Saint Leo University

CRM 363
Exploitable Weaknesses in Terrorist Organizations

Course Description:
This course provides a comprehensive overview of international and domestic terrorism arising from either religious or secular roots. It will examine the historical and philosophical underpinnings of terrorism in general, and it will identify terrorist organizations in particular. The course will examine exploitable weaknesses of terrorists, terrorist typology, human factors as applied to terrorists, *modus vivendi* of terrorists, conspiratorial association theorems, weaknesses of terrorist groups, and proactive measures in support of terrorist investigations. The course will address current efforts in counter-terrorism, with special emphasis on the federal and state responses. As a Criminal Justice course, this study will consist of a hybrid of historical and political information and current, relevant information on counter-terrorism objectives and methods.

Prerequisite:
POL 123, CRM 220

Textbooks:

Nance, M. W. (2014). *Terrorist recognition handbook: A practitioner's manual for predicting and identifying terrorist activities* (3rd ed.). Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press-Taylor and Francis Group. ISBN-13: 978-1-4665-5457-3

McCormack, W. (2007). *Understanding the law of terrorism*. LexisNexis/Matthew Bender. ISBN-13: 978-1-4224-7442-6

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN-13: 978-1-4338-0561-5

Learning Outcomes:
As a result of this course, you will:
1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the Saint Leo University Core Value of Responsible Stewardship impacts the prevention of terrorism.
2. Demonstrate a critical awareness of terrorism.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of terrorist desires and motivations.
4. Identify major terrorist organizations; articulate their philosophical orientations; discuss their basic structures and areas of interests.
5. Identify key aspects of terrorist organizations, their training, operations, targets, and weaponry.
6. Discuss the key components of terrorist operational planning processes and procedures in order to identify, prevent, eliminate, and disrupt incidents of terrorism.
7. Identify techniques for conducting effective yet lawful terrorist investigations, surveillances, intercepts, etc.
8. Articulate and discuss the components of a comprehensive anti-terrorism strategy, including the USA PATRIOT Act and subsequent legislation.
9. Discuss intelligence initiatives.
10. Through developed sensitivities and heightened awareness, explore potential terrorist weaknesses for effective counterterrorism actions.

Topics
- Critical awareness of terrorism
- Historical overview of terrorism
- Ideology and terrorism
- Identification of terrorist operations
- Intelligence profiling

- Terrorist training
- Terrorist motivations
- Terrorist beliefs
- Legal perspectives on terrorism
- Terrorist groups and cells
- Terrorism, intelligence, and the law
- Terrorist strategies and target selection
- Terrorist preparation
- Terrorist tools
- Terrorist surveillance techniques
- Detecting terrorist infiltration
- Attack sequences
- Analyzing intelligence
- Points of danger for law enforcement
- Terrorist operations and tactics
- New terrorist threats
- Weapons of Mass Destruction

Core Value Focus:

Responsible Stewardship: Our Creator blesses us with an abundance of resources. We foster a spirit of service to employ our resources to university and community development. We must be resourceful. We must optimize and apply all of the resources of our community to fulfill Saint Leo University's mission and goals.

Evaluation:

Grades in the course will be based on the following:

Assignment	% of total grade
Reaction Papers (4)	14
Discussions (8)	16
Research Paper	30
Exams (2)	40
Total	**100%**

Grading scale:

Grade	Score (%)
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
D+	67-69
D	60-66
F	0-59

Reaction Papers

You must complete four (4) APA style and formatted Reaction Papers in Modules 2, 3, 4, and 5. Your Reaction Paper must be in **full** APA style and format and be no less than 800 words (excluding the separate cover, abstract, and reference pages). The paper must include a cover/title page, a separate abstract page with keywords, in-text citations, properly placed page numbers, running heads, and a

separate reference page identifying all sources. The abstract paragraph must be no less than 75 words. Your Reaction Paper must address at least one full chapter assigned for the module in the course outline.

No more than 25% of each written assignment in this course may be attributed to referenced sources. Your papers must be 75% original thought. Again, your cited work and quotations must not exceed 25%. Failure to properly use in-text citations or required quotation formatting will be considered evidence of potential Academic Honor Code violations. The submission of writings from prior courses, classes, schools, colleges, or universities to fulfill assignment requirements in this class will be referred as a potential Academic Code Violation.

It is strongly suggested you follow the following logical flow in presenting your reaction paper: critical overview of the entire reading, significant facts or information disclosed, and conclusions based upon inductive or deductive reasoning. A Reaction Paper is designed to develop and sharpen your critical thinking, cognitive skills, and problem-solving abilities, as well as your writing skills. Your objective in writing this assignment is to clearly articulate your assessment of the information presented by the author(s) and to formulate and clarify your position on or reaction to the writings. Avoid "I will" and "My paper will" type constructions in your writings. In other words, the use of "I" and "My" in your papers must be avoided.

The following rubric will be used to assess each Reaction Paper.

Criteria	Rating			
	Missing/Novice 0-17	Basic 18-19	Proficient 20-22	Exceptional 23-25
Coherence Do sentences in paragraphs relate to one another in a logical way? Are relationships between paragraphs easily discernible? Is a minimum of one assigned chapter addressed in the body?	Main idea in most paragraphs cannot be identified; paragraphs have little or no discernible relationship to one another	Many paragraphs lack internal consistency; many transitions are weak or used inappropriately	A few paragraphs lack internal consistency; a few weak or unclear transitions	Paragraphs are internally consistent (i.e., one idea/theme runs through paragraph); transitions between paragraphs allow reader to easily follow thread of argument
Clarity/concision Are sentences structurally correct, succinct, easy to understand, and void of misspellings and grammatical errors?	More than 10 percent of sentences are awkward, incorrectly constructed, or wordy	Six to ten percent of sentences are awkward, incorrectly constructed, or wordy	Five percent or less of sentences are awkward, incorrectly constructed, or wordy	Sentences flow smoothly, are structurally correct, and convey the intended meaning; no wordiness
Formatting Are formatting elements used appropriately to strengthen the document?	Formatting elements are confusing or inconsistent; lack of any formatting	Formatting elements often do not support main points; elements are not always used consistently	Formatting elements do not always support main points; elements are used consistently throughout the document	Formatting elements organize and highlight ideas as needed; formatting elements are used consistently throughout the document
Use of APA style and format APA style and formatted in-text citations including source page numbers in the body and connected to listed and fully cited referenced sources at the end of each response	APA style and format is not evident or greatly lacking consistency	APA style and format is used properly but inconsistently	Consistent use of APA style and format with few errors and limited omissions	APA style and format used consistently with no errors or omissions

Discussions

You are required to participate in online discussions with an original initial post of no less than 180 words (excluding in-text citations and listed references). Use APA in-text citations and provide fully referenced sources to lend scholarly support to your comments, remarks, or positions taken in your initial discussion posts. Address your classmates by name when responding to their posts. You must also respond to the initial post of at least two classmates or points will be deducted from your overall score for the Discussion in that module.

Do not post your comments as an attachment or use emoticons or inappropriate lower case letters in your posts. Do not cut and paste from the Internet. Your posts must be scholarly and professional and void of the use of wording that may be considered "patently offensive" by any member of the class.

The following rubric will be used to assess each Discussion.

Criteria	Rating			
	Missing/Novice 0-13	**Basic** 14-15	**Proficient** 16-17	**Exceptional** 18-20
Promptness and initiative	Does not respond to issues; restricted participation	Late initial post and weak or no response to fellow students' posts	Timely initial post and failure to respond to fellow student posts or weak responses	Timely initial post and rigorous responses to fellow student posts
Delivery of post	Utilizes poor spelling and grammar in most posts; posts appear "hasty"	Errors in spelling and grammar evidenced in several postings	Few grammatical or spelling errors are noted in posts	Uses grammatically correct posts with rare misspellings
Relevance of post	Posts input that is not related to the discussion content; makes short or irrelevant remarks	Posts off topic; posts are short in length and offer no further insight into the topic	Posts input related to discussion content; prompts further discussion of topic	Posts input related specifically to discussion issue; uses APA in-text citation(s) connected to listed source reference(s) in the body of initial posts for each module
Expression within the post	Does not express opinions or ideas clearly; no connection to issue	Unclear connection to issue evidenced in minimal expression of opinions or ideas	Opinions and ideas are stated clearly with occasional lack of connection to issue	Expresses opinions and ideas in a clear and concise manner with obvious connection to issue
Contribution to the learning community	Does not make effort to participate in learning community as it develops; seems indifferent	Occasionally makes meaningful reflection on group's efforts; marginal effort to become involved with group	Attempts to direct the discussion and to present relevant viewpoints for consideration by group; interacts freely	Aware of needs of community; frequently attempts to motivate the group discussion; presents thoughtful and insightful approaches to issue

Research Paper

A major component of this class is a **minimum** 2250-word (excluding the separate cover, abstract, and reference pages), APA-style research paper. It represents a substantial effort on your part to research and write an in-depth paper. No more than 25% of the written assignment in this course may be attributed to referenced sources. Your paper must be 75% original thought. Again, your cited work and quotations must not exceed 25%. You must use and cite a minimum of five primary sources (with no more than two being Internet sources) in the text and References page. Dictionaries and encyclopedias are not appropriate or considered adequate as referenced sources. Turnitin originality reports provide the instructor with the word count in addition to the percentage of wording attributable to other sources. Do not cut and paste from other sources. Your failure to cite sources by using in-text citations and failure to use APA quotation formatting where necessary will result in referrals as potential Academic Code

Violations. Whole or partial papers may not be submitted from previous courses or classes to fulfill this course requirement and will be referred as a potential Academic Code Violation.

You must select a research topic from the following list and use your research to relate the topic to exploiting specifically identified weaknesses in transnational terrorist organizations while demonstrating an understanding of the Saint Leo University core value of **responsible stewardship** as it relates to addressing exploitable weaknesses in terrorist organizations:

- Use of the Internet by terrorists
- Use of double agents for counterterrorism
- Use of major intelligence sources by the U.S. intelligence community
- Use of communications intercepts in terrorism investigations
- Use of forensics in terrorism investigations
- Use of covert surveillance in terrorism investigations
- Use of unmanned aerial vehicles (drones) for counterterrorism
- Use of rendition and extraordinary rendition for counterterrorism
- Cultivating and developing informants for terrorism investigations
- Community outreach and counterterrorism
- Evaluating terrorist tactics, techniques, and strategies to identify weaknesses
- Interviewing and interrogating terrorist suspects
- "S" visas and terrorism investigations with multiple case studies provided
- Department of state rewards for justice program with multiple case studies provided

You must submit a topic for instructor approval **no later than the conclusion of Module 3**. The completed research paper is due by the conclusion of Module 7 and must be submitted to the course Assignment folder (this Assignment folder is linked to Turnitin).

The following rubric will be used to assess the Research Paper.

Criteria	Rating				
	0	Novice	Basic	Proficient	Exceptional
Extensively develops the topical issue and clearly demonstrates an understanding of the Saint Leo University core value of responsible stewardship as it relates to addressing exploitable weaknesses in terrorist organizations	0-11	12-13	14-15	16-17	18-20
Shows depth and understanding of the subject with appropriate issue analysis	0-11	12-13	14-15	16-17	18-20
Clearly identifies focus and critically analyzes and discusses the topic	0-11	12-13	14-15	16-17	18-20
Meets acceptable college-level standards with respect to form, substance, grammar and spelling, and APA style and format,(i.e., separate cover/title page, separate Abstract page, in-text citations, headings and sub-headings, separate References page; all with an appropriate running head and properly placed page numbers)	0-11	12-13	14-15	16-17	18-20
Perspectives presented in a clear and concise manner	0-11	12-13	14-15	16-17	18-20

Exams
The Midterm Exam consists of 40 true-or-false questions. The comprehensive Final Exam consists of five essay questions.

The following rubric below will be used to assess the Final Exam.

Criteria	Rating			
	Missing/Novice 0-17	**Basic** 18-19	**Proficient** 20-22	**Exceptional** 23-25
Coherence/Detail Do sentences in paragraphs relate to one another in a logical way? Are relationships between paragraphs easily discernible? Questions, including singular and multi-part questions, are wholly addressed and at a minimum include references from the course text(s).	Main idea in most paragraphs cannot be identified; paragraphs have little or no discernible relationship to one another and questions; including singular and multi-part questions are superficially addressed and did not include references from the course text(s)	Many paragraphs lack internal consistency; many transitions are weak or used inappropriately and questions; including singular and multi-part questions are partially addressed and at a minimum includes references from the course text(s)	A few paragraphs lack internal consistency; a few weak or unclear transitions and questions; including singular and multi-part questions are substantially but not wholly addressed and at a minimum includes references from the course text(s)	Paragraphs are internally consistent (i.e., one idea/theme runs through paragraph); transitions between paragraphs allow reader to easily follow thread of argument and questions; including singular and multi-part questions are wholly addressed and at a minimum includes references from the course text(s)
Clarity/Concision Are sentences structurally correct, succinct, easy to understand, and void of misspellings and grammatical errors?	More than 10 percent of sentences are awkward, incorrectly constructed, or wordy	Six to ten percent of sentences are awkward, incorrectly constructed, or wordy	Five percent or less of sentences are awkward, incorrectly constructed, or wordy	Sentences flow smoothly, are structurally correct, and convey the intended meaning; no wordiness
Formatting Are formatting elements used appropriately to strengthen the document?	Formatting elements are confusing or inconsistent; lack of any formatting	Formatting elements often do not support main points; elements are not always used consistently	Formatting elements do not always support main points; elements are used consistently throughout the document	Formatting elements organize and highlight ideas as needed; formatting elements are used consistently throughout the document
APA Style and Format In-text citations including source page numbers in the body and connected to listed and fully cited referenced sources at the end of each response (italics and indentations are not required).	APA style and formatted in-text citations in body of responses connected to listed fully cited referenced sources is not evident or greatly lacking	APA style and formatted in-text citations in body of responses connected to listed fully cited referenced sources are used properly but not in each response	Consistent use of APA style and formatted in-text citations in body of responses connected to listed fully cited referenced sources with few errors and limited omissions	APA style and formatted in-text citations with page numbers in body of each response connected to listed fully cited referenced source(s) for each response used consistently with no errors or omissions

Course Schedule:

Module 1 **Know the Terrorist**

Outcomes: **When you complete this module, you should be able to:**
- Demonstrate through discussion a critical awareness of terrorism.
- Discuss the identification of terrorist operatives.
- Explain intelligence profiling of terrorist operatives.
- Describe terrorist training.
- Explain what terrorists believe.
- Discuss the criminal justice aspects of terrorism.
- Discuss the ideologies of terrorism.

Assignments:

Assignments	Due No Later Than
Post your introduction to the class	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Read the assigned materials	
Review the assigned websites	
Post an initial discussion response	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Respond to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Begin considering your research paper topic	Module 3

Module 2 **Identifying the Terrorist Group and Its Cells**

Outcomes: **When you complete this module, you should be able to:**
- Describe terrorist group organizations.
- Describe terrorist cells.
- Discuss choices of responses to terrorism.

Assignments:

Assignments	Due No Later Than
Read the assigned materials	
Review the assigned websites	
Post your initial discussion response	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Respond to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit the Reaction Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Continue considering your research topic	Module 3

Module 3   **Terrorist Strategies and Preparations**

Outcomes: **When you complete this module, you should be able to:**
- Describe terrorist strategies and target selections.
- Understand terrorist preparations for attack.
- Explain the events leading up to 9/11.

Assignments:

Assignments	Due No Later Than
Read the assigned materials	
Review the assigned websites	
Post your initial discussion response	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Respond to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit the Reaction Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit your Research Paper topic	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 4   **Terrorist Tools**

Outcomes: **When you complete this module, you should be able to:**
- Identify conventional terrorist weapons.
- Identify weapons of mass destruction used by terrorists.
- Describe terrorist conspiracies.

Assignments:

Assignments	Due No Later Than
Read the assigned materials	
Review the assigned websites	
Post your initial discussion response	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Respond to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit the Reaction Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Complete the Midterm Exam	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Begin working on the Research Paper	Module 7

Module 5   **Detecting Terrorist Techniques**

Outcomes: **When you complete this module, you should be able to:**
- Discuss terrorist surveillance techniques.
- Identify infiltration and special mission techniques.
- Describe material support of terrorism.

Assignments:

Assignments	Due No Later Than
Read the assigned materials	
Review the assigned websites	
Post your initial discussion response	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Respond to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit the Reaction Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Continue working on the Research Paper	Module 7

Module 6   **Analyzing Intelligence and Predicting Events**

Outcomes: **When you complete this module, you should be able to:**
- Discuss the terrorist decision and attack sequence.
- Discuss basic intelligence analysis and event prediction.
- Describe intelligence information.

Assignments:

Assignments	Due No Later Than
Read the assigned materials	
Review the assigned websites	
Post your initial discussion response	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Respond to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Continue working on the Research Paper	Module 7

Module 7   **Dangers and Failures When Encountering Terrorists**

Outcomes: **When you complete this module, you should be able to:**
- Discuss the dangers in encountering terrorists.
- Explain failures in terrorist operations and tactics.
- Explain international legal actions.

Assignments:

Assignments	Due No Later Than
Read the assigned materials	
Review the assigned websites	
Post your initial discussion response	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Respond to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Submit the Research Paper	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT

Module 8   **Suicide Terrorism**

Outcomes: **When you complete this module, you should be able to:**
- Discuss suicide terrorism.
- Explain the new fields of terror.
- Explain military detentions.
- Discuss civil liberties and emergency powers.

Assignments:

Assignments	Due No Later Than
Read the assigned materials	
Review the assigned websites	
Post your initial discussion response	Thursday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Respond to at least two classmates	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT
Complete the Final Exam	Sunday 11:59 PM EST/EDT