstrate a basic knowledge of:

- Describe terrorism, including its history, current trends, and contemporary terrorist organizations and movements.
- Explain the psychology of terrorism and debate the probability of terrorists' future potential use of CBRN weapons.
- Summarize and evaluate the U.S. Government's National Response Plan for federal, state and local governments' response to a natural disaster or WMD attack, including the use of Incident Command System and National Incident Management System in disaster response.

- Describe the WMD first responder community and list agency roles and responsibilities in a terrorism response.
- Explain the cooperation needed between health and law enforcement during a WMD incident.

Course Format: Books, websites and slide presentations with narration.

Evaluation of Performance:

- On-line quizzes and tests (7).....70%
 - Quiz 1.....5%
 - Test 1.....15%
 - Quiz 2.....5%
 - Quiz 3.....5%
 - Test 2.....15%
 - Test 3.....10%
 - Test 4.....15%
- FEMA courses (4).....10%
 These courses can be taken before the semester commences. If a student has previously completed a course(s), FEMA proof of successful completion should be forwarded to the instructor for credit in this course.

Take in this order:

- NRP Course (IS-800)
- ICS Course (IS-100)
- ICS Course (IS-200)
- NIMS Course (IS-700)

- Paper.....20%

Grading Scale:

According to Saint Louis University Graduate School requirements, final grades are based on the below point scale:

- A (≥ 93 points)
- B+ (90 – 92 points)
- B (83 – 89 points)
- B- (80 – 82 points)
- C (73 – 79 points)
- F (≤ 72 points)

Final Submission Dates:

Quiz 1: Sunday, September 10

Test 1: Sunday, October 1

Quiz 2: Sunday, October 8

Quiz 3: Sunday, October 15
Test 2: Sunday, October 29
Test 3: Sunday, November 5
Test 4: Saturday, December 16

FEMA Tests: Friday, December 1

Paper:

Paper-- Sunday, November 12

Required Texts:

Reich W. (Ed.). (1998). *Origins of terrorism*. Washington, DC: Woodrow Wilson Center Press. ISBN 0-943875-89-7.

The text may be purchased from any location, including online vendors, i.e. Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, and ecampus.com. The ISBN number listed above is associated with the paperback version of the book. Occasionally, libraries may have a copy of the book. It is recommended that the text be ordered immediately upon registering for the course in order to assure availability when needed.

Promptly advise the instructor if there is a problem obtaining the text.

Paper:

The paper will be (6) to (8) pages in length. It will be written in the American Psychological Association (APA) 5th Edition style. Students may refer to the course WebCT home page, Orientation and Reference guidelines, APA Style Guide and/or obtain the Fifth Edition "Publication Manual" of the APA, published by the APA, Washington, D.C., 2002, ISBN 1-55798-791-2.

The Paper will present the student's position regarding the probability of U.S. domestic and Islamic terrorists using chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear weapons in the next five years.

FEMA Courses:

There are four online courses through FEMA that must be completed and passed as part of this course. These courses are available for free online. This assignment is pass/fail only. All courses/tests combined are worth 10% of the student's overall grade. Proof of successful completion, which FEMA provides online, will be forwarded by the student to the instructor.

Courses can be taken before the semester commences. If a student has taken any or all of these courses, they do not need to be repeated. In this case, forward to the instructor the

FEMA notification that the course(s) was passed. If only a hard copy of the notification is available, computer scan and forward it.

The FEMA “Incident Command System (ICS)” basic course (IS-100)

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is100.asp>

The FEMA “Basic Incident Command System” Course (IS-200)

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is200fw.asp>

The FEMA “National Response Plan, an Introduction” Course (IS-800)

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is800.asp>

The FEMA “National Incident Management System (NIMS)” basic course (IS-700)

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700.asp>

Course Policies:

- All class-associated email communication should take place through the course WebCT email.
- The week for class readings, assignments, and seminar discussion is defined as Monday through Sunday at midnight.
- The standard for the course Instructor will be to login to the course a minimum of 3 days during the week and once on the weekend.
- If a student has a legitimate emergency situation affecting his/her ability to complete an assignment on time, he/she is required to promptly inform the Instructor. Each situation will be addressed on an individual basis.
- If the student does not understand an assignment or reading, a test score, or how to prepare a paper, it is the student’s responsibility to immediately contact the Instructor to relate the problem. Waiting until the due date and then communicating a problem is not acceptable and will generally not result in a due date extension.
- It is at the Instructor’s discretion to allow students to make-up missed assignments.
- All University, Graduate School, and School of Public Health policies and procedures are in effect, including, but not limited to, academic standards, course withdrawals, and course incompletes.
Withdrawals from the course must be promptly handled through the Banner Self-Serve system or your advisor, Terri Rebmann, atrebmann@slu.edu, (314) 977-8260.
- Please refer to the:
 - [Catalog of the Graduate School](#)
 - [Office of the Bursar](#) (Student Accounts)
 - [Office of the University Registrar](#) (Student Services)

- Institute for Biosecurity Policy Statement on Academic and Professional Integrity. Details on the Biosecurity Policy Statement on Academic and Professional Integrity are provided in the Academic Integrity link to the left of your WebCT course page and in the MS in Biosecurity Student Handbook.
- More information, policies, and guidelines relevant to your education are available on the School of Public Health web site at: [SLU School of Public Health](#). It is student's responsibility to become familiar with all information available through this and aforementioned. Web sites above.