

SPRING 2009
FRPG 189J

CONFRONTING ISLAMIST TERROR

Tuesday, Thursday 1420-1550
Wednesday 1340-1510

Joseph T. Jockel
Office hours by appointment
jockel@stlawu.edu

Mentor: Elizabeth Monahan emmona07@stlawu.edu

Description This seminar will examine how the United States, its allies, and its friends are confronting Islamist terror. The instructor will himself pick the first two books to be read and then will select a number of other books and readings in consultation with the students.

Approach There will be four elements:

1) On Tuesdays and Thursdays, reading and discussion of the texts. There will be no lecturing at all by the instructor. As well, student teams will preside over all the discussions of the readings. Each student team will have two or three members.

2) One very-short paper (2-3 pages) on proposed readings and two short (4-page) papers, one on each of the two readings selected by the instructor. The exact topics will be announced.

3) A research paper (13-15 pages) and an oral presentation, both due towards the end of the semester. The paper and presentation will be on an aspect of the confrontation with Islamist terror.

4) Wednesday discussions of new developments in the confrontation with terrorism and related events. The student teams will take turns, chosen at random by rolling the dice at the beginning of each session, presiding over these discussions. All students will be expected to stay abreast of developments by following the news.

There will be handouts and explanations in class about the requirements for the papers and oral presentation.

Grading Grades will be based as follows:

1/3 Reading quizzes.

1/3 Oral work. Includes oral presentation and seminar participation, as well as work on the student teams presiding over discussions.

1/3 Writing portfolio. Includes the very short paper, the two short papers and the longer research paper.

Attendance Attendance is required at all scheduled sessions. Excused absences, which normally result from happenings beyond a student's control, incur no penalty of any kind. Students must arrange with the instructor, either face-to-face or by return email, for an absence to be excused. Do not attempt to do this by phone or voicemail.

To be excused for medical reasons you will need to show you sought medical attention. Please note carefully that this does not mean you need to be excused by a health care provider; it means that you need to have proof that you sought medical attention. If you want to obtain such proof from the St. Lawrence University health center you must use this form that has been approved by the health center explicitly for this purpose:

<http://myslu.stlawu.edu/~jjockel/Health%20Center%20verification.doc>

In addition, students may miss two classes without explanation and will incur no absence penalty, although they then will receive a zero for any work missed, such as quizzes. Thereafter each unexcused absence will result in the lowering of the final grade by three per cent.

However, students must attend the organizational seminar on Wednesday, of 21 January to remain in the course. Students must be on time at the start of class to take the reading quizzes. If late, they will be asked to remain outside until the quiz is over.

Please do not hesitate to have your attorneys contact mine about these requirements.

Readings The first two readings are

Bernard Lewis & Buntzie Ellis Churchill. *Islam: The Religion and its People*
Peter R. Mansour. *Bagdad at Sunrise*.

Selecting the other readings, probably five in number, will be among the first matters the seminar will turn to.

.....

TUESDAY/THURSDAY SCHEDULE UNTIL SPRING BREAK
--DOES NOT INCLUDE WEDNESDAY SESSIONS, except for 21 January--

- 20 Jan Introductory session
- 21 Jan Organizational session
- 22 Jan *Islam*, preface, intro, 1-5

27 Jan Very short paper due
Islam, 6-10.

29 Jan Selection by class of other readings.

03 Feb *Islam*, 11-15, conclusion, appendix & terms and topics.

05 Feb *Bagdad at Sunrise*, forward, preface, 1-3

10 Feb *Bagdad at Sunrise*, 4-6

12 Feb *Bagdad at Sunrise*, chapters 7-9

17 Feb First short paper due

Proposed research topic due

Bagdad at Sunrise, chapters 10-12, epilogue & appendix

19 Feb Class on research methods in ODY Library

24 Feb Reading III

26 Feb No class

03 Mar Reading III Second short paper due

05 Mar Reading III

10 Mar Reading IV

12 Mar Reading IV

AFTER SPRING BREAK

Finish reading IV

Readings V, VI, VII

Thesis due

Bibliography due

Research paper due

Oral presentations due

ATTACHMENT: First-year Program documentation