

Terrorism and the Effects on Public Health Issues
CMH 766
4.0 Credit Hours

I. Course Description

This course is designed to provide an overview of terrorism and the effects of a terrorist incident on Public Health and to the health of the public. The course provides an understanding of terrorism, the motivation and ways in which it impacts individuals and society. In addition, examination and analysis of relevant terrorist incidents, effecting Public Health will be done through case studies and or individual group projects that provides insights on the problems and strategies for managing a terrorist incident, through the needs of Public Health.

Analytical and assessment skills will be emphasized. The course focuses on the Public Health needs of a community as they relate to terrorism and a terrorist incident.

II. Course Objectives and Instructional

1. The student will be able to define terrorism, both International and Domestic according to the Department of Justice definition.
2. Define the pervasive threat created by terrorism and its effects on Public Health and to the general public.
3. Explain the various types of terrorist incidents and the possible effects on Public Health.
4. Illustrate, through case histories, various types of potential terrorist incidents and the groups involved.
5. Identify the differences and similarities between responding to terrorist and non-terrorist incidents.
6. Discuss personal and Public Health related activities one can employ to overcome terrorist threats.

Pre-Course Reading: The students will be asked to read material prior to arriving for the course. This will facilitate course learning as it will create a foundation upon which the course will build.

Group Process: The class will be responsible for developing a terrorist incident response plan for a hypothetical terrorist incident. Each student will be assigned a task toward completion of this course goal. The class will develop all aspects of responding to a terrorist incident and issues related to the Public Health response, during and after a terrorist event. The project parts will parallel the course teaching points. Students will be responsible for giving a presentation on the last day of class. Some time will be allotted each day for planning and discussion.

III. Prerequisites:

Enrollment in this course requires: formal admission to the MPH program and completion of Introduction to Public Health and Health Policy or with departmental permission.

IV. Required Texts

1. The Counterterrorism Handbook; Tactics, Procedures, and Techniques. Frank Boltz Jr., Kenneth J. Dudonis, David P. Schulz.
2. Terrorism and Public Health. Barry S. Levy and Victor W. Sidel.
3. Public Health for the 21st Century, The Prepared Leader. Louis Rowitz.

V. Course Schedule and Topics

Week 1	Overview of Terrorism Describe Different Types and Forms of Terrorism.
Week 2	International Terrorism - Mainstream vs. Militant Characteristics of Terrorists
Week 3	Domestic Terrorism Criminal or Protected Conduct
Week 4	Legal Issues of Terrorism
Week 5	Challenges that Terrorism Poses to Public Health
Week 6	Terrorist Weapons and What Effect are They on Public Health
Week 7	Terrorism Defense Planning
Week 8	Weapons of Mass Destruction Concern of the Community for Safety
Week 9	Forensic Epidemiology: A New Partnership
Week 10	Terrorist Incident Management: Role of Public Health in a Terror Crisis

VI. Grading System

Students are expected to attend each class meeting session. If a student has a schedule conflict he/she should communicate this to the instructor prior to that class session. Class participation is a key component of this learning experience.

The Wright State University Grading Scale will be used to assign final course grades. Grades of incomplete are granted only if three conditions are met: 1) sixty percent of the work is already finished; 2) the request is made one week before the last class; and 3) the reason for the request is circumstances beyond the control of the student. Final grade assignments will be broken down as follows:

Final Paper	40%
Mid – Term Paper	20%
Terrorist Incident Management	20%
Class Participation	20%

Grading Scale:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

Note: Late work will only be considered if a written request is made to the instructor one week prior to the due date of the assignment. Late assignments are generally NOT accepted.

VII. Academic Integrity

All student work is to be completed individually, unless stated otherwise in writing. Absolutely no academic misconduct will be tolerated in this course. Regardless of the type of assignment, students found responsible for violating the WSU Academic Integrity Policy will receive an “F” for the course. All violations will be forwarded to the Office of Judicial Affairs where a university disciplinary file will be created.

Information regarding academic misconduct can be found in the Code of Student Conduct located at <http://www.wright.edu/students/judicial.html>. Please contact the instructor during office hours should you have any questions or concerns.