

A-S 3900
Global Perspectives on
Terrorism
Spring 2018

Dr Jim Butterfield

Course site: jimbutterfield.org/3900.html



What is terrorism?

- If someone kills in the name of religion?
- If someone kills in the name of race or ethnic identity?
- If someone kills in the name of political beliefs?
- If someone shoots a bunch of people in a theater because they're pissed off at the world?
- If someone destroys property in the name of religion, race/ethnicity, or political beliefs?
- If someone blows up a business known for environmental damage?
 - What if it is non-lethal – i.e., no one is around?
- Does it matter if the victims are civilians or soldiers?

Problems with the study of terrorism.

- Lack of consensus: what is it?
- Relativity maxim: "One man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter."



Course Content

- Comparative analysis.
 - Includes US but is global in scope.
- Combines *comparative politics* and *international relations* subfields.



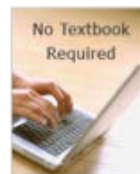
Course Components

- Attendance, participation and quizzes: 35%
- Weekly quizzes: 25% (each is worth 5%).
 - Always based on assigned readings for the day and previous class session.
 - Multiple choice, T/F, and short answer.
- Short essays (2): 20% (each is worth 10%).
- Final exam: 20%



Course Components

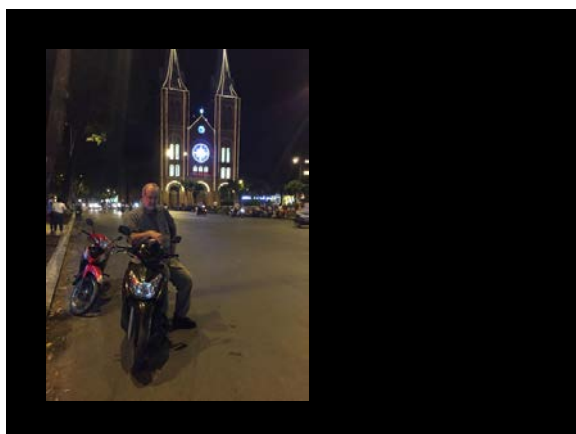
- No text. Readings are from scholarly journals, media articles, and reports.



The first quiz is next week and will be over the readings assigned for the week.



Who am I?



Course Web Site

- jimbutterfield.org/3900.html
- If you forget, go to the Political Science web site, click on the directory link, find me, then find my site.



A-5 3900
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES
ON TERROR

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