

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

American Public University System

The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind

School of Security and Global Studies
HLSS523
Domestic Terrorism and Extremist Groups
Credit Hours: 3
Length of Course: 8 Weeks
Prerequisite: HLSS500

Course Description (Catalog)

This course traces the history, emergence, and growth of domestic terrorist and extremist groups within the United States. Students will assess various groups' intentions, capabilities, and activities within contexts of and ramifications on political, national security, and legal paradigms.

Course Scope

As part of the core requirement, this course introduces the student to critical elements of the discipline. Students will participate in weekly Discussion Forums that correlate to weekly readings. Students will write an analytical research paper and a comprehensive final assignment.

Course Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- CO-1: Analyze extremism in the United States
- CO-2: Differentiate extremists, extremist organizations, and extremist events of the past 50 years
- CO-3: Examine contemporary accounts on the emergence of extremism in the United States
- CO-4: Deconstruct the influence of globalization and technology on domestic extremism recruitment, membership, and its sustained impact
- CO-5: Evaluate past and present attempts to counter extremism in the United States

Course Delivery Method

This course, delivered via distance learning, will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be available to

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each student. Online assignments are due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET and include all written assignments, examinations, and research papers submitted for grading. Weekly Forum questions (accomplished in groups in a Forum) require an initial response by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET, with all other required responses due by Sunday at 11:55 pm ET. The assigned faculty will support the students throughout this eight-week course.

Course Resources

Required Course Textbooks

- There is no required text for this course.

The following book is an excellent resource and historical source of reference. *You are not required to purchase it for the course.* Atkins, S. *Encyclopedia of Right Wing Extremism in Modern American History*. ABC-CLIO: ISBN E-Book 978-1-59884-351-4; or Hardcover Book 978-1-59884-350-7.

Evaluation Procedures

The course grade is based on the following assessments:

Discussion Forums – 20 percent

Each week, a discussion question is provided and posts should reflect an assimilation of the readings. Students are required to provide a substantive initial post by Thursday at 11:55 pm ET and respond to 2 or more classmates by Sunday 11:55 pm ET. Forum posts are graded on timeliness, relevance, knowledge of the weekly readings, and the quality of original ideas.

Research Question, Purpose Statement, and Literature Review Exercise – 15 percent

The components of this assignment include a research question, a purpose statement, and a literature view of at least 6 sources, two of which must be peer-reviewed. The specific research question should relate to a general topic in the course. 6-8 pages.

Research Paper – 35 percent

Adding to the 6-8 page assignment in Week Two, the research paper should be at least 10 additional pages of analysis of your topic, not including the cover page, the reference list, and any appendices.

Final Assignment – 30 percent

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This assignment is a take-home essay assignment of 4 questions, 2-3 pages each, to test knowledge and assimilation of the course objectives. The exclusive use of required texts and readings from this course is mandatory.

Assignments	Percentage
Research Question Assignment	15 percent
Research Paper	35 percent
Forum Discussion Posts	20 percent
Final Assignment	30 percent
TOTAL	100 percent

8 – Week Course Outline

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Course Objective(s)</u>	<u>Readings</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
1	Introduction and Overview; American White Supremacist and Neo-Nazi Movements	CO-1: Analyze extremism in the United States	Video: Radical America, Left & Right Anti-Defamation League Website, (Review) Southern Poverty Law Center Website (Review)	Week One Forum Discussion
2	American White Supremacist and Neo-Nazi Movements, continued	CO2: Differentiate extremists, extremist organizations, and extremist events of the past 50 years CO-5: Evaluate past and present attempts to counter extremism in the United States	Video: The Oklahoma Bomber Video: Skinheads and Law Enforcement Slide Show: Today's Klan Ku Klux Klan: a History of Racism and Violence Ku Klux Klan Rebounds Racist Skinheads-Understanding	Week Two Forum Discussion Research Question Assignment

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			the Threat PENI: Public Enemy Number Bigots on Bikes	
3	Christian Identity, Christian Reconstructionism, and other Right- Wing Religious Movements	CO-3: Examine contemporary accounts on the emergence of extremism in the United States	Video: "A Growing Terrorist Threat Extremism Florida-Darkside of the Sunshine State Domestic Extremism Lexicon	Week Three Forum Discussion
4	Anti-American Government Extremists	CO2: Differentiate extremists, extremist organizations, and extremist events of the past 50 years	Video: Evaluating the Homegrown Terrorist Threat in the United States Violent Voices: The Second Wave Terror from the Right Rightwing Extremism	Week Four Forum Discussion
5	Sovereign Citizen and Tax Protest Movements	CO-3: Examine contemporary accounts on the emergence of extremism in the United States	Video: Sovereign Citizens and Law Enforcement Video: Sovereign Citizen Tasered at Courthouse A Clear and Present Danger: Sovereign Citizens Law Enforcement Takes on the Sovereigns Patriot-Sovereign Paranoia	Week Five Forum Discussion

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			Patriot-Sovereign Shootout Sovereign Citizen Kane Sovereign Citizens Movement Resurging The Sovereigns: A Dictionary of the Peculiar The Sovereigns: Tips for Law Enforcement Two NC Detectives Build Program	
6	Eco-Extremists	CO-4: Deconstruct the influence of globalization and technology on domestic extremism recruitment, membership, and its sustained impact CO-5: Evaluate past and present attempts to counter extremism in the United States	Video: Fascist Liberal Environmental Terrorism Video: CNN Exclusive: The Earth Liberation Front Video: Burning Rage Video: "Angels of Mercy Video: ALF Behind the Mask FBI Arrests Eco- Terrorists Greenwash Leftwing Extremists Likely to Increase Use of Cyber Attacks The Animal Liberation Front Primer	Week Six Forum Discussion Research Paper Due

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			Religion, Violence, and Radical Environmentalism When Activists Attack	
7	Lone Wolf Extremism and Domestic Terrorism	CO-4: Deconstruct the influence of globalization and technology on domestic extremism recruitment, membership, and its sustained impact	<p>Video: The Evolution of Modern Terrorism</p> <p>Video: Domestic and Counterterrorism Threats</p> <p>Video: Sikh Temple Shooting</p> <p>American Jihadist Terrorism</p> <p>Homegrown Terrorism</p> <p>Homegrown Terrorism in the West</p> <p>A Typology of Lone Wolves</p> <p>Lone Wolf Terrorism</p> <p>The Enigma of Lone Wolf Terrorism</p> <p>Survey of Police Agencies</p> <p>Homeland Security Threat Assessment</p>	Week Seven Forum Discussion
8	Border Disputes and Anti-Immigration Extremis	CO-1, CO2, CO-3, CO-4, and CO-5	<p>Video: Immigration Documentary</p> <p>Border Disputes Between</p> <p>Infoshops and Insurrection</p>	<p>Week Eight Forum Discussion</p> <p>Final Assignment Due</p>

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			Climate of Fear: Latino Immigrants	
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Policies

Please see the [Student Handbook](#) to reference all University policies. Quick links to frequently asked question about policies are listed below.

[Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)
[Plagiarism Policy](#)
[Extension Process and Policy](#)
[Disability Accommodations](#)

Citation and Reference Style

Attention Please: Students will follow the APA 6 Style as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework. See http://www.apus.edu/content/dam/online-library/resources-services/Fuson_2012_APA.pdf.

All written submissions should be submitted in Times New Roman 12pt font with 1" margins, typewritten in double-spaced format. Graduate-level work is expected to be free of grammar, usage, and style errors.

Late Assignments

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution. Routine submission of late assignments is unacceptable and may result in points deducted from your final course grade.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Forums on

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the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Forum of others.

- **Technology Limitations:** While you should feel free to explore the full-range of creative composition in your formal papers, keep e-mail layouts simple. The Sakai classroom may not fully support MIME or HTML encoded messages, which means that bold face, italics, underlining, and a variety of color-coding or other visual effects will not translate in your e-mail messages.
- **Humor Note:** Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especially satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emoticons” to help alert your readers: ;-), :), ☺

Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

- *Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan:* The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors’ publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.
- *Electronic Books:* You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.
- *Electronic Journals:* The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.
- *Tutor.com:* AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutor.com connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert

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tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

Request a Library Guide for your course

(<http://apus.libguides.com/index.php>)

The AMU/APU Library Guides provide access to collections of trusted sites on the Open Web and licensed resources on the Deep Web. The following are specially tailored for academic research at APUS:

- Program Portals contain topical and methodological resources to help launch general research in the degree program. To locate, search by department name, or navigate by school.
- Course Lib-Guides narrow the focus to relevant resources for the corresponding course. To locate, search by class code (e.g., SOCI111), or class name.

If a guide you need is not available yet, please email the APUS Library: librarian@apus.edu.

Selected Bibliography

Animal Liberation Front, "Primer,"

<http://www.animalliberationfront.com/ALFront/ALFPrime.htm> (accessed Nov 1, 2012).

Taylor, B. "Religion, Violence, and Radical Environmentalism: From Earth First to the Unabomber to the Earth Liberation Front," 10, n. 4 (1998): 1-42.

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ICSR, "Typology of Lone Wolves: Preliminary Analysis of the Lone Islamist Terrorist" <http://icsr.info/2011/04/a-typology-of-lone-wolves-preliminary-analysis-of-lone-islamist-terrorists/> (accessed Nov 1, 2012).