

Terror, Europe, and Islam

EUS 3930 Section 1947 / EUH 3931 Section 16C2

Time: Tuesday period 7 and Thursday periods 7-8

Location: Turlington Hall 2333

Instructor

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(352) 294-7143

Office hours: R 10:30-1:30pm

Also by appointment

Course Description

This course is about terror in Europe from secular revolutions to post-colonial impressions. It presents a broad sweep of literature and locates Islamist radicalism at the long-standing intersection of Christian and Muslim encounters. Particular themes range from authority and identity to ethnic and religious conflicts. The course explains that religious terror is a European production as much as it is a European question, and addresses specific evidence through the lens of original sources such as novels and debates. The prerequisite is sophomore standing or the instructor's approval.

Course Objectives

At the end of the course, students should be able to identify Christian-Muslim conflicts in Europe, demonstrate an understanding of socio-politics, analyze European socio-politics with empirical evidence, and ready for advanced European and Islamic studies.

Required Materials and Supplies Fees

Readings and recommended materials will be posted on the e-learning website. There is no required textbook for this course. There are no additional fees for the course.

Evaluation of Grades

This course includes the following assignments alongside lectures and discussions. Be willing, engaged, and punctual: *attend* the lectures, *participate* in discussions, and *complete* your reading/writing assignments on time.

1. *Participation and quizzes* (5/15 points). Students will write three short quizzes including multiple choices and brief explanations.
2. *Mid-term* (30 points). The mid-term examination is scheduled on Week 9. Professor will provide guidelines and address questions about this exam.

3. *Take-home Final* (30 points). The final examination will draw from lectures and select readings, and will be due on the last meeting of class. A review class will provide guidelines and address questions about this exam.
4. *Book review* (15 points). By Week 5, students will submit a 4-page abstract on a text of their choice with the approval of the professor. Original abstracts capture the core of a book's arguments and its themes. Examples will be provided.
5. *Attendance* (5 points). Attendance will be recorded during meetings and students are expected to attend all the classes except in the case of an emergency.

Please note that all the readings and written assignments must be completed by the date indicated on the syllabus and cannot be rescheduled. Requests of any special accommodations must be made to the professor in writing and in advance. You are welcome to discuss any of these assignments with the professor. Though the instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus (with an in-advance warning if deemed necessary), the assignment schedules and UF regulations will stand at all times.

Grading Policy

Letter Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
Numerical Value (% rank)	+94	90 93	87 89	84 86	80 83	77 79	74 76	70 73	67 69	64 66	60 63	-60
GPA Equivalent	4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0

More information on grades and grading policies is [here](#)

Class Attendance and Make-Up Policy

Attendance and participation are required for success. They not only constitute 5% of your grade. Repeated absences also affect your performance on exams and quizzes since they will be based on lectures and discussions. Missing class likewise means missing participation and falling behind in other assignments.

According to the Office of the University Registrar, "acceptable reasons for absence from class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, and professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused."

For further information about the University of Florida's attendance policy, please see [the current Undergraduate Catalogue](#)

Students Requiring Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

University Honesty Policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." [The Honor Code](#) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

Class Demeanor

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Counseling and Wellness Center

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Course Schedule

Week 1 (August 23) Course Mechanics and “Terror in Europe”

- Birnbaum, Michael. “Europe May Face a Grim Future With Terrorism as a Fact of Life.” *The Washington Post*, 24 December 2016 [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/after-berlin-market-attack-europe-faces-grim-future-with-terrorism-as-fact-of-life/2016/12/23/6f2f6536-c84c-11e6-acda-59924caa2450_story.html?utm_term=.8fe5f2832d49]

Week 2 (August 28-20) “Bread and Circus”

Lectures and Discussion: Politics and Society

- Orwell, George. *Animal Farm*. London, 1945 [<http://gutenberg.net.au/ebooks01/0100011h.html>]

Week 3 (September 4-6) “Reign of Terror”

Lectures and Discussion. The post-1789 Europe

- “Legacies of Terror.” In Dan Edelstein, *The Terror of Natural Right: Republicanism, the Cult of Nature, and the French Revolution*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2010 [UF Library West DC183.5. E445 2010]
- Select chapters from R.R. Palmer, *Twelve Who Ruled: The Year of Terror in the French Revolution*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2005 [UF Library West DC177. P33 2005]

PART II: AUTHORITY AND IDENTITY

Week 4 (September 11-13)

Lectures and Discussion. “Nature of Modern State”

- “The Puzzle and the Argument.” In Sheena C. Greitens. *Dictators and their Secret Police: Coercive Institutions and State Violence*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016 [UF Library online]
- “Empires, Nations, Minorities.” In Mark Mazower. *Dark Continent: Europe’s Twentieth Century*. New York: Vintage Books, 2000 [UF Library West D424 .M39 1998]
- “Class Terror” and “National Terror.” In Timothy Snyder, *Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin*. New York: Basic Books, 2010 [online thru UF Library]

Week 5 (September 18-20)

Lectures and Discussion. “Europe Died From Suicide, Not Murder”

- “Preface” and “The Deserted Temple: Democracy’s Rise and Fall.” In Mark Mazower. *Dark Continent: Europe’s Twentieth Century*. New York: Vintage Books, 2000 [UF Library West D424 .M39 1998]
- Chapters on “Persecution,” in Peter Hoffmann, ed. *Behind Valkyrie: German Resistance to Hitler*. Montreal: McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2011 [UF Library West DD256.3. B44 2011]

**** Book-review Canvas-submission ****

Week 6 (September 25-27)

Lectures and Discussion. “State Powers and Limits”

- Select chapters from Alexander Vatlin. *Agents of Terror: Ordinary Men and Extraordinary Violence*

in Stalin's Secret Police. Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin Press, July 2018

- "The Economics of Apocalypse" and "Resistance and Incineration." In Timothy Snyder, *Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin*. New York: Basic Books, 2010 [online thru UF Library]

Week 7 (October 2-4)

Lectures and Discussion. "Authority in Crisis"

- "Divisa et Indivisa: Europe Divided and Undivided, 1945-1991." In Norman Davies. *Europe: A History*. New York: Harper, 1996 [UF Library West D57 .D28 1996]
- "Humanity." In Timothy Snyder, *Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin*. New York: Basic Books, 2010 [online thru UF Library]

Week 8 (October 9-11)

Lectures and Discussion. "Society in Crisis"

- "The Crisis of Capitalism" and "The Social Contract in Crisis." In Mark Mazower. *Dark Continent: Europe's Twentieth Century*. New York: Vintage Books, 2000 [UF Library West D424 .M39 1998]

Week 9 (October 16-18) Mid-term examination.

Week 10 (October 23-25)

Lectures and Discussion. Genocidal Massacres

- Andric, Ivo. *The Bridge on the Drina*. 1919 [<https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.149540>]
- Several chapters from David Rohde. *Endgame: The Betrayal and Fall of Srebrenica, Europe's Worst Massacre since World War II*. New York: Farrar, 1997

PART III: THE ISLAM QUESTION

Week 11 (October 30-November 1)

Lectures and Discussion. "Unlearning the Muslims"

- Hallaq, Wael B. *Restating Orientalism: A Critique of Modern Knowledge*. New York: Columbia University Press, July 2018)

Week 12 (November 6-8)

Lectures and Discussion. "Islam and Europe"

- "Veil." In O'Brien, Peter. *The Muslim Question in Europe: Political Controversies and Public Philosophies*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2016 [UF Library online]
- Ramadan, Tariq. "Islam and Muslims in Europe: A Silent Revolution toward Rediscovery." In Yvonne Y. Haddad, ed. *Muslims in the West: From Sojourners to Citizens*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2002 [UF Library West BP52.5. M885 2002]

Week 13 (November 13-15)

Lectures and Discussion. "Islam and Terror"

- "Modernity and Terror," "Culture Talk; or, How Not To Talk About Islam and Politics," "Beyond Impunity and Collective Punishment." In Mahmood Mamdani. *Good Muslim, Bad Muslim: America, the Cold War, and the Roots of Terror*. New York: Pantheon Books, 2004 [UF Library West E840. M346 2004]

Week 14 (November 20)

Lectures and Discussion. "Islamist-Terrorist Discourse"

- "After Auschwitz: Islam in Europe." In Dustin J. Byrd. *Islam in a Post-Secular Society: Religion, Secularity, and the Antagonism of Recalcitrant Faith*. Boston: Brill, 2017 [UF Library online]

Week 15 (November 27-29)

Lectures and Discussion: Reinventing Terror in a New Age

Take-home final instructions will be provided (due by the last classroom meeting)

- Sageman, Marc. "The Next Generation of Terror." *Foreign Policy* 165 (2008): 36-42

[\[http://foreignpolicy.com/2009/10/08/the-next-generation-of-terror/\]](http://foreignpolicy.com/2009/10/08/the-next-generation-of-terror/)

Week 16 (December 4) Concluding Remarks