Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should <u>not</u> be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

HLSC 610
UNDERSTANDING TERRORISM & HOMELAND SECURITY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines terrorism as it relates to the United States domestically as well as internationally. Emphasis is placed upon the identification, comparison and understanding of the various definitions of terrorism and the perpetrators of these acts, along with the various aspects of terrorism and homeland security. The student will be exposed to the nexus between terrorism and homeland security as it relates to homeland security strategy, assessment, evaluation, preparation, responses, and recovery actions and mechanisms relating to terrorism and homeland security. There will be a focus on the importance of coordination of various assessments, plans, strategies and implementation of plans of action involving local, county, state, federal and international responses pertaining to terrorism and homeland security.

RATIONALE

The purpose of this course is to analyze terrorism in relation to homeland security. It is important for the student to understand the correlations between terrorism and the overarching goals of homeland security.

I.   PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II.   REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

A.   Computer with basic audio/video output equipment

B.   Internet access (broadband recommended)

C.   Blackboard recommended browsers

D.   Microsoft Office

IV.   **MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

A.   Explain the underpinnings and types of terrorism.

B.   Analyze terrorist operations, training, tactics, and weapons.

C.   Analyze the difficulties and complexities involving first responders and law enforcement encounters when dealing with terrorism.

D.   Assess coordination of various assessments, strategies, and implementation of plans of action involving those who are charged with countering terrorism.

E.   Apply and integrate a biblical worldview into the examination of terrorism.

V.   **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A.   Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes

B.   Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C.   Discussion Board Forums (8)

There will be 8 Discussion Board Forums throughout this course. The student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided topic for each forum. Each thread is to be at least 250 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 100 words.

D.   Research Paper 1: An Examination of Terrorism

The student will complete a Research Paper providing an in-depth examination of terrorism. The student will detail the history of terrorism as it has developed over time. Further, the student will examine the following topics as they relate to terrorism: definitional issues; terrorist ideologies and typologies; terrorist's tactic, behaviors, and methodologies of activity including a discussion of force multipliers; and terrorist structures and operational issues such as finance and administration will be examined. When discussing types of terrorists, you do not need to go into specific groups such and the Klan, ISIS, or the Weather Underground, etc. Instead discuss group at the larger level such as left, right, single interests, and domestic and international. Finally, discuss if the Bible speaks about or to terrorism in any way. The student will write at minimum a 7-full page research-oriented paper in current APA format. The paper must include at least 7 sources (which can include the class textbooks and the Bible). The paper will be submitted through SafeAssign.

E.   Research Paper 2: An In-depth Examination of a Terrorist Group

The student will choose a terrorist group and prepare an in-depth examination of it. The student may pick a simple group or a larger grouping such as those who share a common ideology. For instance, one may pick ISIS or Al Qaeda or may choose to focus on Jihadist groups in general. Likewise, one may choose to examine the Klan or Neo-Nazis for example of right wing terrorist's groups, etc. (The student will seek approval from the instructor through course room email by the end of Module/Week 1). The student will provide an in-depth analysis, starting with an overview of the group. The student will analyze the group's overall ideology and its history. The geographic makeup of the group will be identified along with best known data such as size and activities past and present. The group's tactics, behaviors, and methodologies of activity, including a discussion of force multipliers and terrorist structures and operational issues such as finance and administration, will be examined. The analysis will be written in standard APA formatting using headings and references. A minimum of 5 references is required. The examination must be at least 5 full pages of content. The paper will be submitted through SafeAssign.

F.   Research Paper 3: The Nexus of Homeland Security and Terrorism

The student will examine the nexus between terrorism and homeland security. The student will analyze the use of all phases of emergency management (mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery and the subcomponents found in each phase) as much as is applicable as each relates directly to terrorism. Mitigation as it relates to terrorism will be examined and will include risk assessment as well as mitigation strategies both structural and non-structural. Mitigation of terrorism can and should be at many levels and in many ways, such as strategically and globally as well as tactically and locally and across a myriad of disciplines. Prevention will also be addressed and again holistically. Preparedness will be addressed, and there are many disciplines that represent the first responder community as well as the larger homeland security community. Response and recovery will be addressed and, once again, there are many groups involved in both phases. The analysis will be written in standard APA formatting using headings and references. A minimum of 6 references are required. The examination must be at least 7 full pages of content. The paper will be submitted through SafeAssign.

VI. **COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (8 at 50 pts. ea.)	400
An Examination of Terrorism Paper	200
An In-depth Examination of a Terrorist Group Paper	200
The Nexus of Homeland Security and Terrorism Paper	200
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010   A- = 920–939   B+ = 900–919   B = 860–899   B- = 840–859

C+ = 820–839   C = 780–819   C- = 760–779   D+ = 740–759   D = 700–739

D- = 680–699   F = 0–679

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at equityandcompliance@liberty.edu. Click to see a full copy of Liberty's Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy or the Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures.

COURSE SCHEDULE

HLSC 610

Textbook: McEntire, *Introduction to Homeland Security* (2018).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	McEntire: ch. 1 1 presentation lecture notes 1 website	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Provide Instructor with Research Paper 2 Topic DB Forum 1	10 0 0 50
2	McEntire: chs. 2–3 1 presentation lecture notes 1 website	DB Forum 2	50
3	McEntire: chs. 4–5 1 presentation lecture notes 1 website	DB Forum 3	50
4	McEntire: chs. 6–7 1 presentation lecture notes 1 website	DB Forum 4 Research Paper 1	50 200
5	McEntire: chs. 8–10 1 presentation lecture notes 1 website	DB Forum 5	50
6	McEntire: chs. 11–12 & 14 1 presentation lecture notes 1 website	DB Forum 6 Research Paper 2	50 200
7	McEntire: ch. 13 1 presentation lecture notes 1 website	DB Forum 7	50
8	McEntire: ch. 15 1 presentation lecture notes 1 website	DB Forum 8 Research Paper 3	50 200
		TOTAL	1010

DB = Discussion Board
NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.