Course Profile - Department of International Relations

Course Number: **POLS 339**	Course Title: **Politics of Terrorism**
Required / Elective: Elective	Pre / Co-requisites: -
Catalog Description: The concept of terrorism in reference to national and international security domains. Organization and process of terrorist functions. The theory and process of counter-terrorism.	Textbook / Required Material: Reading list will be provided by the instructor.

Course Structure / Schedule: **(3+0+0) 3 / 6 ECTS**
Extended Description: This course is designed to provide an overview of the academic literature on terrorism. It attempts to provide answers to several questions such as what terrorism is, how it has evolved, what the motivations of terrorist organizations are, and how states could deal with terrorism effectively.

Design content: None	Computer usage: Not required

Course Outcomes: By the end of this course, students will: • Develop a deeper understanding of terrorism and counterterrorism within a historical perspective. • Grasp the major theoretical framework about terrorism and counterterrorism. • Compare and contrast different terrorist groups and different counterterrorism strategies against these groups. • Improve their analytical and critical thinking skills through class discussions and written assignments.
Teaching methods: Lectures, class discussion, video clips, slides

Course Outline

Week	Topics
1	Introduction
2	How to Define Terrorism
3	The New vs. Old Terrorism
4	Causes of Terrorism
5	Ethnic Terrorism
6	Nationalism and Terrorism
7	Review and Midterm
8	Ethnic Terrorism: Turkey and the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK)
9	Ideological Terrorism: Peru and the Shining Path

10	Ideological Terrorism: Peru and the Shining Path (Documentary: State of Fear: The Truth about Terrorism)
11	Religious Terrorism: Al Qaeda
12	Is Terrorism Rational?
13	Counterterrorism
14	Simulation
15	Conclusion

Assessment methods:

Class participation: 10%
Quizzes: 10%
Terrorism reports: 10%
Midterm exam: 30%
Final exam: 40%

Contribution of Course Learning Outcomes to Program Outcomes

	Program Outcomes	*Level of Contribution				
		1	2	3	4	5
IR1	Understand the fundamental concepts and theories of the field of International Relations and be able to apply them to historical and current events					x
IR2	Understand the historical processes of political structures and institutions				x	
IR3	Be able to follow the world political conjuncture					x
IR4	Grasp the structures and functions of international/regional/intergovernmental organizations			x		
IR5	Be able to analyze the dynamics that form the political substructure of various events and phenomena, as well as their effects					x
IR6	Understand the international legal framework				x	
IR7	Grasp and question the causes and consequences of economic developments and their impact on international relations					
PS1	Understand the fundamental concepts and theories of the field of Political Science and be able to apply them to historical and current events					
PS2	Understand the historical processes, structures, and functions of political institutions					

		1	2	3	4	5
PS3	Be able to analyze the dynamics that form the political substructure of various events and phenomena, as well as their effects					
PS4	Understand the mechanisms of political change (such as voting, lobbying, political movements, legal reforms, revolution, etc.)					x
PS5	Possess knowledge about those fundamental issues that shape political and societal life (such as race, gender, class, environment, security, religion, identity, etc.)				x	
PS6	Acknowledge that political phenomena can be explained differently by different schools of thought				x	
PS7	Grasp and question the causes and consequences of economic developments and their impact on politics		x			
8	Think independently, creatively, and critically					x
9	Be an entrepreneur and take initiative		x			
10	Have self-confidence					x
11	Have the ability to carry out systematic comparisons and rightly differentiate similarities and differences					
12	Be open-minded and prepared to work together with people from different cultures and groups				x	
13	Be aware and a follower of social responsibilities as well as political rights and freedoms				x	
14	Internalize work ethics and behave accordingly					x
15	Be able to speak and deliver presentations in front of public					x
16	Understand, read, and write in English					x
17	Have the ability to observe, analyze, and report					x
18	Be able to implement the principles and methods of scientific research					
19	Understand and interpret statistical data					
20	Be prone to team work				x	
21	Possess computer and technological literacy			x		

*1 Lowest, 2 Low, 3 Average, 4 High, 5 Highest

Student workload:

Reading	83 hrs
Lectures	33 hrs
Class discussion	5 hrs
Terrorism reports	23 hrs

| Examinations (Quizzes, midterm, and final)   6 hrs |
| **TOTAL** ……………………………   **150 hrs (25x6) 6 ECTS** |

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