

EMDS 502

Terrorism, Violence, Resiliency, and Response

Spring 2023 Syllabus

I. Instructor: Jim Williams, MS, BSN

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Office Hours: By appointment

Lecture Format: Web-based (Online)

II. Course Description: Explores issues emerging from acts of terror and extreme violence, including the impact on organizations and society. Examines practical approaches to resiliency assessment including risk identification, prevention initiatives, impact analysis, response, and recovery planning.

III. Disability Statement: In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

IV. Class Attendance and Participation: This is a web-based online course. Students are free to manage their schedules within and around the due dates of the various assignments. Participation in class discussion board assignments is required and students must participate on a regular basis throughout the course. Class participation is a student responsibility and will be considered in determining the final grade.

V. Grading Procedure: The instructor may modify the syllabus to accommodate appropriate coverage of

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topics. This course will utilize Blackboard to enhance learning opportunities. You should regularly access the course site to view announcements, course instructions, submit assignments, review lecture notes, etc.

Examination: Examination will be given according to the class outline. Test questions will be taken from discussion assignments, FEMA course material, lecture notes and course material discussed. Exams will be completed using the testing capabilities of the Blackboard learning management system. Students must take the exam at the scheduled date/time. Exam will be timed and scored immediately upon completion. The final exam must be taken on the date stipulated in the WKU Final Exam calendar or as directed by the instructor.

Discussions: The minimum participation is **3 times on each forum**. Each discussion assignment will be posted in the Discussion section of Blackboard. Grading will be based on the following requirements:

A (40-50 points) = Three or more substantial postings in each graded forum. The postings provide insightful comments and stimulate active discussion threads. Posts provide good responses to questions posed, read the comments of others and interact with them.

B (30-39 points) = Meets the minimum participation requirements. Postings initiate few interesting threads and are not interacting with others.

C (20-29 points) = Two substantial posts followed by one general response in each forum per week.

D (10-19 points) = Fewer than 2 postings or one day of participation and non-interacting.

Course Grading Criteria:

Grading Criteria:

Examinations (1@100 pts. ea) 100 pts.

Discussions (4@50 pts. ea) 200 pts

Completion of FEMA Courses (3 @ 100 pts. ea) 300 pts.

Research Project 100 pts.

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Total possible points 700 pts.

A = 630-700 points

B = 560-629 points

C = 490-559 points

D = 420-489points

F = Below 420 points

WKU Syllabus Statement regarding COVID-19:

All students are strongly encouraged to get the COVID-19 vaccine. In accordance with WKU policy, all students must call the WKU COVID-19 Assistance Line at 270-745-2019 within 4 hours of testing positive for COVID-19 or being identified as a close contact to someone who has tested positive. The COVID Assistance Line is available to answer questions regarding any COVID-19 related issue. This guidance is subject to change based on requirements set forth by federal, state, and local public health entities. Please refer to the Healthy on the Hill website for the most current information.

www.wku.edu/healthyonthehill

Title IX/Discrimination & Harassment

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Sex and Gender-Based Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (#0.070) and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040). Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Executive Director, Office of Institutional Equity/Title IX Coordinator, Ena Demir, 270-745-6867 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

Regular & Substantive Interaction

The U.S. Department of Education requires that distance education courses must include regular and substantive interaction between students and faculty. For more information about Regular and Substantive Interaction at WKU, please visit the Regular and Substantive Interaction in Online and Distance Learning webpage.

In this course, regular and substantive interaction will take place in the following ways:

Faculty participation in weekly discussion boards,

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Weekly announcements, and

Timely and detailed feedback on assignments provided within one week of submission.

Additionally, I am available via text/email/phone almost constantly for individual questions or concerns.

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Terrorism & Violent Acts Classification and Trends

Week 1 will provide an introduction to EMDS 502, and a review of critical information related to terrorism both in general and specific to key incidents. Including: Categories of Terrorism, History of Terrorism, the Events of 9/11, and Post 9/11 Terrorism.

The assignments for Week 1 will be found on Blackboard and will include a presentation introducing the course and providing an overview of terrorism and violence, required readings, and discussion board questions.

Week 2: Active Shooter: Response, Recovery, and Preventative Strategies

Week 2 will delve into the topic of Active Shooter. We will provide definitions and some historical perspective what has risen to the forefront as a potential threat in virtually every sector of public life. We will look at the evolution of responses to active shooters incidents, post incident actions as well as prevention and protection initiatives.

Complete the assignment and discussion board as posted.

Week 3: Weapons of Mass Destruction

Week 3 will provide a detailed review of Weapons of Mass Destruction or WMD's and their forms and classifications, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives or CBRNE.

Read the reference materials posted and complete the three online courses noted below.

You will need a FEMA Student ID Number or SID. If you do not have one go to this site to acquire one:

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Complete FEMA/TEEX Online Course AWR- 160 WMD/Terrorism Awareness for Emergency Responders

Complete FEMA / CDP Online Course AWR- 903 Bomb Threat Preparedness and Response

Complete FEMA / CDP Online Course AWR- 921 Bomb Making Materials Awareness Employee Training

Once you successfully complete the training, download your certificate from the TEEX site and upload into Blackboard using the link found for Week 3.

Week 4: Analysis of Selected Cases of Terrorism and Violence

Week four will provide an opportunity to review selected cases of terrorism and violence from a global prospective.

You will select two incidents from the list, research each, and answer the questions in the discussion board. You will need to cite a minimum of three credible sources for each case. The sources should include at least one official agency after action report or a peer reviewed journal article. (No Wikipedia)

Week 5: Protective Measures for Acts of Terror and Violence

Week five will begin a look at prevention strategies, primarily focused on identification of potential targets and the application of protective measures. The readings will include materials on vulnerability assessments, physical security measures, as well as identification of emerging programs and technologies.

Read the provided materials from the various federal agencies.

Complete the assignment and discussion board as posted.

Complete and submit Final Exam

Submit Research Project