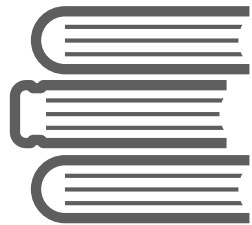


1790 SECTION THINGS

Chapter 10: Terrorism

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Recommended timeline



Now-11/1:
Choose topic
by next
section



By 11/5:
Write thesis
statement &
basic outline of
paper

By 11/12:
Have first
draft of paper



11/12-11/16:
Revise paper



**By 11/16:
Submit paper**

Final tips for the essay

- ☑ Be sure you addressed *all* the questions in the prompt.
- ☑ Don't bury the lede! Press the "enter" button to start a new paragraph if you think you are burying a main point.
- ☑ Check to make sure your argument is consistent from beginning to end.
- ☑ Don't forget to address counterarguments.
- ☑ Make sure you are citing *all* ideas & data that are not yours. Rules about when to cite can be found [here](#).

Terrorism

- Definition: the use of violence against civilians by non-state actors to attain political goals
- Goals: ultimate desires
 - Regime change, territorial change, policy change, social control, status quo maintenance
- Strategies: plans of action to attain goals
 - Attrition, spoiling, intimidation, outbidding, provocation

Why do terrorist organizations commit violence?

- Lots of uncertainty surrounding the power, resolve, and trustworthiness of terrorist organizations
 - Verbal threats by terrorists are **cheap talk**
- Terrorist organizations must then find a way to credibly communicate to its supporters and targeted government
 - **Costly signals** (acts of violence) reduce uncertainty
 - Strategy of terrorism depends on target audience and which type of uncertainty trying to address

Figure 1. Strategies of Terrorist Violence

		Target of Persuasion	
		Enemy	Own Population
Subject of Uncertainty	Power	attrition	intimidation
	Resolve		outbidding
	Trustworthiness	spoiling	provocation

A program of the [Center for International Security and Cooperation \(CISAC\)](#). CISAC is a research center at the [Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies](#).



Task: In groups of 3, pick a militant group profile from the Mapping Militants website & provide an assessment of the group to the class. Track your notes in the Google Doc on Slack.

1. **Basic info:** Group name, formation date, size, geographic location
2. **Goals:** Overall aims & targets
3. **Attacks:** Pick a specific attack & explain what strategic logic it shows

Counterterrorism strategies

1. What do different models of terrorism imply about how states should respond to terrorist threats?
2. Which theoretical model of terrorism should policy-makers assume when developing CT strategies?
3. What are common pitfalls of state responses to terrorism? (Why do they occur?)

Pitfalls of terrorism research

- (Reliable) data is hard to come by
 - Temptation to **select on the dependent variable**
- Ethical concerns:
 - Will terrorist orgs adapt & learn from your findings?
 - Will governments weaponize your findings to repress people?
 - Does your data reveal sensitive information or create safety risks?

**Are enemy-centric
CT strategies effective?**

Universe of cases

